



Constituency Review Report 2023

Dáil and European Parliament
Constituencies

Tuarascáil Athbhreithnithe Toghcheantar 2023

Dáilcheantair agus Toghlaigh
Pharlaimint na hEorpa

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1 Introduction by Chairperson

This Constituency Review is the very first task of Ireland’s new independent electoral commission, An Coimisiún Toghcháin. The recommendations in this Review have fundamental and profound implications for Ireland’s democracy.

From its establishment on 9 February 2023, the Electoral Commission has focused on the process of delivering these recommendations in a way which meets the constitutional and statutory requirements. We have also tried to ensure our democratic system continues to maintain the close and vital bond of trust between the people who place their ballot in a box, and those who take up the challenge of being our public representatives.

From the outset I, as Chair, must place on record my thanks to a number of people and organisations for their assistance: the Director General and staff of the Central Statistics Office, on whose 2022 Census results this Review rests; the Chief Executive and staff of Tailte Éireann whose mapping expertise has been crucial; my six Electoral Commission colleagues, and the members of the executive of An Coimisiún Toghcháin, who spent the short timeline available since publication of the census on 30 May 2023 in detailed and demanding analysis of the options available to meet the revised population figures and our constitutional and statutory mandates.

CONSTITUENCY REVIEW FRAMEWORK

The Commission must have regard to several constitutional and statutory factors in conducting a review of constituencies for Dáil elections. These factors, and how in the individual assessment of each constituency they influenced our recommendations, are elaborated more fully on in the text of the Review, but for the present I wish to

make a few observations regarding the principles that underlie its conclusions.

THE CONSTITUTION

The constitutional provisions in Article 16 link the number of TDs to the population and also require that the ratio of members to population be “the same” throughout the country “as far as it is practicable”. The constitutional provision regarding equality of representation across constituencies and the issue of variance have been considered in previous Constituency Reviews, and are explained in some detail in the main text of this Review. The acceptable level of departure from equal or identical treatment of each individual constituency, known generally as “variance”, has been the subject of judgments of the High Court and the Supreme Court. While an approximate maximum variance of 5% has been used as a ‘rule of thumb’ in the most recent reviews, it is fair to say that no clear or red line rules have emerged from these cases.

There is no set rule in Ireland as to the level of acceptable variance either in the Constitution or the legislation, as is found in some other jurisdictions.

Following a full consideration of the constitutional and statutory framework which governs our decisions, the Commission concluded that it was permissible to adopt a somewhat flexible approach by recommending in a limited number of cases greater than a 5% variance. This was the case when this solution seemed to best meet the statutory requirements of the preservation of the integrity of county boundaries and the objective of maintaining continuity. The Commission went as far as 8.13% when this resulted in the restoration of a currently breached county boundary, or the avoidance of recommending a new breach.

THE ELECTORAL REFORM ACT 2022

The statutory factors to which we were required to have regard by section 57 of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022* are that:

- (1) Each constituency shall return 3, 4 or 5 members. There is no provision for the creation of constituencies with 6 or more TDs.
- (2) The breaching of county boundaries is to be avoided “as far as practicable”. The matter of the breach of county boundaries resulted in a large number of submissions and was a critical factor in a number of our recommendations.
- (3) Each constituency is to be composed of contiguous areas. This did not give rise to any difficulty in this Review.
- (4) Significant geographical and physical features such as rivers, mountains are to be taken into account. The route of a river was a factor that influenced our analysis in a few cases.
- (5) The extent of and density of population in each constituency. This did not bear on our analysis to any appreciable extent.
- (6) The maintenance of continuity in the arrangement of constituencies. This factor was important in arriving at a number of recommendations.

THE NATURE OF THE ANALYSIS

Our analysis sought to balance several factors. While assessing each constituency, different factors came to have more importance than others. Thus, continuity was a critical factor in some recommendations, whilst the preservation, or restoration, of a county boundary was the most influential factor in others. The balancing exercise we engaged in went beyond focusing only on population figures and involved a complex interchange between mathematics and geography.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Ireland’s historic county boundaries have a particular resonance in the electoral process. The preservation, insofar as is practicable, of the integrity of the county boundaries is an express statutory requirement. It is noteworthy that the preservation of county boundary integrity also stood head and shoulders above any other issue in the 541 public submissions received for the Dáil Review.

