

18.300

Submission from Councillor Joe Conway

Waterford City and County Council

I attach a file which is based on the outcomes of the 2014 local elections poll.

I appreciate that these figures are almost four years old, and that there are many factors that militate against extrapolating for future results.

When I heard that there was a move afoot to diminish the number of councillors to be elected in EAs, I was naturally concerned that this would militate against Independent councillors like myself being disadvantaged. It was my perception that Independents were invariably elected "down the line".

Examination of the results from 2014 does not really bear this out.

39% of Independents were elected to seats below the 4th seat.

This 39% is the same for FF.

The figure is significantly higher – at 52% - for FG.

The overall figure for the three main Parties [viz. FF, FG and SF] sits also at 39%

The Party who might least fear smaller EAs is SF, who have only 18% of their councillors elected lower than the fourth seat.

In relation to the 39% above for Independents, however, it is worth noting that – though they have the same percentage to FF and a more favorable one to FG – they are frequently the only Independent in that EA, whereas lower FF and FG councillors have running mates elected higher up the order.

I hope that this submission will inform the Committee in its deliberations.

Cllr Joe Conway

An Trá Mhór

19ú Feabhra, 2018.

LOCAL AUTHORITY	No. of Cllrs	Independents Elected after 4th Seat	Total of Independents	FF after Seat 4	Total FF	FG after Seat 4	Total FG	SF after Seat 4	Total SF
Carlow	18	1	2	1	5	3	6	0	3
Cavan	18	Nil	Nil	4	8	1	6	1	4
Clare	28	Nil	7	4	11	5	9	1	1
Cork City	31	1	4	3	10	0	6	0	7
Cork County	55	6	10	6	17	7	17	3	6
Donegal	37	4	10	2	11	5	6	4	9
Dublin City	63	6	12	3	9	6	8	2	16
DL/Rathdown	40	4	6	1	8	3	11	1	3
Fingal	40	5	10	2	7	5	5	0	6
Galway City	18	1	6	0	3	3	4	2	3
Galway County	39	4	12	5	12	8	12	2	3
Kerry	33	2	7	4	8	7	9	2	5
Kildare	40	4	9	6	12	5	9	2	5
Kilkenny	24	Nil	1	2	10	3	7	2	3
Laois	19	1	3	3	7	2	6	0	2
Letttrim	18	Nil	4	1	6	3	4	2	4
Limerick	40	1	3	7	13	4	12	2	6
Longford	18	1	3	4	7	1	8	2	6
Louth	29	3	4	0	5	5	7	3	10
Mayo	30	3	7	8	10	3	10	0	3
Meath	40	2	9	3	10	11	13	0	8
Monaghan	18	1	3	1	4	1	4	3	7
Offaly	19	2	5	3	8	2	3	0	3
Roscommon	18	1	6	4	8	0	3	1	1
Sligo	18	Nil	4	6	8	2	2	1	2
South Dublin	40	3	8	2	5	4	7	0	9
Tipperary	40	5	13	6	10	6	10	2	5
Waterford	32	3	8	4	7	3	8	0	6
Westmeath	20	1	2	4	8	4	5	0	3
Wexford	34	3	6	4	11	7	9	2	5
Wicklow	32	3	10	3	7	3	8	1	6
	949	71	194	106	267	122	234	28	154