

GREEN PARTY (DUBLIN CITY REGION)

SUBMISSION ON DUBLIN CITY TO THE DUBLIN AND CITIES ELECTORAL AREA BOUNDARY COMMITTEE:

Sir,

The Committee has been instructed to adhere to Dáil constituency boundaries where possible. We believe this is possible throughout Dublin except for the case of the boundary between Dublin North-Central and Dublin North-East. The City section of Dublin North-East has a very elongated shape, is devoid of clear lines of communication and, as a unit, has no neighbourhood focal point. In the area structure of Dublin City Council it is treated as part of the North-Central area and this was followed at the time of drawing the existing electoral area boundaries. We therefore propose that these two areas should be treated together in this revision.

We propose for Dublin City a scheme for one 7-seat area, three 6-seat areas, three 5-seat areas and three 4-seat areas, as on map (to be forwarded). We believe there is no area in the City where the exceptional circumstances for a 3-seat area are present, which requires alteration to the present Ballymun-Whitehall, Ballyfermot, South-West Inner City, South-East Inner City and Pembroke Areas.

The population of the City at the last census was 506211, which with 52 councillors gives an average of 9735 people per councillor.

The population per constituency (areas within the City boundary only) is:

Dublin NW: 66416 6.82 councillors, round up to 7

Dublin NC/NE: 122363 12.57 councillors, round up to 13

Dublin C: 104674 10.75 councillors, round up to 11

Dublin SC: 112453 11.55 councillors, round down to 11  
(0.55 being a smaller percentage than 0.57 in Dublin NC/NE)

Dublin SE: 100305 10.30 councillors, round down to 10

Dublin North-West: We propose a 7-seat area, consisting of the present Finglas and Ballymun-Whitehall Areas plus the electoral divisions which were transferred from Dublin North-Central to Dublin North-West in the 2004 Dáil constituency report (Beaumont A and Whitehall D).

North-West 66416, variation +2.54%.

Dublin North-Central/North-East combined: This area loses a seat from its present 14, partly due to the transfer to North-West. Clontarf is a large district with a historic identity, and the district to the north of it, stretching from the Swords Road to the sea, has bad lines of communication and a lack of focus. We therefore propose to retain the existing division of the NC/NE area into Clontarf, Artane and Donaghmede Areas, with the following necessary alterations. As specified under Dublin North-West, Beaumont A and Whitehall D would be transferred to North-West Area. Beaumont D, E and F would be transferred from Clontarf Area to Artane Area. Clontarf Area would retain 5 seats and Artane Area 4 seats. Donaghmede Area would be reduced from 5 to 4 seats and would transfer Harmonstown A and B and the remaining part of Clontarf East A to Clontarf Area.

Clontarf 46322, variation +4.93%.

Artane 39707, variation -1.97%.

Donaghmede 36334, variation +6.69%.

Dublin Central: This gains an extra seat, increasing from 10 to 11. We propose that North Inner City Area should be increased from 5 to 6 seats, leaving Cabra-Glasnevin Area with 5.

North Inner City 60056, variation -2.82%.

Cabra-Glasnevin 44618, variation +8.33%.

Dublin South-Central: There is a clear geographical dividing line formed by the Grand Canal but deviating on to the River Camac/Naas Road to get around Bluebell. We therefore propose to leave the Crumlin-Kimmage Area as it is and amalgamate the present Ballyfermot and South West Inner City Areas into a 6-seat area - we suggest the name Ballyfermot-Liberties. While the latter is an extensive area it has clear communications on an east-west basis.

Ballyfermot-Liberties 63487, variation -8.69%.

Crumlin-Kimmage 48966, variation -5.98%.

Dublin South-East: The most substantial and coherent district here is Rathmines with its outliers Rathgar and Ranelagh. In addition, the Grand Canal is a clear dividing line which can be used to separate Rathmines but cannot be used to separate Pembroke or South-East Inner City because of the distribution of population. Given that the inner city area is already divided by constituency boundaries, it would be unfair to divide it further by an unnecessary area boundary. We therefore propose a 4-seat Rathmines Area to consist of the present Rathmines Area plus Rathmines East B, which is a southward extension of Ranelagh. The remainder of Dublin South-East would be a 6-seat area.

Rathmines 40943, variation -5.14%.

Pembroke-South City 59362, variation -1.63%.

Yours,

Ciarán Browne  
Chairperson  
Dublin Regional Greens