

Submission to the Electoral Commission on Constituency Boundary Review 2023

By Email

10th May 2023

A Chara,

Firstly, may I congratulate the newly appointed Electoral Commission members and wish you well in your work. I am sure you've heard this in abundance, but the creation of the Commission is a welcome development and long overdue. Secondly, while I have previously been involved in party politics, I have not been a member nor active in a political party for several years. My submission is on my own behalf based purely on what I believe are reasonable changes that should be made, and not based on which political group, if any, would benefit most from such changes. I have endeavoured to be concise in my suggestions.

Given the brief of 171 to 181 seats in Dáil Éireann, I initially focussed on a midpoint of 176 seats i.e., an increase of sixteen seats nationally, and only remediated the Dublin constituencies. However, in the final analysis of the national picture, I am suggesting 173 seats would be more appropriate. This sees a population density of one TD per 29,616 of the population. Unless otherwise stated, all estimates of population are based on the preliminary results of Census 2022, using the breakdown by Electoral Division (ED) provided on the CSO website. Where an Electoral Division is at present split between two constituencies, I have used basic arithmetic to ascertain the proportion. I attach the numbers separately broken down by Electoral Division (ED). The CSO and OSI websites were very useful for visualising the ED's.

This submission covers all constituencies in the state. Some constituencies are over-represented and some under-represented, though all proposed are within a 5% margin of the national average density per TD. Broadly speaking Dublin, Cork and Galway receive most of the additional seats, with the remainder divided between the rest of the country.

I have attempted to respect natural and artificial geographical divides, to maintain continuity of constituencies as far as is practicable, and take a data led approach combined with my strong personal knowledge and experience of the country having been professionally and politically involved over many years. I do propose some new county bounds be broken, and some be restored. On the whole I hope you find my submission to be reasonable. This is all my own work, and I submit it in aid your deliberations.

Is mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Doyle', is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

James Doyle
309 An Dunnóg
Bettystown
Co Meath
A92 W303
+353(0)858463023

Section 1: Table of Proposed Changes

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
Carlow-Kilkenny North	<i>See Waterford-Kilkenny South below</i> <i>From Wicklow:</i> Aghowle, Ballingate, Ballinglen, Ballybeg, Carnew, Coolattin, Coolballintaggart, Coolboy, Cronelea, Kilballyowen, Killinure, Money, Rath, Shillelagh Tinahely	5	153517	30703	+3.67%
Cavan Monaghan	<i>See Meath West below</i>	5	146033	29207	-1.38%
Clare	<i>See Galway East-Clare North West below</i>	4	115281	28820	-2.69%
Cork East	<i>See Cork North West below</i> <i>From Cork North Central:</i> Kildinan Riverstown, Watergrasshill	4	116580	29145	-1.59%
Cork North Central	<i>See Cork East above, Cork North West below</i>	4	113670	28418	-4.05%
Cork North West	<i>See Cork South Central below</i> <i>From Cork East:</i> Ballyclogh, Buttevant Caherduggan, Carrig, Clenor, Doneraile, Kilmaclenine,	4	113857	28464	-3.89%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Mallow North Urban, Mallow Rural, Mallow South Urban, Monanimy, Wallstown, <i>From Cork North Central:</i> Ballynaglogh Ballynamona, Blackpool, Carrig, Carrignavar, Firmount, Glenville, Gowlane, Greenfort, Killeagh, Knockantota, Rahan <i>From Cork South West:</i> Ahil Ballymoney Douce Dunderrow <i>From Kerry:</i> Clydagh Doocarrig Headfort, Rathmore,				
Cork South Central	<i>From Cork North West:</i> Ballincolig	5	151254	30251	+2.14%
Cork South West	<i>See Cork North West above</i>	3	89690	29897	+0.95%
Donegal North East	<i>From Donegal:</i> The Electoral Divisions in the Local Electoral Areas of Letterkenny, Milford, Buncrana, and Carndonagh	3	89950	29983	+1.24%
Donegal-Leitrim North	<i>From Donegal:</i> The Electoral Divisions in the Local Electoral Areas	3	87728	29243	-1.26%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	of Glenties, Lifford-Stranorlar, and Donegal. <i>From Sligo-Leitrim:</i> The Electoral Divisions in Leitrim not part of the Roscommon-Sligo East-Leitrim South constituency				
Dublin Bay North	<i>See Dublin Central below.</i>	5	150851	30170	+1.87%
Dublin Bay South	<i>See Dublin South Central below</i>	4	112841	28210	-4.75%
Dublin Central	<i>From Dublin West:</i> Ashtown A Ashtown B Phoenix Park (that part situated north of a line drawn along Chapelizod Road, Conyngham Road and Parkgate Street.) <i>From Dublin Bay North:</i> Clontarf West D Clontarf West E	5	143,342	28668	-3.20%
Dublin Fingal South	<i>From Dublin Fingal:</i> Balgriffin, Donabate, Kilsallaghan, Kinsaley, Lusk, Malahide East, Malahide West, Portmarnock North, Portmarnock South, Rush Swords Village, Swords-Forrest, Swords-Glasmore, Swords-Lissenhall, Swords-Seatown	4	122855	30714	+3.71%
Dublin Mid West	<i>See Dublin South West below</i> <i>From Dublin South Central:</i>	4	121220	30305	+2.33%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Decies				
Dublin North West	<i>No Change</i>	3	90219	30073	+1.54%
Dublin Rathdown	<i>From Dún Laoghaire:</i> Blackrock-Boooterstown, Blackrock-Glenomena, Blackrock-Williamstown, Stillorgan-Leopardstown, <i>From Dublin South West:</i> Rathfarnham Village	4	121659	30415	+2.70%
Dublin South Central	<i>See Dublin Mid-West above</i> <i>From Dublin Bay South:</i> Kimmage C, Terenure A, Terenure B, Terenure C, Terenure D, <i>From Dublin South-West</i> Templeogue Village, Templeogue-Cypress, Templeogue-Orwell, Templeogue-Osprey, Terenure-St. James, Templeogue-Limekiln,	5	152889	30578	+3.25%
Dublin South West	<i>See Dublin South Central above</i> <i>From Dublin Mid-West:</i> Rathcoole Saggart	5	148461	29692	+0.26%
Dublin West	<i>See Dublin Central above</i>	4	119208	29802	+0.63%
Dún Laoghaire	<i>See Dublin Rathdown above</i>	4	119321	29830	+0.72%
Galway City	<i>From Galway West:</i> Those Electoral Divisions in Galway City local authority, Ballintemple	3	85056	28352	-4.27%
Galway East-Clare North West	<i>See Galway West below</i> <i>From Galway East & Roscommon Galway:</i>	3	88212	29404	-0.72%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Those Electoral Divisions not forming part of Galway West. <i>From Clare:</i> Abbey, Ballagh, Ballysteen, Boston Carran, Cloghaun, Clooney, Corrofin, Derreen, Drumcreehy, Ennistimon, Gleninagh, Glenroe / Ballyeighter, Kilfenora, Killaspuglonane, Killilagh, Killinaboy, Kilshanny, Kiltoraght, Liscannor, Lisdoonvarna, Lurraga, Mountelva, Noughaval / Castletown, Oughtmama, Rath, Rathborney, Smithstown,				
Galway West	<i>See Galway City above</i> <i>From Roscommon Galway:</i> Addergoole <i>From Galway East:</i> Abbey East, Abbey West, Annaghdown, Athenry, Aughrim, Ballinderry, Ballinduff Ballynapark	4	115321	28830	-2.65%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Beaghmore, Belclare, Belleville, Cappalusk Carrownagur, Carrowrevagh, Claretuam, Clonbern, Cloonkeen, Cummer, Deerpark, Donaghpatrick, Doonbally, Dunmore North, Dunmore South, Foxhall, Graigabbey, Greethill, Headford, Hillsbrook, Kilbennan, Kilcoona, Killeany, Killeen, Killererin, Killian, Killower, Killursa, Kilmoylan, Kilshanvy, Levally, Milltown Monivea, Moyne, Ryehill, Stradbally, Tiaquin, Toberadosh, Tuam Rural, Tuam Urban,				
Kerry	<i>See Cork North West above</i>	5	151438	30288	+2.27%
Kildare North-Wicklow North West	<i>From Kildare South:</i> Ballymore Eustace, Killashee <i>From Wicklow:</i>	5	146581	29316	-1.01%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Blessington, Burgage, Hollywood, Kilbride, Lackan, Lugglass, Togher,				
Kildare South- Wicklow South West	<i>See Kildare North-Wicklow North West above</i> <i>See Laois & Offaly-North Tipperary below</i> <i>From Wicklow:</i> Ballinguile, Baltinglass Donaghmore, Donard, Dunlavin, Eadestown, Imael North, Imael South, Rathdangan, Rathsallagh, Stratford, Talbotstown, The Grange, Tober, Tuckmill, Humewood,	4	120544	30136	+1.76%
Laois	<i>From Laois Offaly & Kildare South:</i> The county of Laois	3	91657	30552	+3.16%
Limerick City	<i>No change</i>	4	120637	30159	+1.83%
Limerick County	<i>No change</i>	3	89481	29827	+0.71%
Longford Westmeath	<i>From Meath West:</i> That part of the county of Westmeath in Meath West	5	142474	28495	-3.79%
Louth	<i>See Meath East-Fingal North below</i>	5	141100	28220	-4.71%
Mayo-Sligo West	<i>From Mayo & Galway West:</i> The county of Mayo <i>From Sligo Leitrim</i> Achonry East,	5	149778	29956	+1.15%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Achonry West, Aclare, Banada, Breencorragh, Buncrowey, Castleconor East, Castleconor West, Glendarragh, Kilglass Kilmacteige, Loughill / Cloonacool, Rathmacurkey, Templeboy North, Templeboy South / Mullagheruse, Tobercurry,				
Meath East-Fingal North	<i>From Dublin Fingal:</i> Balbriggan Rural, Balbriggan Urban, Ballyboghil Balscadden, Clonmethan Garristown, Hollywood, Holmpatrick, Skerries Lusk (part west of the M1 motorway) <i>From Louth:</i> Julianstown St. Mary's (Part Rural) – note circa 2000 people to remain in the Louth constituency. Possibly the townland of Bryanstown. <i>From Meath East:</i> Ardcath, Armdulchan, Donaghmore Duleek, Grangegeeth, Kentstown, Kilbrew, Mellifont, Painestown,	4	117801	29450	-0.56%

