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Subject: Waterford City

Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee

A Chara,

I wish to make a submission concerning Waterford City. I note the recent changes in population in the Wards with a significant increase in population in Ward 2.

The present position in each Ward is as follows:

Ward 1 has 10,486 population - 4 seats = 2,615 per Councillor

Ward 2 has 19,673 population - 5 seats = 3,925 per Councillor

Ward 3 has 15,589 population - 6 seats = 2,598 per Councillor

Without incurring major restructuring of the Wards I believe that equity can best be served by allocating an additional seat to Ward 2 (making it a 6 seater) and reducing Ward 3 by one seat (making it a 5 seater)

This would have the following impact:

Ward 1 has 10,486 population - 4 seats = 2,615 per Councillor

Ward 2 has 19,673 population - 6 seats = 3,279 per Councillor

Ward 3 has 15,589 population - 5 seats = 3,118 per Councillor

Moving part of Ward 2 into Ward 3 would not be a prudent for the following reasons:

1. The only area where this could take place would involve transferring a very mature Local Authority estate of 451 houses, the residents of which are mostly retired. They have many dynamic social networks and have built up strong relationships with their Ward 2 Councillors over the years. It would

take time to build up new relationships with Ward 3 Councillors were they to transfer. I would suggest that it would not be fair to this particular generation and it would be more appropriate to consider such an option some time in the future.

2. This area is the only large Local Authority estate in Ward 2. In the interest of having a proper balance of housing categories this Local Authority estate should be retained in Ward 2.

Mise le meas,

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