

From: Cllr Michael Mcnamara <mmcnamara@cllr.MayoCoCo.ie>
To: <electoralareacommittees@environ.ie>
Date: 03/03/2008 20:04
Subject: Achill Fiannf Fáil Submission

A Chara

I am secretary of Achill Fianna Fáil and at our last meeting it was proposed that I make a submission to your committee on the up coming Local electoral area Boundary Consultation process. This area is part of the Belmullet electoral Area an area that has four sitting councillors.

The area is very large geographically covering from Belderrig in North Mayo to Keel west in Achill a distance of almost 60 miles. The region is very disvantaged both in terms of Clár and also in terms of the DEIS department of education and science program. There are a very large number of elderly people living in this region. In certain areas up to 29% of the population are over 55 compared with 11% nationally. The term rural isolation is also very apt for this region.

The area also shows great co-operation as both Achill and Belmullet contain Gaeltacht areas in which representated to the Bord of udaras are elected. The people of this region need on the basis of the issues I have mentioned above the current situation retained.

I therefore request on behalf of Achill Fianna Fáil that this electoral area be allowed maintain its four councillors and that no changes be made to the boundaries here.

Thanking you and awaiting your reply.

Mise le mease

Micheal McNamara
Runaí Achill Fianna Fáil