

18.087

Dear Sir / Madam

I would like to ask you to increase the representation of Comeragh Municipal District in Co Waterford. While we have a large land mass in the centre of the county straddling both sides of the Comeragh mountains we have only 6 public representatives. While I acknowledge that we would have a favourable ratio in relation to some constituencies, I and we as a group of councillors feel that we are hampered in the county when up against a neighbouring 8 person body on the west and an 18 person body on the east. We feel that financially as a council we are feeling the pinch in the draw down of funding. Furthermore we do not have a large town within our base and no revenue stream. I believe that if we were to expand both east and west at the expense of the other two, we would be on a more even keel.

Our position is further emphasised by the fact that in plenary we feel that there is a heavy urban bias of 18-14 in deliberations.

I would suggest perhaps an increase to 7/8 elected members at the expense of the metropolitan and perhaps a constituency split between the metropolitan and the county on a fairer division. I hope this notion will be entertained as irrespective as to whether I stand or not at the next election, it is the constituents of Comeragh who will benefit and no particular individual.

Is mise, le meas

Cllr. Michael J. O'Ryan  
Comeragh MD  
Co. Waterford