

18.230

**Re: Submission to Local Electoral Boundary Committee no. 2**

To whom this may concern,

I am making a submission on the composition of the current local electoral areas within the **Dublin Central Dáil constituency**. In particular, I want to recommend changes to the **North Inner City electoral area**.

**Seats:** It currently holds 8 seats- one seat more than what is recommended as per term of reference no. 2.

**Population:** The area covered by the north inner city LEA has a population of 79,982 as per Census 2016, up 18% from 67,309 as per Census 2011. This growth does not allow for a decrease in the number of seats to the maximum seat number of 7. Instead, the change in population number suggests that the north inner city local electoral area will have to be reconfigured.

**Geographical Coverage:** It currently covers 4 urban villages in their entirety; Stoneybatter /Arbour Hill/Smithfield (one village), East Wall, Ballybough and Sherrif Street/ Sean McDermott Street. The urban village of Phibsborough is split. Of a total of 19,411 as per Census 2016, some 16,027 residents are located in the north innercity LEA, with a further 3,384 residents located in the Cabra- Finglas LEA.

**Recommendation:** Term of reference no. 4 highlights that LEAs, should be designed, as far as possible, around urban villages. Phibsborough is a thriving urban village, home to a large number of small businesses and the site of major development that is currently the subject of planning applications. The growth and development of Phibsborough, for the benefit of existing and future residents, is currently hampered by its peculiar local government situation, in that it falls between two local electoral areas and by extension, two administrative sections within Dublin City council. I call on the Boundary commission to unify this urban village to ensure more effective representation for the development of this urban community

In order to unify Phibsborough and to comply with terms of reference no. 2 and no. 3, it is recommended that a new North West Inner City local electoral area be created to contain the following DEDs;

- **Cabra village and its environs:** Cabra East B, Cabra East C, Cabra West A, Cabra West C, Cabra West D.
- **Phibsborough village, Broadstone and its environs:** Cabra East A, Arran A, Arran B, Inns Quay A, Inns Quay B, Inns Quay C
- **Stoneybatter village, Smithfield/Arbour Hill and its environs:** Arran C, Arran D, Arran E
- **Ashtown village and Navan Road and its environs:** Ashtown A, Ashtown B

This gives a total population of 60,943 as per Census 2016 which would equate to 8,406 per seat, marginally below the average per seat in Dublin city council of approximately 8,802 population per seat.

Thank you for taking the time to read this submission.

Yours Sincerely,

Marie Sherlock