

Members Room,  
Kilkenny County Council,  
County Hall,  
Kilkenny.

056 7724374 087 9475452  
[michaelobrien11@eircom.net](mailto:michaelobrien11@eircom.net)

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

13<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

Dear Martin,

Undersigned, Elected Members of the Labour/Green Parties Group within Kilkenny County Council, ask that you would kindly present the following submission for consideration by the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee, relating to County Kilkenny.

We endorse the view of the Minister for the Environment that the restriction of choice achieved by 3 seat local electoral areas is not acceptable in local democracy. In that regard we propose that the Callan Area be increased from 3 to 4 seats. To achieve this we propose to transfer the Kilkenny Area DED's, Outrath, Grange, St. Canice and Dunmore, representing a population transfer of 2568 persons. In proposing this solution we have considered the following points:

- a) we acknowledge that if Kilkenny Borough population (8,661) is added to the Kilkenny Area total population of 17,840 divided by the combined Councils seats (19) is 1:1,395.
- b) 6, overlapping Borough seats are occupied by dual-mandate Councillors, if the net is added to existing Area seats, these 26,501 represented by (13) gives a ratio of 1: 2038.
- c) we have carefully considered whether it is prudent, at this point in time, to consider more radical suggestions but because of the imponderables described in a) and b).....
- d) no current Kilkenny Area Member resides in any of the DED's proposed for transfer.
- e) this proposal means that 3 of the current 5 electoral areas in County Kilkenny are not unnecessarily disturbed.
- f) bringing the new Callan Electoral Area boundary closer to Kilkenny City recognises the necessity to address demographic movements in Kilkenny.
- g) it is also entirely consistent with both Thomastown and Callan areas which now extend around and to the north of Kilkenny City.

Appended to this submission: 1. Map A. describing current ratio breakdown of Electoral Areas.  
2. Map B. illustrating annexed DED's. 3. Comparison Tables detailing current/proposed statistics.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael O'Brien, Group Leader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marie Fitzpatrick

