

**Subject:** FW: New submission from Research Form

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**From:** The Electoral Commission <noreply@electoralcommission.eu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 9 January 2024 18:38  
**To:** ELC Research <research@electoralcommission.ie>  
**Subject:** New submission from Research Form

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**1. What is your view on the five proposed research strands? Are there amendments or additions you would suggest?**

I think the research strands will shed light on many important issues and I'm excited to see what comes out of the blue sky research

**2. Which of the research questions under section 4 would you consider most important and why?**

I would consider the Constituency Review to be the most important. Constituency size and shape has major effects on the result of an election. In particular, larger constituencies lead to more representative and democratic outcomes. I also think that county boundaries are arbitrary and shouldn't be as strictly adhered to.

**3. Are there additional research projects that you consider important to promote and enhance Ireland's democracy and electoral events? If yes, please specify?**

What I would most like to see is an international study of how different electoral systems affect political culture. I think that there are many processes that other countries practice, especially countries in continental Europe, that Ireland would benefit from adopting.

**Name**

Andrew Holt

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Are you replying as an Individual or representing an Organisation?**

I am responding as an Individual