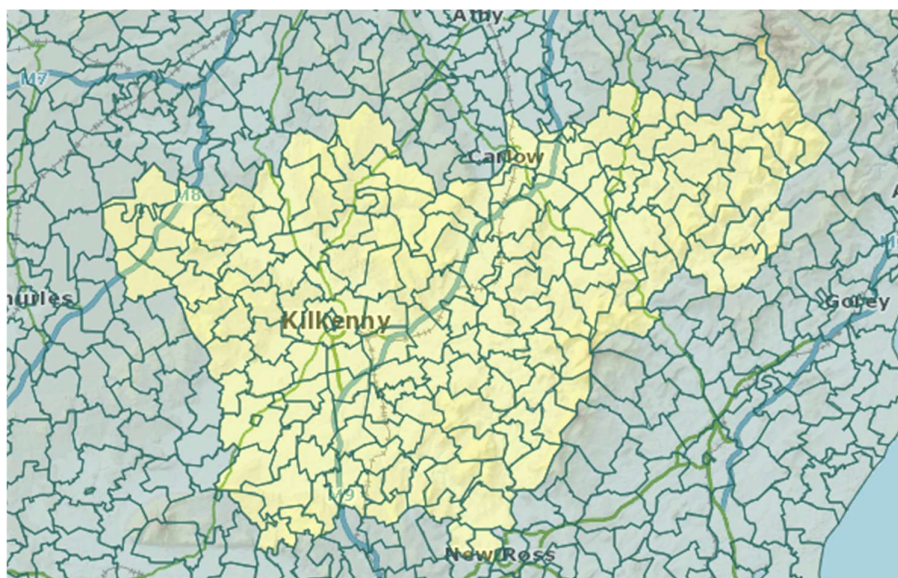
Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Rathfeigh Skreen, Slane, Stamullin, Tara				
Meath West	<i>See Longford-Westmeath above</i> <i>From Cavan-Monaghan:</i> Those parts of the county of Meath in that constituency. <i>From Meath East:</i> Castletown, Ceannanus Mór (Kells) Rural, Ceannanus Mór (Kells) Urban, Cruicetown, Culmullin, Domhnach Phádraig, Donaghmore, Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Killary, Killeen, Kilmore, Maperath, Moynalty, Newcastle, Newtown, Nobber, Rathkenny, Ratoath Rodanstown, Stackallan, Staholmog	5	148330	29666	+0.17%
Offaly-Tipperary North	<i>From Laois-Offaly & Kildare South:</i> The county of Offaly <i>From Tipperary:</i> Aghnameadle, Agliscloghane, Ardcrony, Ballingarry	4	123431	30858	+4.19%

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Ballygibbon, Ballylusky, Ballymackey, Borrisnafarney, Borrisnoe, Borrisokane, Bourney East, Bourney West, Cappagh, Carrig, CloghJordan, Cloghprior, Clohaskin, Clonbeg, Clonoulty East, Clonoulty West, Cullen, Curraheen, Drom, Finnoe, Graigue, Kilbarron, Killavinoge Killea, Kiltinan, Knigh, Lorrha East Lorrha West, Mertonhall, Monsea, Nenagh East Urban, Nenagh Rural, Nenagh West Urban, Rahelty, Rathcabban, Rathnaveoge, Redwood, Riverstown, Roscrea, Templemore, Terryglass, Timoney, Uskane,				
Roscommon-Sligo East-Leitrim South	<i>From Sligo Leitrim & Roscommon Galway:</i> The county of Roscommon	5	150997	30199	+1.97%

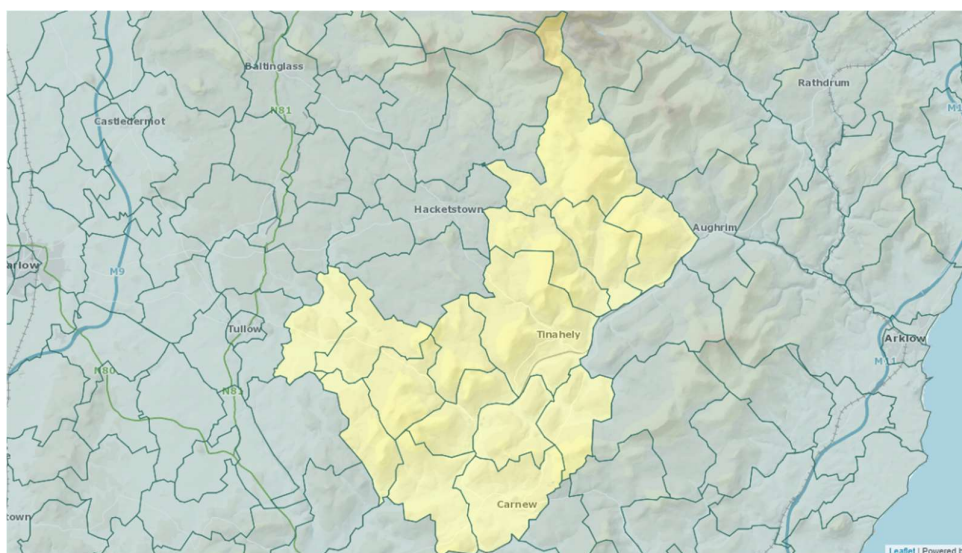
Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Those Electoral Divisions in the county of Sligo not forming part of Mayo-Sligo West constituency. In the county of Leitrim, Aghacashel, Aghavas, Annaduff, Ballinamore, Barnameenagh, Beihy, Breandrum, Bunnybeg, Carrick-on-Shannon, Carrigallen East, Carrigallen West, Cashel, Castlefore, Cattan, Cloone, Cloonlogher, Cloverhill, Corrala, Corriga, Drumard, Drumdoo, Drumod, Drumreilly North, Drumreilly South, Drumshanbo, Drumsna, Fenagh, Garadice, Gortermone Gortnagullion, Gowel, Greaghglass / Stralongford, Keeldra, Keshcarrigan, Killygar, Kiltubbrid, Leitrim, Lisgilllock, Moher, Mohill,				

