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Submission from Fianna Fáil Comhairle Dáilcheantair (CDC) of Galway West to the boundary revision committees examining the local Government Boundaries of Galway City and County

Galway City

The Galway West Fianna Fáil CDC suggest that Galway City should continue to have three electoral areas or wards as is at present, with six seats in each ward and that as far as practicable the population of each ward should be equal

Galway County

Conamara

The Galway West Fianna Fáil CDC suggest that Conamara should have two electoral areas and that these should be separate from the electoral areas of the area of the County east of the Corrib due to the fact that the Connemara electoral area cannot be reached from the county area east of the Corrib by road without going through another local authority area. Particularly in view of the proposal to merge the city and the county to do otherwise would leave the new authority with a non-contiguous electoral area adjacent to the city.

The Galway West Fianna Fáil CDC suggest that also that Conamara at present 9 seats, should be divided into a six seater electoral area to the east of Conamara and a three seater area to the West in view of the dispersed population in the area west of Oughterard which makes it totally exceptional. Given the topography and geography we believe that there are particular compelling circumstances for this

Conamara Thiar proposed electoral area

The western area should include the Joyce Country, West Connemara and Iorras Aithneach

We suggest the electoral area should be made up of the following electoral division:- Inishbofin, Cleggan, Silearna, Clifden, Errislannin, Dunloughan, Bunowen, Cloch na Ron, Derrycunlagh, Derrylea, Ballynakill, Renvyle, Bun an Choire, Cuskillary, Mairos, An Cnoc Bui, Scainnimh, Abhann Ghabhla, An Uilinn, Leitir Bhreacáin, An Ros, An Chorr, An Fhairche, Conga, Letterfore Cill Chuimin, Camas, An Turlach (Fig 1).

This area would have two Gaeltacht in it Iorras Aithneach and Joyce Country

Conamara Thoir agus Theas

It is suggested the other electoral area be named "Conamara Thoir agus Theas" and would comprise the rest of the existing Conamara electoral area (Fig 1).

Athenry/Oranmore electoral area.

It is suggested that at a minimum the Clarinbridge, Oranmore and Claregalway area would be kept in the same electoral area adjacent to the city as the major expansion of Galway City will be to the east of the present city in the future due to the natural constraints and environmental designations that will hinder growth to the west of the city.

Figure 1: Proposed new Conamara Thiar and Conamara Thoir & Theas areas.

