

From: "Anne Feeney" <feeney.anne@gmail.com>
To: <electoralareacommittees@environ.ie>
Date: 11/03/2008 23:42
Subject: Submission for Boundary Review

As a resident of the Terenure area and also as a member of Fine Gael Dublin South East electoral area (encompassing Pembroke, South East Inner City and Rathmines local electoral areas), I would like to make a submission that all of Terenure be encompassed in the one local authority area i.e. areas called Terenure B, C and D, Rathmines West E and Rathfarnham A be included in the one local authority electoral area. It just seems to make sense from the point of view of Terenure being represented in totality by the same suite of local representatives, rather than continuing to be divided with a bit of Terenure in one local electoral area and other bits in other local electoral areas, making it very difficult for resident groups, individuals, other interested community groups, etc. to get a cohesive approach to issues affecting the Terenure area specifically.

While I accept that Terenure is not unique by being currently split between different electoral areas for local and general elections, it is nevertheless confusing for people voting and frustrating for all in terms of explaining why local issues are not addressed in a more logical way with speedy and effective solutions.

Issues which I feel could be handled better by a more co-ordinated approach by Dublin City Council and Councillors would include the following:

1. Traffic, particularly in and leading into the village itself
2. Community development
3. Environmental issues
4. Policing and Public Order issues

Until 1991 the two areas of Terenure which should be brought together, were part of the Rathmines local electoral area. I think logically for the people of the wider Terenure area and the issues they want addressed and also from the point of view of public representatives of all parties effectively representing the electorate, the split areas of Terenure should revert back to the Rathmines electoral area.

Rathmines and Terenure are linked communities (with Rathgar inbetween). There is a natural link with the same arterial commuter and bus channel into the city centre; Rathmines College of Commerce seen very much as the Third Level College for the surrounding area (as well as beyond) and many other amenities, facilities, etc. (main post office in Rathmines now serving Terenure and Rathgar public given the reduced PO service in Rathgar and Terenure area). Not to mention the fact, that many people throughout Terenure think they are all in Dublin South East electoral area.

There could be great opportunities in re-constituting the electoral area of Rathmines (including Rathgar and other localities) with the totality of Terenure, apart from creative opportunities for the areas, there are also potential efficiencies by synergising other offerings and developing the services and identity of the combined area.

In your terms of reference document, you seem to be promoting the view that the drawing up of electoral areas should (as far as practicable) have an

urban or neighbourhood focal point or points. I think for the reasons outlined above, a review and redraw of the Rathmines local electoral area would make absolute sense and remove a real and current frustration for people living in different parts of the area.

Many thanks for your consideration of this submission.

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Anne Feeney
145 Terenure Road West,
Terenure,
Dublin 6W

Mob: +353 (0) 86 8567260