Constituency	Proposed transfers of Electoral Divisions	Proposed Number of Seats	Revised Constituency Population	Population per TD	Variance from National Average
	Munakill, Newtowngore, Oughteragh, Rinn, Riverstown, Roosky, Rowan, Yugan				
Tipperary South	<i>From Tipperary:</i> The parts of Tipperary not forming part of the constituency of Offaly-North Tipperary	4	122224	30556	+3.17%
Waterford-Kilkenny South	<i>From Carlow-Kilkenny:</i> The Electoral Divisions in the Pilltown Local Electoral Area	5	147253	29451	-0.56%
Wexford	<i>See Wicklow East-Gorey below</i>	5	144012	28802	-2.75%
Wicklow East-Gorey	<i>See Kildare North-Wicklow North West & Kildare South Wicklow South West above.</i> <i>From Wexford:</i> Ballylarkin Ballynestragh, Coolgreany, Courtown, Gorey Rural, Gorey Urban, Kilgorman	5	146783	29357	-0.88%
		173	5,123,536	29,616	

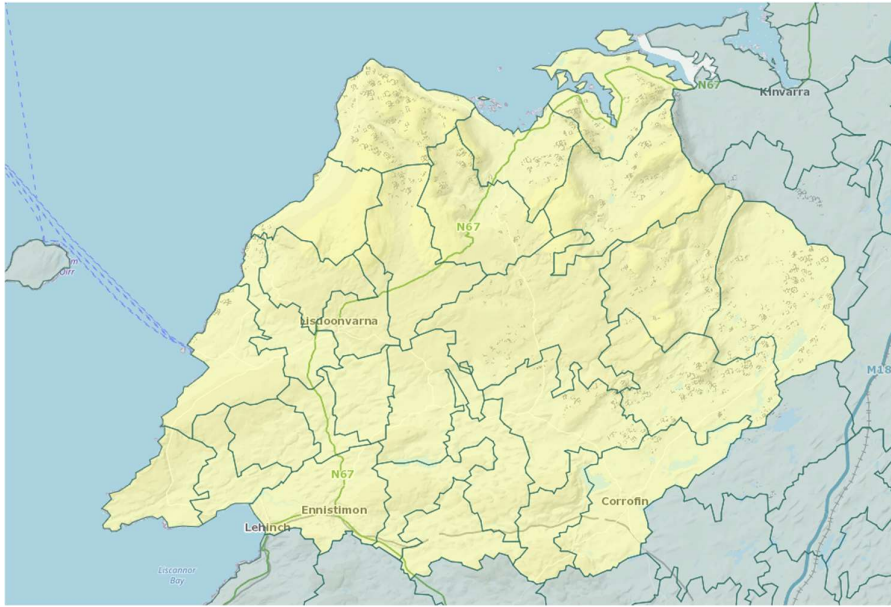
Section 2: Selection of Maps of Proposed Constituencies



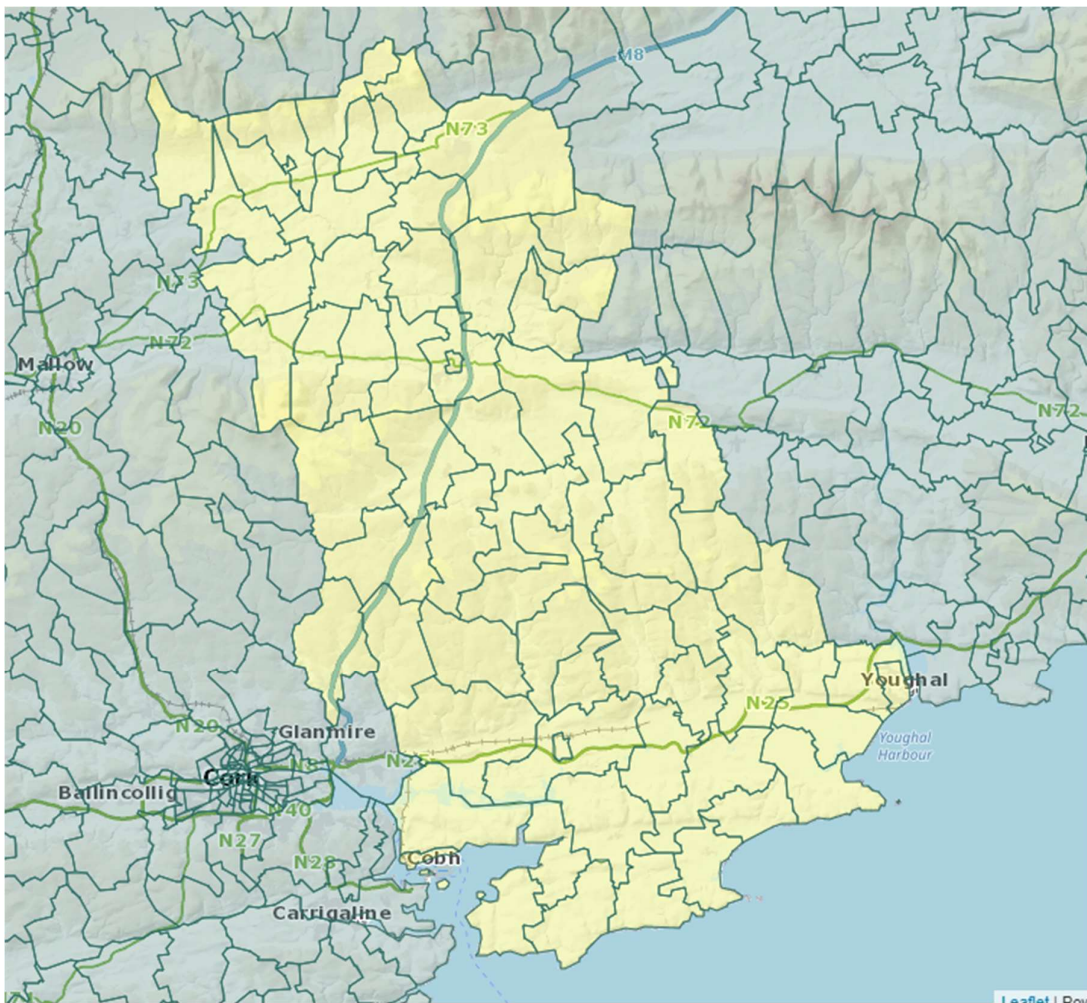
Carlow-Kilkenny North (including parts of west Wicklow)



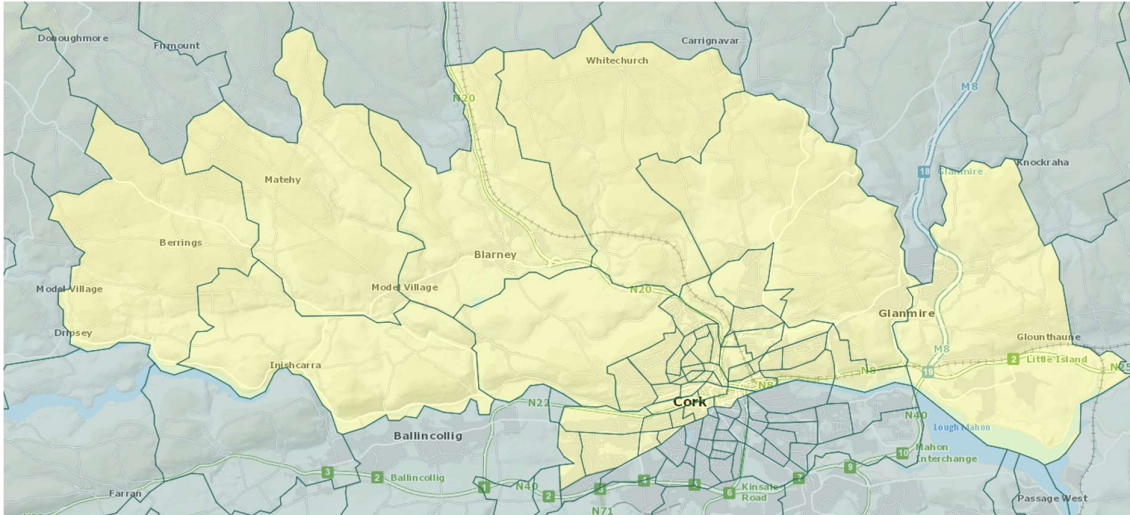
ED's in Wicklow transferring to Carlow-Kilkenny North



