

Local Election Boundary Submission 14th March 2008

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Tallaght
D24

Secretary
Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee
Custom House
Dublin 1
14th March 2008

Dear Sir,

Here is a proposal for balancing the areas of Dublin South into five electoral areas where the representation is balance and where the natural geographic balance of Tallaght is preserved.

The current situation is as follows in Dublin South Council seat representation.

	population (Census 2006)	Current Seats	Population per seat	Average Population per region	Average Seats : Pop Divide by Average	% Deviation from Average
Clondalkin	43991	5	8798.2	9497.5	4.63	-7.36%
Lucan	49845	4	12461.25	9497.5	5.25	31.21%
Tallaght Central	36536	5	7307.2	9497.5	3.85	-23.06%
Tallaght South	55767	5	11153.4	9497.5	5.87	17.44%
TerenureRathfarnham	60796	7	8685.1429	9497.5	6.40	-8.55%
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The deviations show that Clondalkin and Tenure Rathfarnham is within the $\pm 10\%$ allowable deviation . Lucan and Tallaght South are underrepresented, and Tallaght Central is overrepresented.

Proposal : Move areas Tallaght-Kiltipper (pop 6445) and Tallaght Killinarden (pop 4163) from Tallaght South to Tallaght Central. Reduce Ternure Rathfarnhan by one seat, increase Lucan by one seat, and keep all other areas the same.

	population (Census 2006)	Adjusted Seats	Population per seat	Average Population per region	Average Seats : Pop Divide by Average	% Deviation from Average
Clondalkin	43991	5	8798.2	9497.5	4.63	-7.36%
Lucan	49845	5	9969	9497.5	5.25	4.96%
+10,561 Tallaght Central	47097	5	9419.4	9497.5	4.96	-0.82%
-10,561 Tallaght South	45206	5	9041.2	9497.5	4.76	-4.80%
TerenureRathfarnham	60796	6	10132.667	9497.5	6.40	6.69%

Now all electoral areas are within the $\pm 10\%$ allowed deviation. The impact of new apartment construction, much higher in Tallaght than in Ternure-Rathfarnham, will give a more even spread of population over the coming years.

This recommendation is within the terms of reference of the commission as

2. In carrying out its review, 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).
3. In recommending changes to local electoral areas, the Committee should, subject to paragraph 2, take due account first of the desirability of preserving natural communities or the hinterlands of population centres, and secondly of the desirability, where it may be possible to do so, of aligning local electoral area boundaries with Dáil constituency boundaries.
4. The number of councillors representing an area as determined above should not be less than 4 or more than 7, provided that in very exceptional circumstances 3 seat local electoral areas may be recommended where otherwise the geographic size of the area would be disproportionately large.
5. Subject to the above, the Committee shall endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of local electoral areas.

It would give five areas of approximately equal representation, preserve the central role of Tallaght as the county town, and allow for changing demographics. Thanks you for reading the submission.

Yours sincerely

Gerard Stockil (gerard.stockil@gmail.com)