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To whom it may concern

In considering the review of electoral area boundaries, I would propose the reinstatement of Borough Councils in the five previous borough areas with expanded boundaries to reflect growing populations.

The division of Kilkenny east and west has been a failure both in spatial planning and governance terms. Kilkenny has had a functional autonomous city governance structure for over 800 years.

In more recent decades up until 2014, this dedicated civic authority delivered significant projects and economic success to the city, helped largely by having 12 members elected within the environs of the city.

I would ask that serious consideration be given to reinstating borough council's with view to having directly elected mayors for each municipality. This in my view is necessary if we are to meet future urban challenges of climate resilience and sustainable development as well as achieving critical mass under the NPF and limit urban growth within a defined development boundary

I trust my comments will be given due consideration

Yours faithfully

Cllr Malcolm Noonan

Green Party Spokesperson

Rural, Regional Development and Local Government Member, Kilkenny County Council