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RE: Tralee Electoral Area Boundary Changes

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Sinn Féin Party in North Kerry I wish to make the following submission.

Any proposed changes to the Tralee Electoral Area boundary should not include the removal of Ardfert and Fenit ED's. These areas are neighbouring communities and are natural hinterlands of Tralee town. In fact they are only 5 and 5½ miles respectively from Tralee, whereas they are 18 and 21 miles respectively from Listowel.

As No. 2 on your Terms of Reference states:

“the Committee shall have as an objective the drawing up of electoral areas which (alone or in combination) would, as far as practicable, have an urban or neighbourhood focal point (or points).”

The people of both these communities have strong connections with Tralee town, from attending secondary school, places of work, leisure and sporting facilities, shopping, banking and access to the Local Authority and other social services like the HSE and Department of Social Welfare. Tralee certainly serves as an urban focal point to both areas and because of the distance to Listowel, would lose that focal point if they were moved.

We feel that any attempt to remove these areas to make up a shortfall in another area would be an extreme step to say the least and would have serious repercussions in these communities.

Yours sincerely,

John Corcoran
Secretary
North Kerry Sinn Féin