The Commission is pleased to be in a position to recommend the removal of seven of the 10 existing breaches of county boundaries and to propose only three new county boundary breaches in the recommended constituency composition.

THE MIX OF SEAT TYPES NATIONALLY

The issue of ‘constituency magnitude’ – the number of seats in a constituency – was also an issue of much deliberation. The Commission looked at each constituency individually in order to decide the most appropriate recommendation. By working with slightly higher levels of variance on occasions, it was possible for the Commission to retain a number of 5 seat constituencies, rather than making a recommendation for the creation of a large number of new 3 seat constituencies. Our recommendations allow a mix of seat types with thirteen 3 seat constituencies (up four), fifteen 4 seat constituencies (down two) and fifteen 5 seat constituencies (up two).

THE NUMBER OF DÁIL SEATS BEING PROPOSED

With the increase in population since the last census, it is necessary for the number of TDs to be increased to meet the requirements in Article 16.2 of the Constitution, that each of our TDs should represent, on average, 20,000 to 30,000 people.

The *Electoral Reform Act 2022* fixed the range within which the Commission could recommend as lying between 171 and 181 TDs. Therefore, the Commission is in a position to recommend that the number of TDs could increase by between 11 and 21.

The figure of 174 that we recommend is the product of detailed analysis of constitutional and statutory limits. It arrives at a solution which best fits the needs of the country as a whole.

Ireland's population grew by the equivalent of an average of nearly 65,000 per annum between Census 2016 and Census 2022, or the equivalent of more than two TDs each year. In our consideration of the optimal number of seats, we came to the view that it was neither possible, nor appropriate, to attempt to predict where, and to what extent, the population will grow in the future. Thus, we formed the

view that the number of TDs should have regard to present and not future factors, and the recommended 174 TDs results in the best outcome for the most number of constituencies with regard to maintaining equality of representation and respecting county boundaries.

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament constituency make-up has been a matter of discussion in Brussels and Strasbourg for some time. The EU Institutions will in due course decide the overall make-up of the European Parliament chamber, and the knock-on impacts for individual Member States including Ireland. At the time of going to print with this Report, it is anticipated that Ireland will be allocated an additional seat but as this has not yet been formally decided at EU Council level, the Commission makes no recommendation for changes in the European constituencies at this time.

Should a decision be made to allocate an additional seat, An Coimisiún will embark on a fresh review of the European Parliament Constituencies in the autumn, including a further short period of public consultation.

FURTHER WORK ARISING

Several matters raised in the process of carrying out this review will be subject to further research and work by An

Coimisiún Toghcháin, and may in due course result in the making of detailed recommendations to the Houses of the Oireachtas. This includes the question of the constitutional ratio of 20,000 to 30,000 people per TD and the statutory provision regarding constituency magnitude - the number of seats in a constituency.

The Commission will also undertake a review of the consultation process with a view to making recommendations to the Oireachtas to improve and enhance this element of the Constituency Review.

That the research can continue in this way and build on the process of completing this Review highlights the intrinsic value of having a dedicated permanent independent body like An Coimisiún Toghcháin.

This continuity adds value, adds experience and strengthens Irish democracy.

In conclusion, on behalf of An Coimisiún Toghcháin, I commend these recommendations for consideration by the Houses of the Oireachtas.



Ms. Justice Marie Baker, Chairperson, An Coimisiún Toghcháin.

2 Recommendations by An Coimisiún Toghcháin

2.1 OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

After considering all factors in relation to the overall number of TDs and considering the issues in relation to each constituency, having regard to the relevant constitutional provisions and statutory terms of reference outlined in Chapter 4, An Coimisiún Toghcháin recommends that:

- The number of members of Dáil Éireann be 174. This is an increase of 14 from the current 160.
- The number of Dáil constituencies recommended is 43 in place of 39.