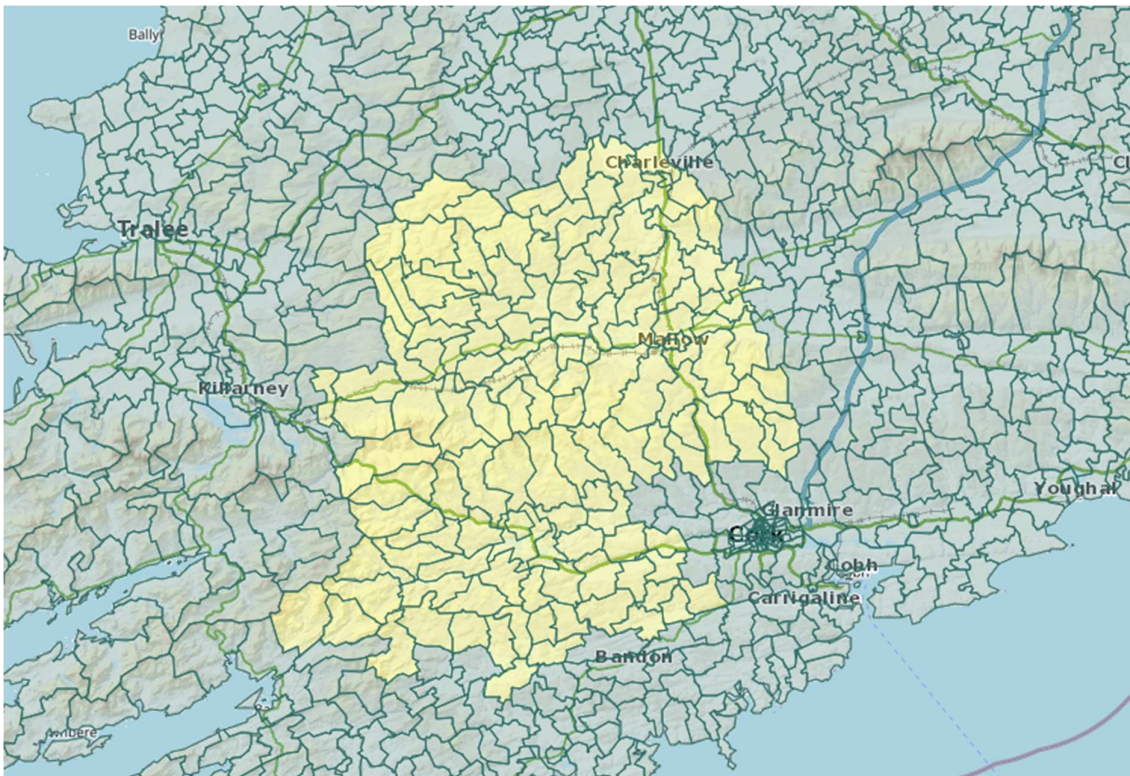
ED's in Clare to transfer to Galway East



