

Freagh,  
Kilcormac,  
Co Offaly.

12/03/2008

Secretary,  
Electoral Area Boundary Committee,  
Room 2.03,  
Custom House,  
Dublin 1.

Re: **Electoral Area Boundary Revision, Electoral Area of Ferbane County Offaly**

Currently the Ferbane Electoral Area is over represented by 16.95 % and the Tullamore Electoral Area is under represented by 11.6% while the Birr Electoral Area is over-represented but is only marginally over the guidelines at 10.68% and the Edenderry Electoral Area is under represented but is comfortably within the guidelines at 7.95%.

Offaly is managed through area offices in the three main population centres of Tullamore, Edenderry and Birr with Birr responsible for the Birr and Ferbane electoral areas which is over 60% of the area of the County. I feel it is important to maintain the present number of councillors within the Birr/Ferbane Areas in view of the size and geographic spread of the area. It is important also to keep the management area intact as the area committee system and area management is only finding its feet at this stage.

In order to bring Ferbane within the guidelines the following minimal changes of Electoral Divisions is proposed.

**Ferbane**

|  | <b>Population</b> |      |
|--|-------------------|------|
| Current Population   | 11,210            |      |
| Transfer from Tullamore Electoral Area<br>the following DEDs | +2,074            |      |
| Gorteen (309)  |                   |      |
| Tinamuck (219)   |                   |      |
| Kilcumreragh (497)   |                   |      |
| Killoughy (628)  |                   |      |
| Rathrobin (421)  |                   |      |
| New Population   | 13,284            |      |
| Population / Councillor (÷4)                                 | 3,321             |      |
| Deviation from County Average                                | 1.6%              | over |
|  | representation    |      |

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## Tullamore

|                                      |        |                         |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Current Population                   | 26,372 |                         |
| Transfer as above                    | -2,074 |                         |
| New Population                       | 24,298 |                         |
| Population / Councillor ( $\div 7$ ) | 3,471  |                         |
| Deviation from County Average        | 2.8%   | under<br>representation |

Yours sincerely,

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Cllr Tom Feighery