The changes recommended to the Dáil constituencies would mean that:

- With 174 TDs and the final Census figures showing a population of 5,149,139, each TD would represent an average of 29,593 people, down from the current 32,182.
- The number of 3 seat constituencies would be 13 instead of 9, the number of 4 seat constituencies would be 15 instead of 17 and the number of 5 seat constituencies would be 15 instead of 13.
- Seven constituencies would remain entirely unchanged since the last review (Clare, Cork South-West, Donegal, Dublin Central, Kerry, Limerick County and Waterford).
- Seven breaches of county boundaries would be removed, two existing breaches reduced, one breach remains as is and three new breaches are proposed.
- A new inter-county constituency of Wicklow-Wexford is recommended.



2.2 RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

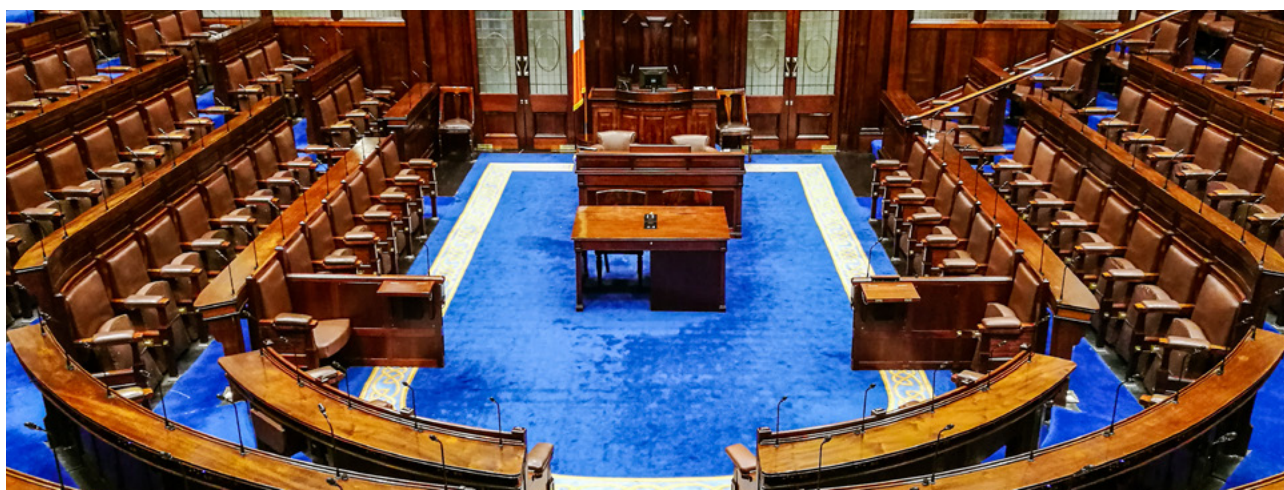
The Commission considers that the recommended arrangement of 174 seats for Dáil Éireann constituencies comes closest to achieving the optimum level of equality of representation consistent with the constitutional provisions and the terms of reference.

In relation to the 43 recommended constituencies we summarise our recommendations as follows, with detailed discussions of each constituency outlined in Chapter 8 and Electoral Divisions (EDs) referred to listed in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

- The constituency of **Carlow-Kilkenny**, less EDs transferred to the new Tipperary North constituency, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 88-89]*
- The constituency of **Cavan-Monaghan**, less EDs transferred to Meath East, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 58-59]*
- The constituency of **Clare** remains unchanged as a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 70-71]*
- The constituency of **Cork East**, less EDs transferred to Cork North-Central and Cork North-West, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 122]*
- The constituency of **Cork North-Central**, with additional EDs transferred from Cork North-West and Cork East and less EDs transferred to Cork South-Central and Cork North-West, is allocated one additional seat and becomes a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 119]*
- The constituency of **Cork North-West**, with additional EDs transferred from Cork East and Cork North-Central, less the transfer of one ED to Cork North-Central, remains a 3 seat constituency. *[See p. 123]*
- The constituency of **Cork South-Central**, with additional EDs transferred from Cork North-Central, is allocated one additional seat, and becomes a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 121]*
- The constituency of **Cork South-West** remains an unchanged 3 seat constituency. *[See p. 124]*
- The constituency of **Donegal** remains an unchanged 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 44-45]*
- The constituency of **Dublin Bay North**, with the addition of one ED from the current Dublin Fingal constituency, less the transfer of EDs to the Dublin North-West constituency, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 107]*
- The constituency of **Dublin Bay South**, less one ED transferred to the Dublin South-Central constituency, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 111]*
- The constituency of **Dublin Central** remains an unchanged 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 110]*
- The constituency of **Dublin Fingal** is separated into two new constituencies, a Dublin Fingal East constituency and a Dublin Fingal West constituency. *[See pp. 105-106]*
- The new constituency of **Dublin Fingal East** will have 3 seats. *[See p. 106]*
- The new constituency of **Dublin Fingal West** will have 3 seats. *[See p. 105]*
- The constituency of **Dublin Mid-West**, with an additional ED from Dublin South-West and part of an ED from Dublin South-Central, is allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 113]*