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Phelan

\_\_\_\_\_  
Malcolm Noonan

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maurice Shortall

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tomás Breathnac

**APPENDIX 3**

**LABOUR/GREEN PARTIES BOUNDARY SUBMISSION**

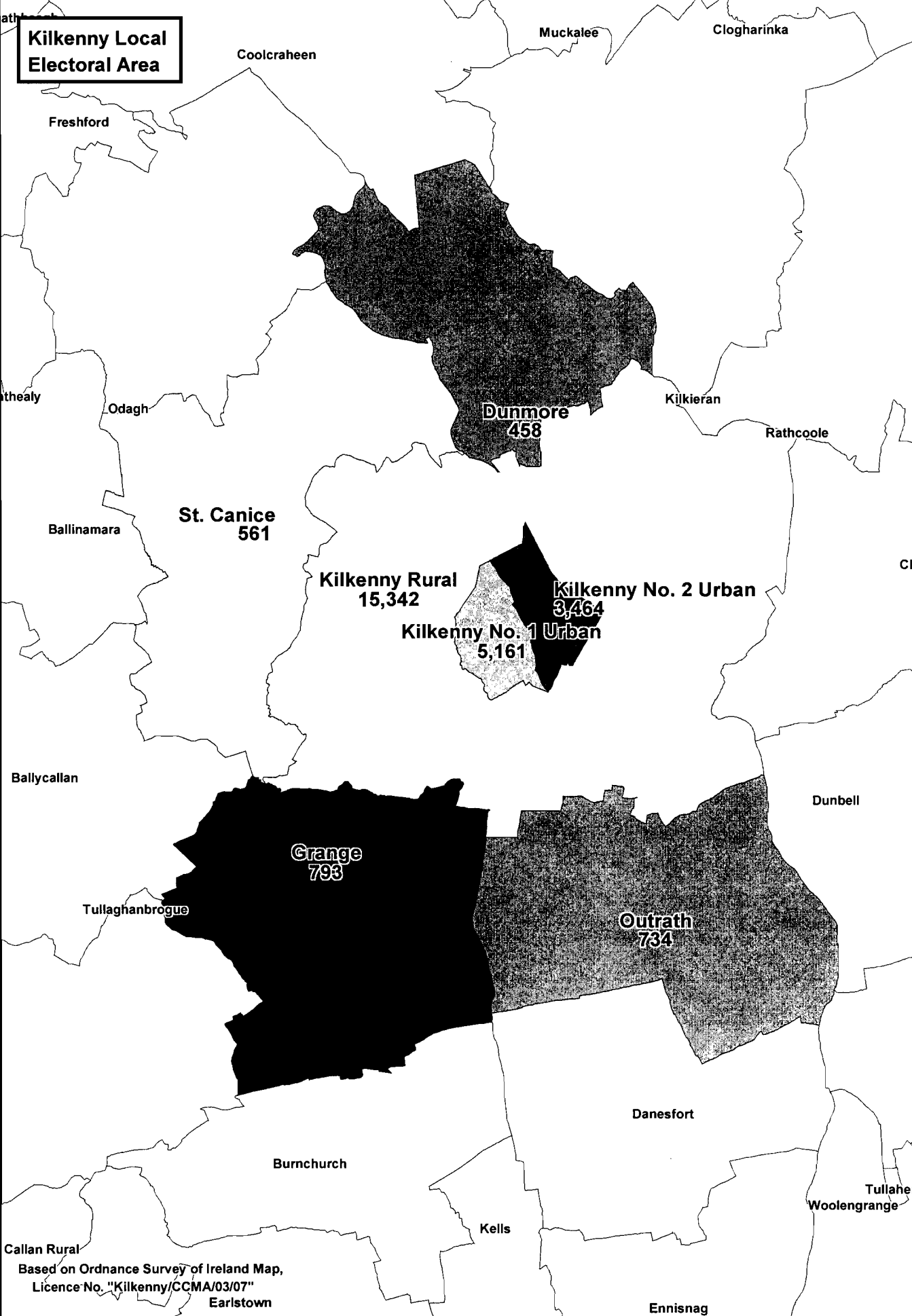
*CURRENT POSITION*

<b>County</b>	<b>Kilkenny</b>	<b>EXCLUDING KILKENNY BOROUGH SEATS &amp; POPULATION</b>				
<b>Electoral Area</b>	<b>Total Pop</b>	<b>Seats</b>	<b>Cllr per seat</b>	<b>Ave</b>	<b>Var</b>	<b>Diff (%)</b>
Ballyragget	15,417	5	3,083	3,368	-284	-8.4
Callan	11,096	3	3,699	3,368	331	9.8
Kilkenny	17,840	7	2,549	3,368	-819	-24.3
Piltown	19,184	6	3,197	3,368	-170	-5.1
Thomastown	15,360	5	3,072	3,368	-296	-8.8
<i>REVISED OUTCOME FROM LABOUR / GREEN PARTY PROPOSAL</i>						
<b>County</b>	<b>Kilkenny</b>	<b>EXCLUDING KILKENNY BOROUGH SEATS &amp; POPULATION</b>				
<b>Electoral Area</b>	<b>Total Pop</b>	<b>Seats</b>	<b>Cllr per seat</b>	<b>Ave</b>	<b>Var</b>	<b>Diff (%)</b>
Ballyragget	15,417	5	3,083	3,368	-284	-8.4
Callan	13,664	4	3,416	3,368	48	1.4
Kilkenny	15,272	6	2,545	3,368	-822	-24.4
Piltown	19,184	6	3,197	3,368	-170	-5.1
Thomastown	15,360	5	3,072	3,368	-296	-8.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>78,897</b>	<b>26</b>				