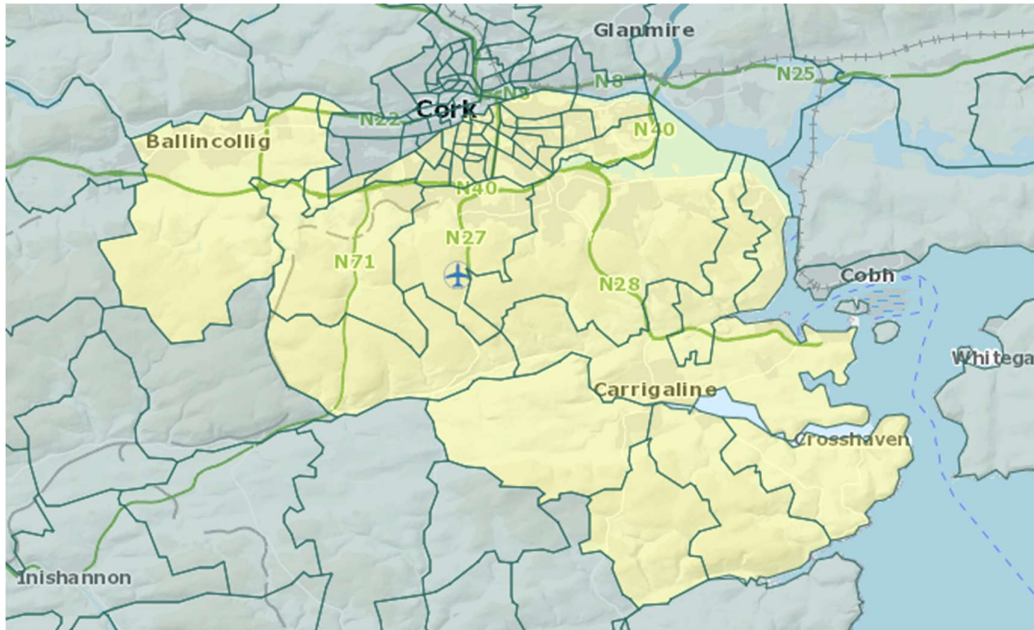
Revised Cork East constituency



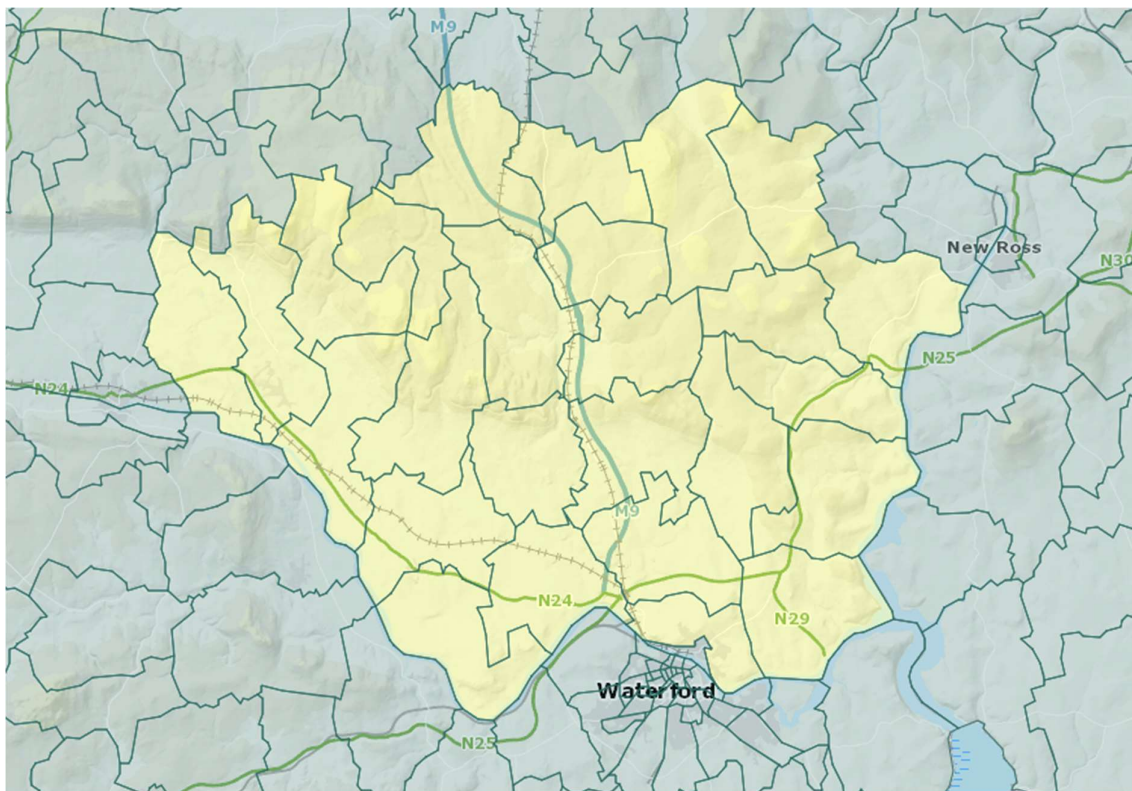
Revised Cork North Central constituency



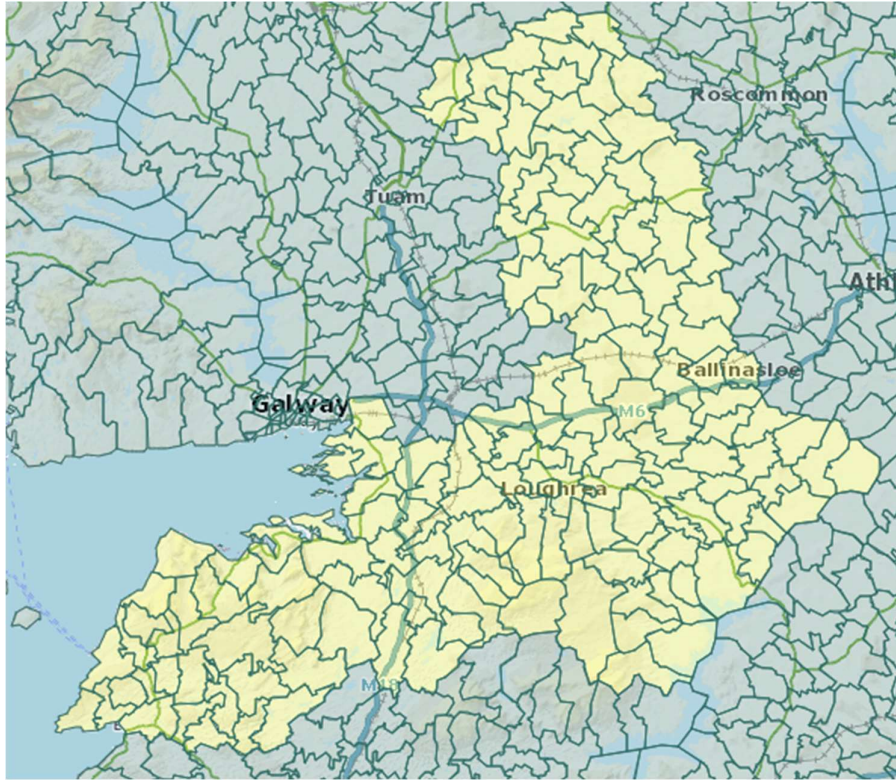
Revised Cork North West constituency



Revised Cork South Central constituency



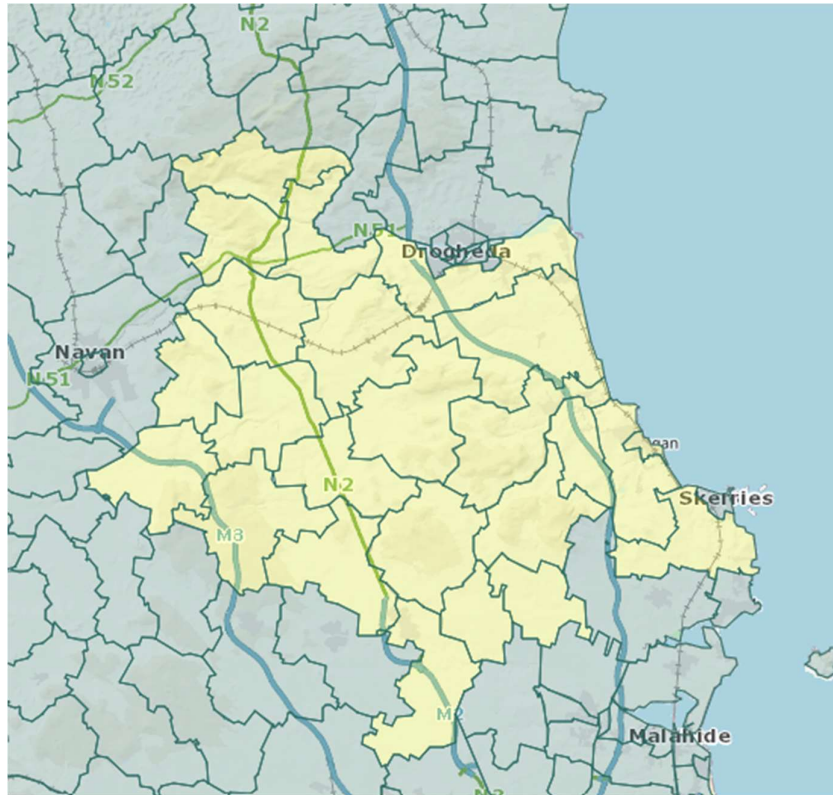
Kilkenny ED's to Waterford



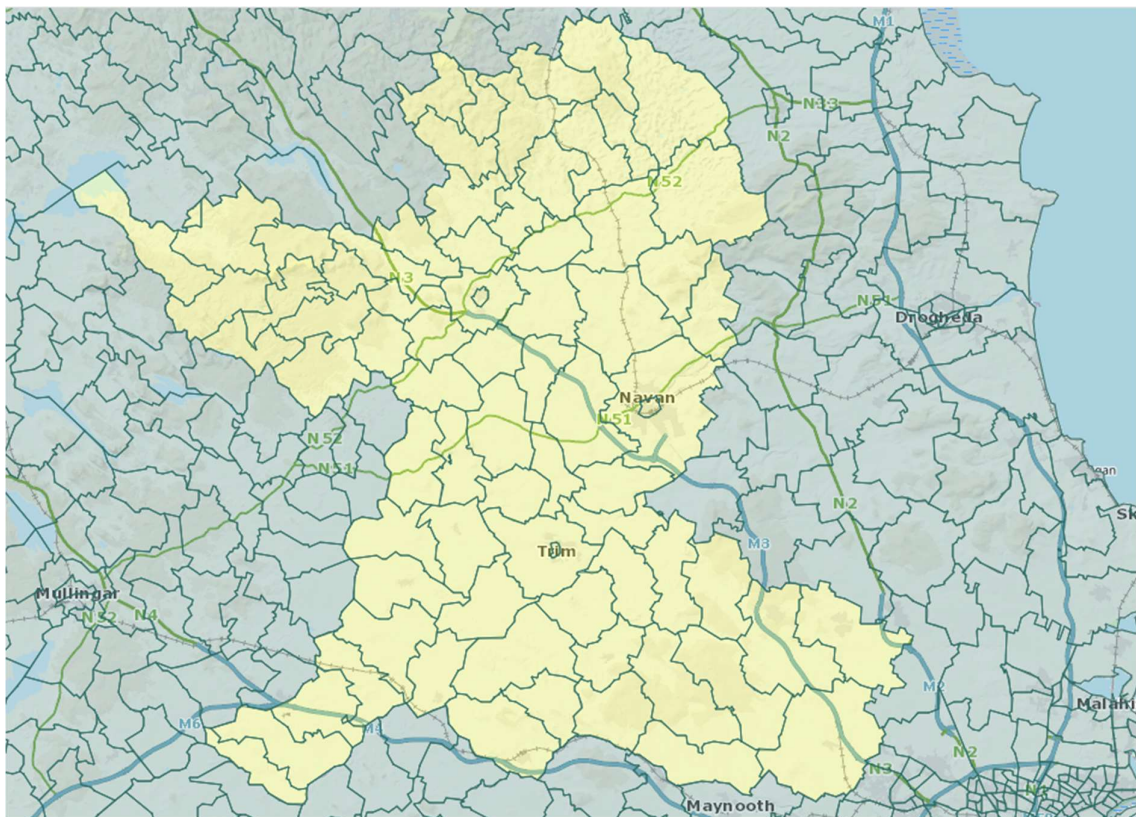
Revised Galway East-Clare North West Constituency