- The constituency of **Dublin North-West**, with additional EDs transferred from Dublin Bay North, less parts of EDs transferred to both the Dublin West constituency and the new Dublin Fingal West constituency, remains a 3 seat constituency. *[See p. 108]*
- The constituency of **Dublin South-Central**, with an additional ED transferred from the Dublin Bay South constituency, less EDs and parts of EDs transferred to the Dublin South-West and Dublin Mid-West constituencies, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 112]*
- The constituency of **Dublin South-West**, with additional EDs transferred from the Dublin South-Central constituency, less one ED transferred to the Dublin Mid-West constituency, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 114]*
- The constituency of **Dublin West**, with parts of EDs transferred from the Dublin North-West constituency, is allocated an extra seat to become a 5 seat constituency. *[See p. 109]*
- The constituency of **Dublin-Rathdown**, with additional EDs and part of one ED transferred from the constituency of Dún Laoghaire, is allocated an additional seat to become a 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 115]*
- The constituency of **Dún Laoghaire**, less EDs and part of one ED transferred to Dublin-Rathdown, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See p. 116]*
- The constituency of **Galway East**, with additional EDs from the Roscommon-Galway constituency, is allocated an extra seat to become a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 50-51]*
- The constituency of **Galway West**, less EDs transferred to the Mayo constituency, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 52-53]*
- The constituency of **Kerry** remains an unchanged 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 76-77]*
- The constituency of **Kildare North**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Kildare South constituency, is allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 80-81]*
- The constituency of **Kildare South**, less EDs transferred to the Kildare North as well as the new Laois and the new Offaly constituencies, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 82-83]*
- The constituency of **Laois-Offaly** is divided into two constituencies, the new Laois constituency and the new Offaly constituency. *[See pp. 84-87]*
- The new constituency of **Laois**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Kildare South constituency, will be a 3 seat constituency comprising the entire county of Laois. *[See pp. 86-87]*
- The constituency of **Limerick City**, less Co. Tipperary EDs transferred to a new Tipperary North constituency, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 72-73]*
- The constituency of **Limerick County** remains unchanged as a 3 seat constituency. *[See pp. 74-75]*
- The constituency of **Longford-Westmeath**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Meath West constituency, is allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 66-67]*
- The constituency of **Louth**, less the transfer of one Co. Meath ED to the Meath East constituency, remains a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 60-61]*

- The constituency of **Mayo**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Galway West constituency, is allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency. *[See pp. 54-55]*
- The constituency of **Meath East**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Cavan-Monaghan and Louth constituencies, is allocated an additional seat to become a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 62-63]*
- The constituency of **Meath West**, less the transfer of EDs to the constituency of Longford-Westmeath, remains a 3 seat constituency. *[See pp. 64-65]*
- The new **Offaly** constituency, with the addition of one ED transferred from the Kildare South constituency, will be a 3 seat constituency comprising the entire county of Offaly. *[See pp. 84-85]*
- The constituency of **Roscommon-Galway**, with the addition of EDs transferred from the Sligo-Leitrim constituency and less EDs transferred to the Galway East constituency, remains a 3 seat constituency. *[See pp. 48-49]*
- The constituency of **Sligo-Leitrim**, less EDs transferred to the constituency of Roscommon-Galway, remains a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 46-47]*
- The constituency of **Tipperary** will be divided to become two new constituencies, Tipperary North and Tipperary South. *[See pp. 90-93]*
- The new constituency of **Tipperary North**, with additional EDs from the Limerick City constituency and the Carlow Kilkenny constituency, will be a 3 seat constituency. *[See pp. 90-91]*
- The new constituency of **Tipperary South** will be a 3 seat constituency. *[See pp. 92-93]*
- The constituency of **Waterford** remains unchanged as a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 94-95]*
- The constituency of **Wexford**, less EDs transferred to the new Wicklow-Wexford constituency, becomes a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 98-99]*
- The constituency of **Wicklow**, less EDs transferred to the new Wicklow-Wexford constituency, becomes a 4 seat constituency. *[See pp. 100-101]*
- The new constituency of **Wicklow-Wexford** is a 3 seat constituency consisting of EDs transferred from the southern part of the constituency of Wicklow and the northern part of the constituency of Wexford. *[See pp. 102-103]*



