

8 Castle Avenue,
Muskerry Estait,
Ballincollig,
Cork.

11/03/2008

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

Dear Secretary,

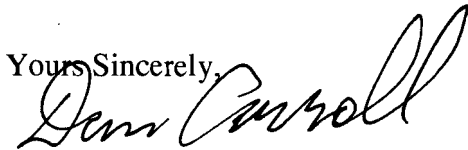
In response to your recent advertisement regarding the review of the County Council Constituencies I would like to make the following submission about my constituency. Recent Census figures indicate that the Carrigaline Electoral Area is under represented with only 7 Councillors to over 77,000 people. This imbalance could be addressed with a reduction in the size of the constituency and an extra seat in the area to give a better representation. To bring this about it would be possible to split the Carrigaline electoral area into two 4 seaters and realigning the boundary at the Minane Bridge area with that of Cork South West Dáil constituency.

The Carrigaline electoral area has grown considerably over recent years. Much of this growth has seen villages swell to towns and merge. These neighbourhoods would fit together well as a constituency.

- Neighbourhoods such as Douglas, Rochestown and the town of Carrigaline could become one 4 seater.
- Similarly the remainder of the Carrigaline area – Ballincollig, Tochar and Bishopstown could form another neighbourhood constituency, another 4 seater.
- It would be necessary to move some of the rural area into the Bandon electoral area to balance the figures better. The Cork South West boundary around Minane bridge area would facilitate this. This would also be keeping the rural area with a more rural Bandon constituency and the urban with the urban Ballincollig and Carrigaline constituencies.

Ballincollig has very close links to the city. Like Carrigaline, people in Ballincollig send their children to schools in Cork city go shopping there and have family and close friends there. Carrigaline and Ballincollig have grown over the last few years and people have moved out from Cork. However in recent Dáil boundary reviews the Ballincollig suburb of Cork was moved out into the edge of the large rural constituency of Cork North West. Ballincollig is a large urban area, on the edge of Cork City, which has always associated with Cork City and not linked with a rural area stretching many miles up as far as the Kerry Border. As part of Cork South Central Dáil area over the years we have had our TD's near us, in distance and also in thinking. So many people living in these suburbs see themselves as part of Cork City and not as part of the rural countryside. It would be very important to retain this close relationship with our natural neighbourhood and to establish new urban constituencies such as I've outlined above. These would be very natural constituencies of urban neighbourhoods with common issues and concerns and local urban representatives we would associate with.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Carroll". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'D'.

Dan Carroll