

18-119

Please accept this submission from me - As a former Ennis Town Council (ETC) Councillor 2004-2014 , former Clare county Councillor Ennis East (EE) electoral area 2009-2014 and current Clare Councillor Ennis Municipal District (EMD) .

1. Background.

Up to 2014 there were 9 ETC Councillors ; 5 EE County Councillors with another 4 in Ennis West (EW) Electoral area - total of 18 Councillors rep interest of Ennis and wider Environs.

Having two separate County electoral areas (wards) splitting the Town and environs was difficult due to separate meetings, outcomes & areas . Nearly in democratic terms like that the left hand didn't know what the right hand was doing.

2. Effect 2014 LG Reform.

Abolition of 9 seater ETC was a mistake I believe on a large range of levels . The reduction from 9 County Councillors (EE & EW) to 8 in the new EMD was also a mistake.

Reduction of nearly 55% of public reps in Ennis area.

3. Effect of terms of Boundary Commission.

Effect of proposed further reduction to 7 of from 8 for EMD means a drop of 12.5% representation.

Cumulative effect from 18 to 7 since pre 2014 - over 60% loss of public representation.

My Recommendations.

A. Not to split EMD into two wards

B. Increase public reps in EMD to 9 Cllr's

C. If EMD has to reduce to 7 Cllr's the EMD will loose 4,000 + voters.

Options to reduce EMD by 4,000+ voters

(1) put Clareabbey in West Clare Electoral

(2) put Quin,Clooney,Spancilhill in East Clare



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BALLYEIGHTER

MUCKANAGH

CRUSHEEN

TOBERBREESNA

CAHILL

KILRAGHTIS

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