

18.366

CLlr. MARK STAFFORD



Local Electoral Committee
Room 1.67
Custom House
Dublin 1
By email only – boundarycommittee@housing.gov.ie

19th February 2018

Re:- Submission to Boundary Committee No. 1

Dear Sirs,

I refer to the above and attach herewith my submission in relation to the realignment of Local Electoral Areas for County Kildare for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Yours faithfully,



CLLR. MARK STAFFORD
KILDARE/NEWBRIDGE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

SUBMISSION TO LOCAL ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

Submission is based on the 2016 Census Report which indicates a total population for Kildare at 222,504. The total number of Councillors is 40 with an average representation of population of 5,563 per one councillor. The number of councillors per head of population as 5,563 for every councillor. This represents an improvement in representation since the adoption of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, prior to the 2014 local elections there was 7453 per head of population for each councillor. As the population continues to grow, this will need to be monitored further.

The county is presently divided into 5 municipal districts which are as follows:-

Athy (6)

Celbridge/Leixlip (7)

Kildare/Newbridge (9)

Naas (9)

Maynooth (9)

Terms of Reference:-

In particular I note the following:-

Number of councillors assigned to each local electoral area to be not less than 5 and not more than seven.

Where there are towns with populations in excess of 15,000 these areas shall be designated as distinct urban focussed local electoral areas – Newbridge, Naas and Celbridge. It is noted that a variance of plus or minus 10% is permitted.

In summary I will make the following submission. Notwithstanding the recommendation that electoral areas should be designed around urban areas, taking into due account of local and community identities and linkages as well as natural boundaries and the need to facilitate the effectiveness of the governance and representational roles of elected representative and the need to avoid designating local electoral areas which are territorially too large, this reconfiguration of local electoral areas offers an opportunity to designate a local electoral area for West Kildare. It is acknowledged that West Kildare like Athy is predominately rural and is a disadvantaged area. It is submitted that the division of West Kildare into the Municipal Districts of Kildare/Newbridge and Maynooth has given rise to the perception that this part of the county was neglected. The creation of one additional Municipal District complies with the terms of the boundary committees and allows for the least interference with the current Municipal District configuration.

Where possible the municipal districts are aligned with constituency boundaries.

Definitions:-

“ED” means Electoral Division

“LEA” means Local Electoral Area.

“MD” means Municipal District

6 MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Athy (6)

Athy remains a six seater excluding Monasterevin, Kildangan EDs (which move to new West Kildare MD and previously formed part of the Kildare LEA prior to 2014) and gains Kilcullen, Ballymore Eustace, Gilltown (which were part of the Athy LEA previously) and Carnalway.

County	Euro	Dáil 2016	Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Athy East Urban	3,910
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Athy Rural	3,834
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Athy West Urban	2,971
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Ballaghmoon	203
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Ballitore	1,133
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Ballybrackan	614
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Ballyshannon	1,789
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Belan	266
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Bert	167
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Burtown	413
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Carrigeen	624
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Castledermot	1,637
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Churchtown	528
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Dunmanoge	479
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Fontstown	410
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Graney	775
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Grangemellon	624
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Harristown	477
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Inchaquire	231
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Johnstown	172
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Kilberry	634
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Kilkea	392
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Kilrush	677
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Moone	487
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Narraghmore	823
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Nurney	1,081
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Carnalway	1,991
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Ballymore Eustace	1,517
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Gilltown	947
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Kilcullen	3,499
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Skerries	660
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Athy	Usk	530
						34495

Table 1 – Athy LEA

Celbridge/Lexlip (7)

The MD of Celbridge/Lexlip remains the same

County	Euro	Dáil 2016	Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Celbridge-Lexlip	Celbridge	15,653
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Celbridge-Lexlip	Donaghcumper	6,257
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Celbridge-Lexlip	Lexlip	15,576
						37,486

Table 2 – Celbridge/Lexlip LEA

Kildare/ Newbridge (7)

Kildare/Newbridge MD becomes concentrated around the two towns of Newbridge and Kildare similar to the Celbridge/ Lexlip MD. This MD retains the hinterland of the Curragh and Ladytown is added. All of the Kildare/Newbridge MD is located in the constituency of Kildare South.

County	Euro	Dáil 2016	Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Ballysax East	1,945
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Ballysax West	1,058
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Droichead Nua (Newbridge) Urban	7,762
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Morristownbiller	14,781
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge/Naas	Droichead Nua (Newbridge) Rural	2,732
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Kildare	9,874
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Ladytown	964
						39,116

Table 3 – Kildare/Newbridge MD

Naas (7)

This municipal district is centred around the County Town with its immediate hinterland. The EDs of Kilcullen, Ballymore Eustace and Gilltown which were formally part of the Athy LEA revert to the Athy MD and I have also added Carnalway. The ED of Ladytown has been allocated to Kildare/Newbridge. Two EDs are located in the Constituency of Kildare South.

County	Euro	Dáil 2016		Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas		Carragh	1,823
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Kill	4,692
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Bodenstown	4,940
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas		Killashee	265
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Kilteel	571
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Naas Rural	2,739
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Naas Urban	21,597
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Newtown	920
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Oughterard	743
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Naas		Rathmore	1,142

39,432

Table 4 – Naas MD

Maynooth/Clane (7)

The Maynooth/Clane MD is centred around the towns of Maynooth and Clane and also includes Kilcock. Most of the rural North West of the County has been allocated to the new Kildare West MD. All of the Maynooth/Clane MD is in the Constituency of Kildare North.

County	Euro	Dáil 2016	Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Balraheen	2,403
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Clane	8,142
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Downings	2,962
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Kilcock	6,930
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Maynooth	15,998
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Straffan	2,035

38,470

Table 5 – Maynooth/Clane MD

West Kildare (6)

A new municipal district of West Kildare comprises the towns of Monasterevin, Rathangan. This comprises a large predominately rural MD with common links through agriculture, commercial and cultural associations with “the Bog”. An acknowledged disadvantaged area which would benefit from an administration of its own rather than being tagged unto the larger towns of Maynooth and

Newbridge, located for certain EDs circa 30 kilometres away. This LEA also includes Monasteravin and Kildangan (Athy LEA) and Donore (Naas LEA)

County	Euro	Dáil 2016	Dáil 2018	LEA	ED	2016 Final
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Ballynadrumny	576
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Cadamstown	1,414
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare South	Maynooth	Carbury	1,913
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare South	Maynooth	Carrick	290
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Cloncurry	1,571
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Maynooth	Cloncurry	399
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Donadca	793
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare South	Maynooth	Drehid	270
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Dunfierth	733
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Maynooth	Kilpatrick	871
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare South	Maynooth	Kilrainy	753
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare North	Kildare North	Maynooth	Timahoe North	1,161
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Maynooth	Timahoe South	845
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Maynooth	Windmill Cross	1,182
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Dunmurry	472
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Feighcullen	616
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Killinthomas	331
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Kilmeage North	2,256
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Kilmeage South	2,114
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Lackagh	859
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Lullymore	187
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Pollardstown	314
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Oldconnell	983
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Rathangan	2,508
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare-Newbridge	Rathernan	598

Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare- Newbridge	Robertstown	1,983
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Kildare- Newbridge	Thomastown	929
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Kildangan	742
Kildare	Midlands NW	Laois	Kildare South	Athy	Monasterevin	4,897
Kildare	Midlands NW	Kildare South	Kildare South	Naas	Donore	785

33,345

Table 6 – Kildare West MD

End of Report

Mark Stafford