

Mr Tom Sheridan  
Secretary  
Dublin & Cities Electoral Boundary Committee

14<sup>th</sup> March 08

Dear Tom

As an elected member of Fingal County Council and as a long time resident of the Dublin 15 area of Fingal, I wish to point out the enormous growth in population that Dublin 15 has experienced in the last ten years, almost overwhelming to deal with at times. The very notion that this Committee is restricted to no change in the overall number of Councillors in any local Authority is totally unacceptable.

The Dublin 15 side of Fingal, which I represent, is well documented as being the fastest growing area in Western Europe, with a population around 92,000. My own area, Castleknock Ward, has a population of 37,668 and the Mulhuddart Ward has 53,306, with four councillors in each area. The national average ratio approximately is 4,800 residents per councillor, where in my own area Castleknock it is 9,417 - almost double the national average. The Mulhuddart area is 13,326 residents per councillor.

A Councillor in Leitrim has only 1,316 residents to represent. This is a gross imbalance in the system and if not sufficiently addressed it will have knock-on effects in terms of constraining the future effectiveness of our local government.

The inadequate representation of 240,000 residents in Fingal County Council with only 24 councillors needs to be addressed.

Yours sincerely

Peggy Hamill, Cllr  
Fingal County Council