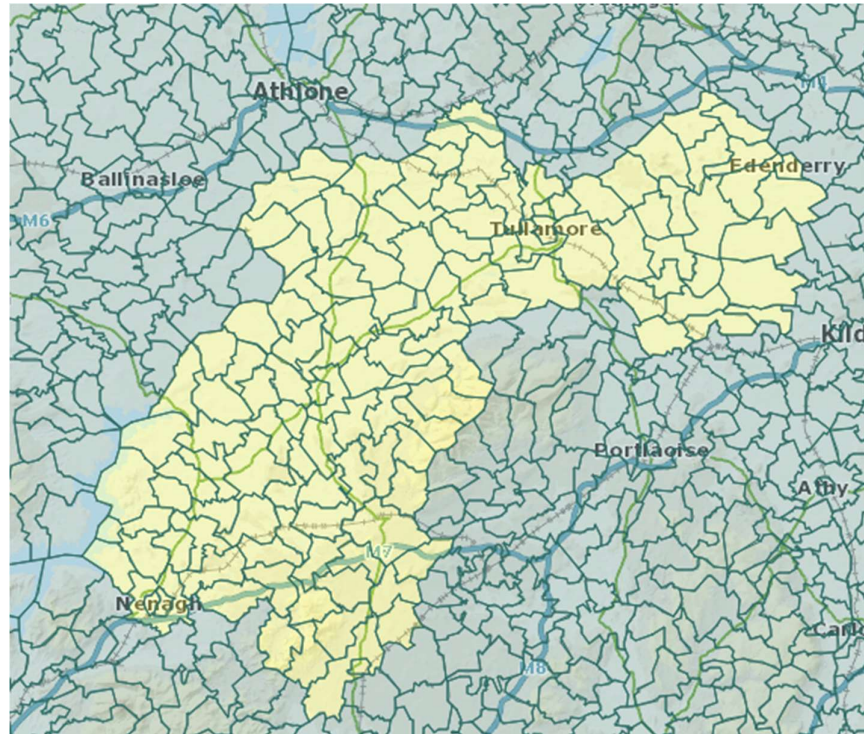
Revised Galway West Constituency



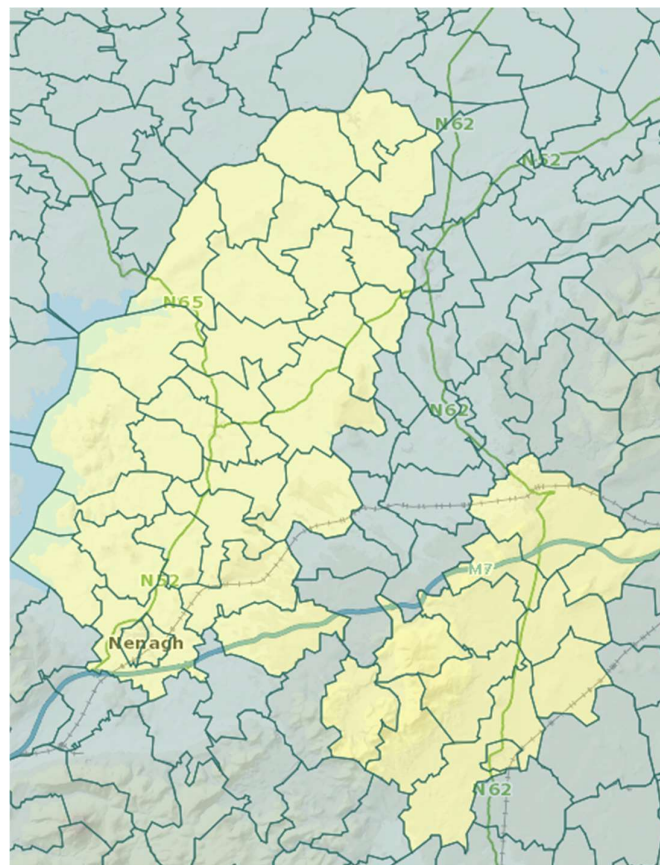
Meath East-Fingal North



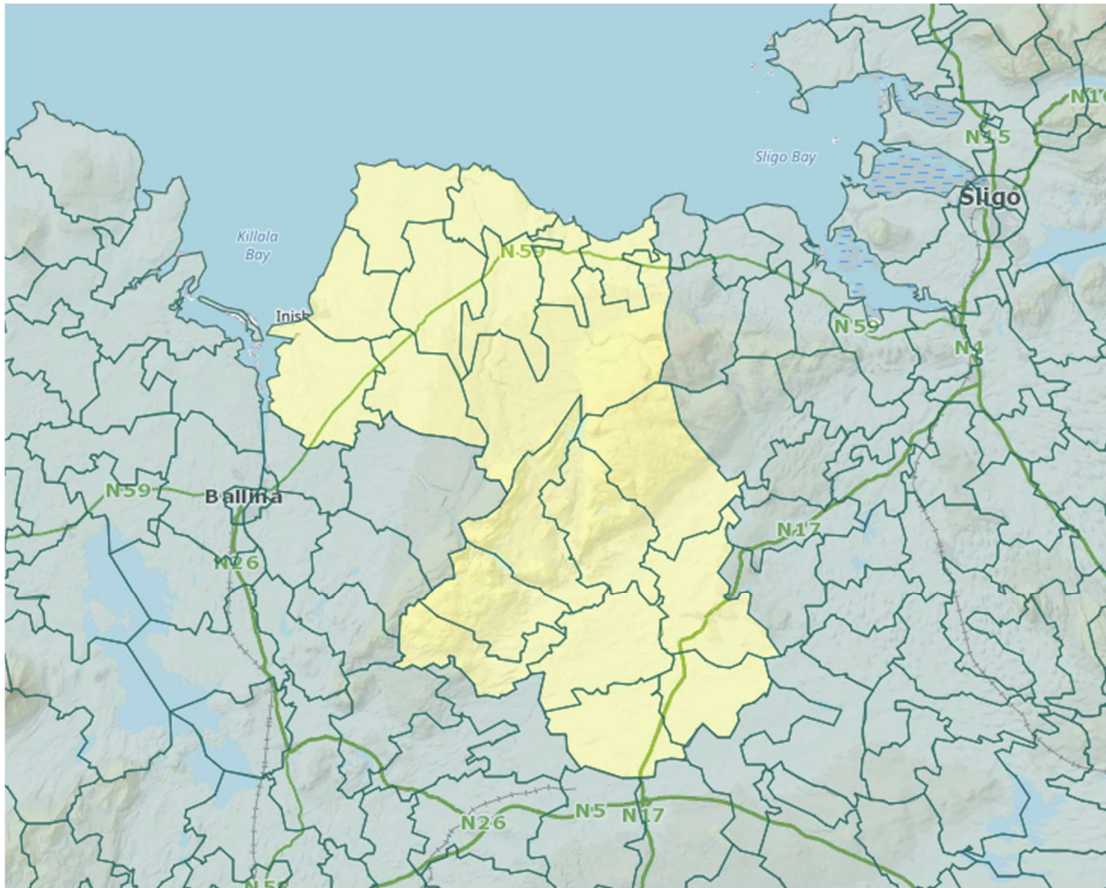
Revised Meath West constituency



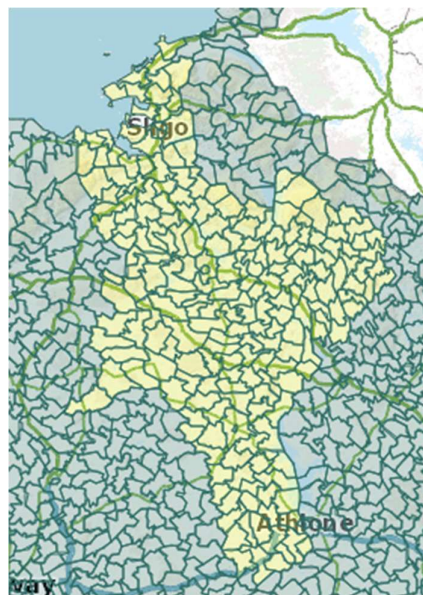
New Constituency of Offaly-Tipperary North



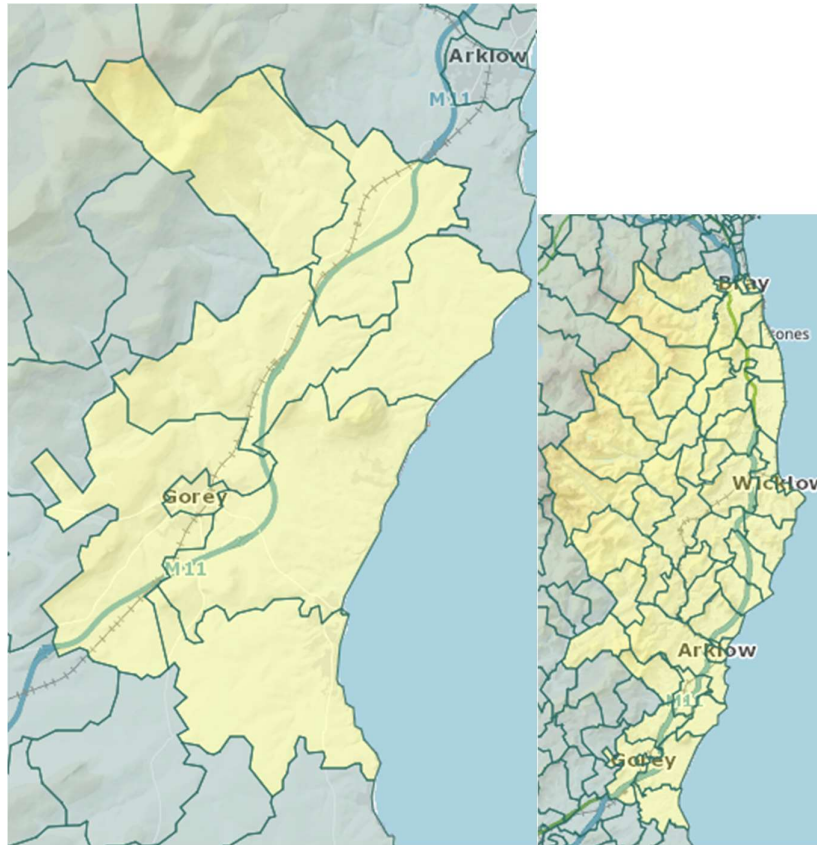
ED's in Tipperary transferring to Offaly-Tipperary North