*REVISED OUTCOME IF BOROUGH COUNCIL & POPULATION IS INCLUDED*

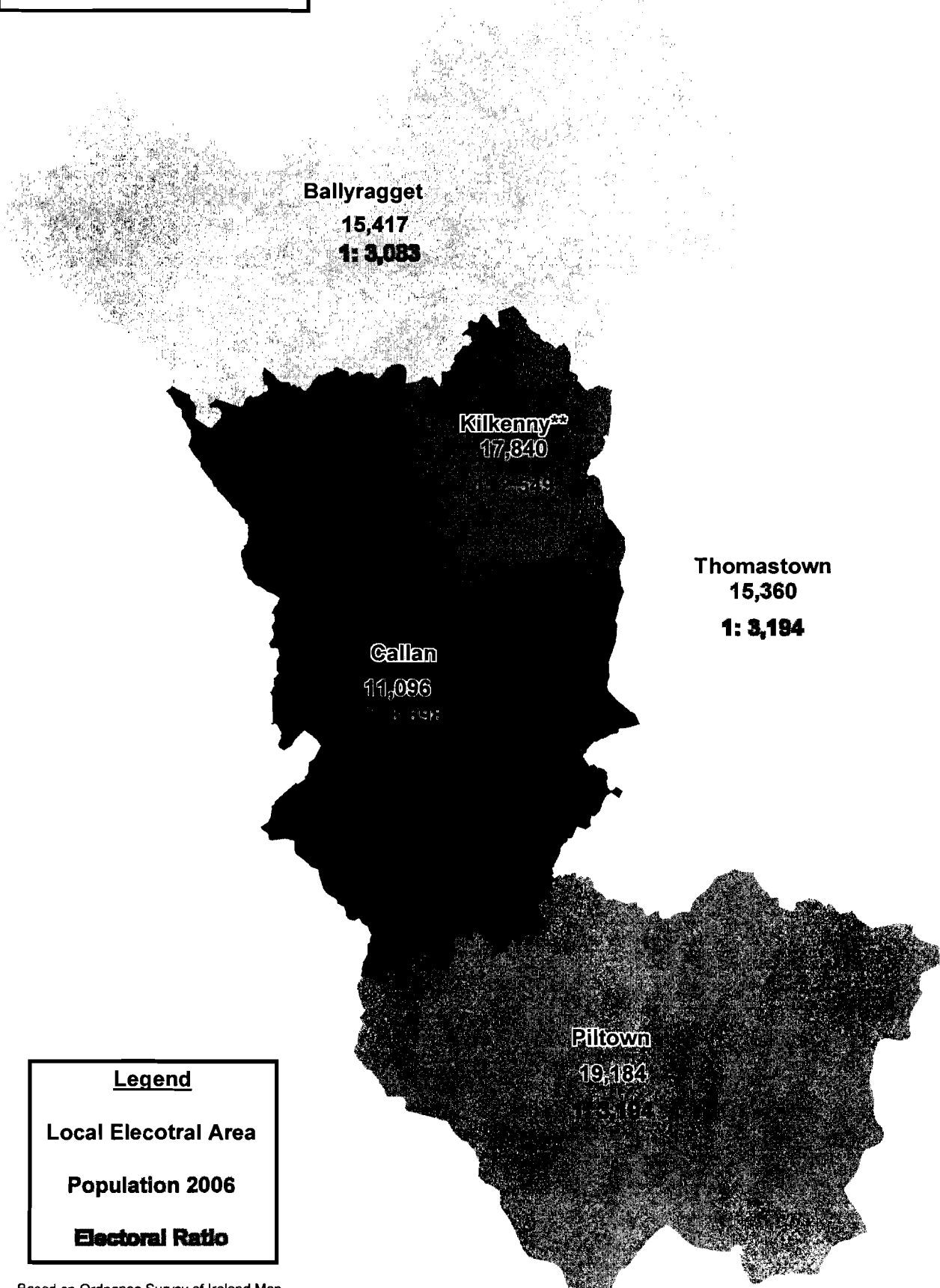
<b>County</b>	<b>Kilkenny</b>	<b>INCLUDING KILKENNY BOROUGH COUNCIL &amp; POPULATION</b>				
<b>Electoral Area</b>	<b>Total Pop</b>	<b>Seats</b>	<b>Cllr per seat</b>	<b>Ave</b>	<b>Var</b>	<b>Diff (%)</b>
Ballyragget	15,417	5	3,083	3,368	-284	-8.4
Callan	13,664	4	3,416	3,368	48	1.4
Kilkenny	23,933	19	1,260	3,368	-2108	-62.6
Piltown	19,184	6	3,197	3,368	-170	-5.1
Thomastown	15,360	5	3,072	3,368	-296	-8.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>87,558</b>	<b>38</b>				

**Kilkenny Local Electoral Area**



Based on Ordnance Survey of Ireland Map,  
Licence No. "Kilkenny/CCMA/03/07"  
Earlstown

**Ratio of Elected  
Members to Population**



**Legend**

**Local Electoral Area**

**Population 2006**

**Electoral Ratio**

Based on Ordnance Survey of Ireland Map,  
Licence No. "Kilkenny/CCMA/03/07"  
Source: CSO 2006

\*\*Note: The Kilkenny Electoral Area figures  
include the Kilkenny Borough population of 8, 625