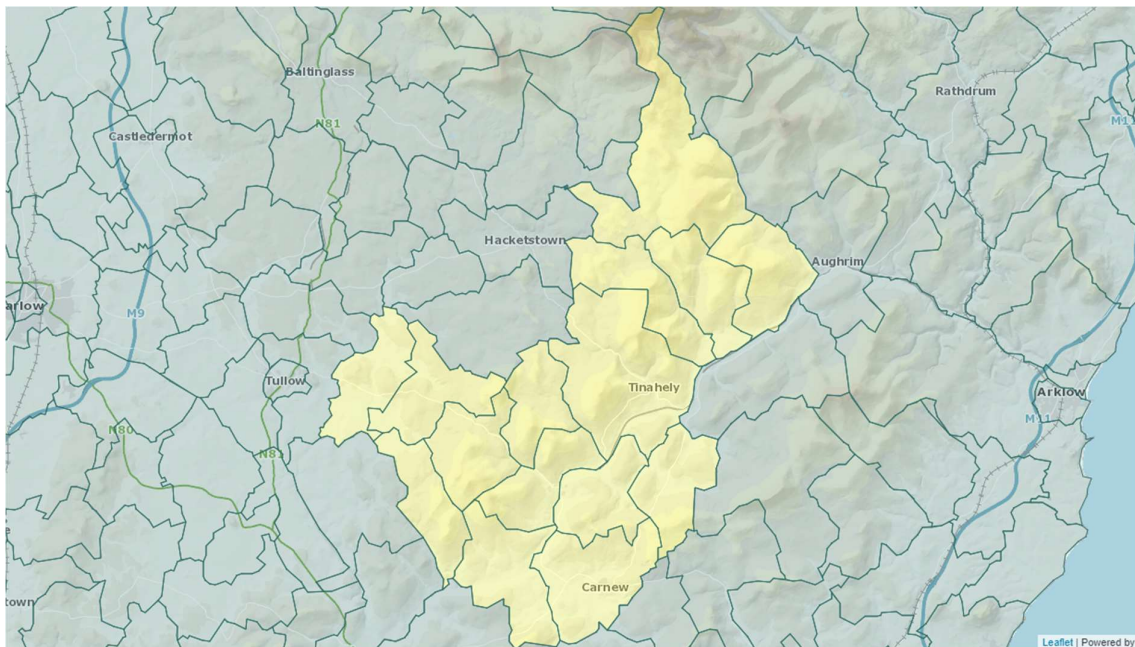
ED's in Sligo-Leitrim transferring to Mayo



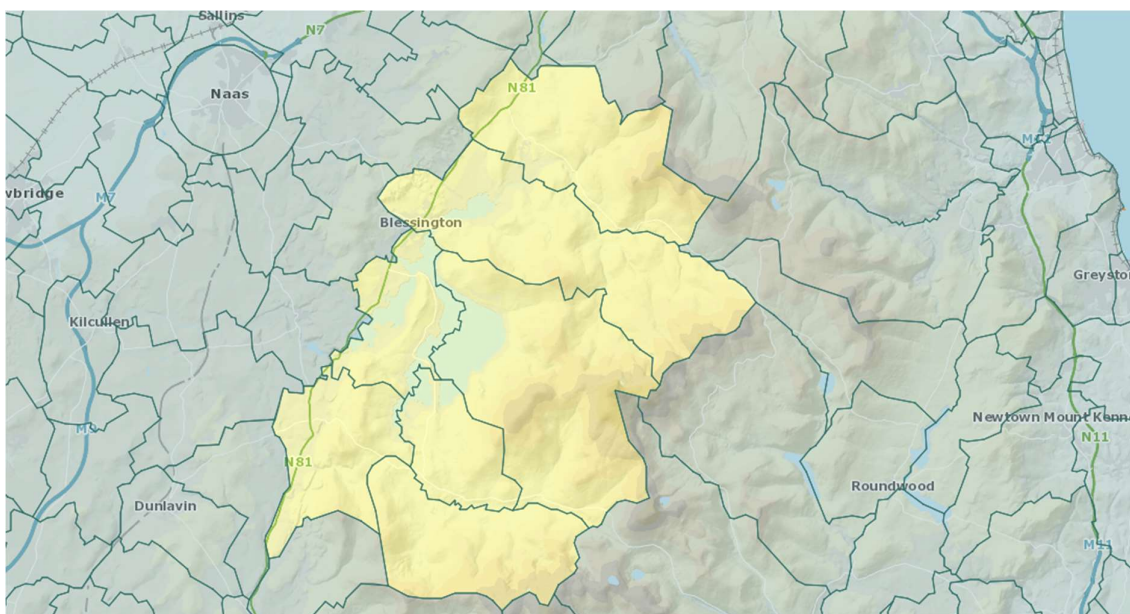
New Roscommon-Sligo East-Leitrim South constituency



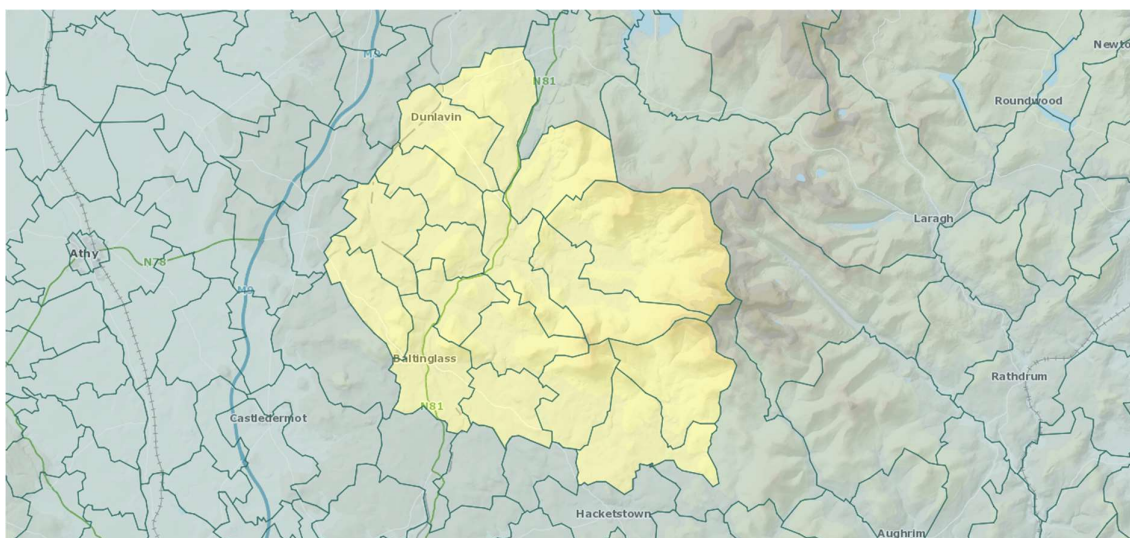
Left: ED's in Wexford transferring to Wicklow, Right Wicklow East-Gorey constituency.



ED's in Wicklow transferring to Carlow Kilkenny



ED's in Wicklow transferring to Kildare North



ED's in Wicklow transferring to Kildare South

Section 3: Rationale & Background to Proposed Changes

General

In general, there are several factors that can constrict constituency boundaries. The previous Constituency Commissions used the M50/Northern Cross Route as a boundary in Dublin; rivers often serve as natural boundaries, as do other features of the landscape. In assessing options for potential constituency changes, the data and the geography must add up, and this must be done on an overall basis as a change in one constituency entails a corresponding change in a neighbouring constituency. It is also important that as far as possible four and five seat constituencies are retained or created as it is widely acknowledged that they have more representative democratic outcomes under PR-STV. The changes I propose have been carefully refined to find the right balance. Areas such as north west Wicklow are in the hinterland of Naas, so while being different local authority areas, they form a

community of interest. I know it is not an ideal scenario to break county bounds from a public representatives perspective, but we must have constituencies that are fit for purpose. I will not go into every constituency, but I have done so with Dublin in the below manner:

Dublin Northside

At present in the three northside constituencies of Dublin Central, Dublin North-West, and Dublin Bay North located mostly in the Dublin City Council area, bounded by the M50 and the River Liffey, there is a population of 369,289, who are currently represented by an aggregate of twelve TDs (circa one TD per 30,690 people). If we take the 173 seat scenario, and a national average of 29,616 per TD, this represents a +3.9% variance overall. The geographic challenges bear consideration – Dublin Central forms a discrete well bounded core, with Phillipsburg Avenue and the Tolka River serving as the eastern boundary with Dublin Bay North, and Griffith Avenue serving as the northern boundary for the most part. The Tolka River again provides a natural boundary between Dublin North-West and Dublin Central. To the west, the Ratoath, Nephin and Skreen roads form the boundary with Dublin West, although Ashtown A and B, the Phoenix Park and the Navan Road are contiguous with Cabra and its hinterland. It is Dublin West that in fact causes the issue here, with a variance based on 173 seats of +13.33%. We need everything to balance, ideally within a 5% variance.

To achieve this, bringing Ashtown A and B (circa 15,000 people) and the part of Phoenix Park in Dublin West (estimate of 277 people) into Dublin Central helps bring Dublin West back into line with a variance of +0.63% without changing any other boundaries or adding or reducing the number of seats. It follows that Dublin Central must be amended to account for this increase in population, and it also needs to be within tolerance. This can be achieved by transferring Clontarf West D and Clontarf West E (i.e., Fairview including Fairview Park and Marino west of the Malahide Road R107 and south of Griffith Avenue, population circa 5,000) from Dublin Bay North. The result is a five seat constituency (an addition of one new seat) with a variance of -3.20%. The addition of these electoral divisions to Dublin Central has historical precedence, as all five were formerly part of the Dublin Central constituency – the Clontarf ED's from 1981 to 1992, and the Ashtown ED's from 1992 to 2011.

Incidentally, as the revised Dublin West constituency would be exclusively in the Fingal County Council area, it may be worth considering renaming the constituency to Dublin Fingal West.

As Dublin North-West and the revised Dublin Bay North are within a 5% tolerance of the national average population per TD, I propose that no other amendments be made to these constituencies.

Dublin Fingal

The existing five seat constituency of Dublin Fingal is very out of kilter in a 173 seat scenario, with a variance of +15.26% vs the national average. In fact, in every scenario from 171 to 181 seats, it will fail to be within even a single digit variance. There is no neat way of resolving this. As noted above, we can solve the three other northside constituencies and Dublin West in a quite straightforward manner. There is a case for the three Fingal County Council electoral divisions currently in Dublin Bay North to be united with the remainder of the county in some form of constituency configuration, however at present it does not solve the issue, and indeed would make Dublin Bay North at a greater variance than is desired. The only viable solution I have identified is to split the constituency of Dublin Fingal into two constituencies, namely Dublin Fingal South, with four seats and combining parts of east Meath with north Fingal to form a five seat constituency. While not ideal to cross county bounds in

this manner, it should be noted that Balbriggan is closer to most these areas in the north than it is to Swords or Malahide in the south, and that it will most likely be a short term fix, as Fingal's population continues to be one of the fastest growing in the state (+11% since 2016) and will undoubtedly require review and amendment again in the next decade or so. In looking at the Dublin constituencies I did examine a stand alone three seat Dublin Fingal north, however the variance was too high and the numbers did not balance nationally also. It also would have required to separate Swords from its immediate hinterland like Rolestown.

Dublin Mid-West

Bound by the Liffey to the north and the M50 to the east, and the N7 at the south, Dublin Mid-West is similarly clearly defined in terms of its boundaries. At four seats and a variance of +10%, some change is needed. The most expeditious and straightforward way is the transfer of Saggart and Rathcoole to Dublin South-West, bring Dublin Mid-West in line with a variance of +2.33% and remaining a four seat constituency. For balancing purposes, transferring the ED of Decies from Dublin South Central is required. It is also worth noting that from 1981 to 2002, the two ED of Saggart and Rathcoole were part of Dublin South-West. Furthermore, it effectively establishes the N7 as the southern boundary.

Dublin Southside

Having addressed north and west, now the far side of the river needs to be resolved. With a population of 658,814 from the River Liffey to the Dublin mountains (including the ED's of Saggart and Rathcoole) and currently 20 TDs, the electorate is underrepresented. The southside of Dublin should gain at least two new seats under this review. This part of Dublin is covered by three local authorities, and while the Commission may recommend a constituency that breaches the borders of these authorities, this can create a disjointedness between local elected representatives and national elected representatives, and hinder their effective interaction with local authorities on behalf of their constituents (whether this type interaction as a positive or negative aspect of our system is not pertinent to this consultation, simply it is a well-known feature of it). In this case it will be necessary to breach local authority boundaries.

Dublin Bay South & Dublin South-Central

Bounded by the River Liffey to the north, the sea to the east, the Dublin City Council limit to the south, and roughly speaking the R137 in the west, Dublin Bay South also has a clearly delineated area. The exception to this is the four Electoral Divisions of Terenure A, Terenure B, Terenure C, and Kimmage C, which lie west of the R137. Terenure D while strictly speaking east of the R137, is very much connected with the other ED's mentioned. All of these ED's have at various points since the 1980s been part of Dublin South-Central. I propose than they be transferred to Dublin South Central, which enables Dublin Bay South to remain almost unaltered as a four seat constituency, with a variance of -4.75% from the national average.

In the 173 seat scenario, Dublin South-Central as presently constituted would have a variance of +7.35% from the national average. By moving the five Electoral Divisions outlined above into the constituency, this obviously increases the variance. Therefore, there are two options – cut or grow. To the north (bar Palmerstown and part of the Phoenix Park Eds) the river Liffey acts as a boundary. As outlined above, the eastern boundary is largely the R137. The western/southern boundaries are a combination of the M50, which bisects three electoral divisions, Greenhills Road, and the R112 to where it intersects with the R137. The options to cut are limited – Dublin Bay South, Dublin Mid-West, and Dublin South-West are all at or close to capacity and could not readily absorb ED's. There is however a solution to grow. A five seat constituency can be created by moving the Electoral Divisions

of Templeogue-Cypress, Templeogue-Limekiln, Templeogue-Orwell, Templeogue-Osprey, Templeogue Village, Terenure-St. James from Dublin South-West to Dublin South-Central. In effect the M50 would form the western boundary, with the river Dodder serving as the southern one.

This does breach a local authority boundary, as the above listed ED's are in the South Dublin local authority. However, that boundary has already been breached in the present Dublin South-Central constituency, as Templeogue-Kimmage Manor, Terenure-Cherryfield, Terenure-Greentrees are part of South Dublin too. If anything, the addition of more ED's from South Dublin enhances the potential for residents in these areas to have an influence over decisions affecting them. In summary, the transfer of these ED's and the addition of one new seat to make a five seat constituency is possible and perhaps even desirable. The variance from the national average would also be within tolerance, at +3.25%.

Dublin South-West, Dublin Rathdown & Dún Laoghaire

Save for the changes listed in Dublin Mid-West and Dublin South-Central above, Dublin South-West can remain a five seat constituency, bounded by the N7 to the west, the South Dublin/Dún Laoghaire Rathdown local authority boundary to the east, and the M50 and the Dodder River to the north. For balance, it is necessary to transfer the ED of Rathfarnham-Village to Dublin Rathdown. Dublin South-West would have a variance from the national average of +3.23%.

With variances of 13.8% and 11.6% respectively versus the 173 seat scenario, Dublin Rathdown and Dún Laoghaire are in need of the final additional seat. While it may be tempting to create a five seat constituency in Dún Laoghaire, it would be a disservice to the electorate of Dublin Rathdown which has only three seats. Therefore, it is preferable to enhance our democracy by making it a four seat constituency. To achieve this, the electoral divisions of Blackrock-Boooterstown, Blackrock-Glenomena, Blackrock-Williamstown, Stillorgan-Leopardstown, and the remainder of Glencullen (the part that lies to the east of the M50 Motorway and to the south of the N31 and the Leopardstown Road) will need to move to Dublin Rathdown. This would make the northern boundary of Dún Laoghaire as Mount Merrion Avenue/N31. The western boundary would be the N11 as far as Leopardstown Road/R113.

The new variance for Dublin Rathdown would be -1.01% and Dún Laoghaire +0.72%.