2.3 RECOMMENDATION FOR EUROPEAN CONSTITUENCIES

The number of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) allocated to each EU Member State, including Ireland, is decided at EU level. An EU process has been underway through 2023 to decide the composition of the European Parliament for the 2024-2029 Parliamentary term.

At the time of the completion of this Constituency Review, this EU inter-institutional process had yet to make its formal recommendations. Therefore, the Commission has, by necessity, reviewed the European Parliament constituencies and the submissions received, within the context of Ireland having its current allocation of 13 MEP seats.

An Coimisiún Toghcháin recommends in this Constituency Review the maintenance of the existing arrangement of constituencies for the election of members to the European Parliament, as detailed in Chapter 6.

It is likely, following any future decision by the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers, that the number of Members of the European Parliament representing Ireland may increase by at least one seat to 14 seats.

If an EU decision is reached and Ireland notified of a change in its MEP seat allocation, the Commission will begin a consultation period of not less than one month, as per Article 57 (1) (b) and Article 59 (5) (a) of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022*, and lay its formal independent recommendations before the Houses of the Oireachtas.



Table 1: Recommended and Existing Constituencies			
Recommended Constituencies (43)	Seats (174)	Existing Constituencies (39)	Seats (160)
Carlow-Kilkenny	5	Carlow-Kilkenny	5
Cavan-Monaghan	5	Cavan-Monaghan	5
Clare	4	Clare	4
Cork East	4	Cork East	4
Cork North-Central	5	Cork North-Central	4
Cork North-West	3	Cork North-West	3
Cork South-Central	5	Cork South-Central	4
Cork South-West	3	Cork South-West	3
Donegal	5	Donegal	5
Dublin Bay North	5	Dublin Bay North	5
Dublin Bay South	4	Dublin Bay South	4
Dublin Central	4	Dublin Central	4
Dublin Fingal East	3	Dublin Fingal	5
Dublin Fingal West	3		
Dublin Mid-West	5	Dublin Mid-West	4
Dublin North-West	3	Dublin North-West	3
Dublin Rathdown	4	Dublin Rathdown	3
Dublin South-Central	4	Dublin South-Central	4
Dublin South-West	5	Dublin South-West	5
Dublin West	5	Dublin West	4
Dún Laoghaire	4	Dún Laoghaire	4
Galway East	4	Galway East	3
Galway West	5	Galway West	5
Kerry	5	Kerry	5
Kildare North	5	Kildare North	4
Kildare South	4	Kildare South	4
Laois	3	Laois-Offaly	5
Limerick City	4	Limerick City	4
Limerick County	3	Limerick County	3
Longford-Westmeath	5	Longford-Westmeath	4
Louth	5	Louth	5
Mayo	5	Mayo	4
Meath East	4	Meath East	3
Meath West	3	Meath West	3
Offaly	3		
Roscommon-Galway	3	Roscommon-Galway	3
Sligo-Leitrim	4	Sligo-Leitrim	4
Tipperary North	3	Tipperary	5
Tipperary South	3		
Waterford	4	Waterford	4
Wexford	4	Wexford	5
Wicklow	4	Wicklow	5
Wicklow-Wexford	3		

MAP OF IRELAND – DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

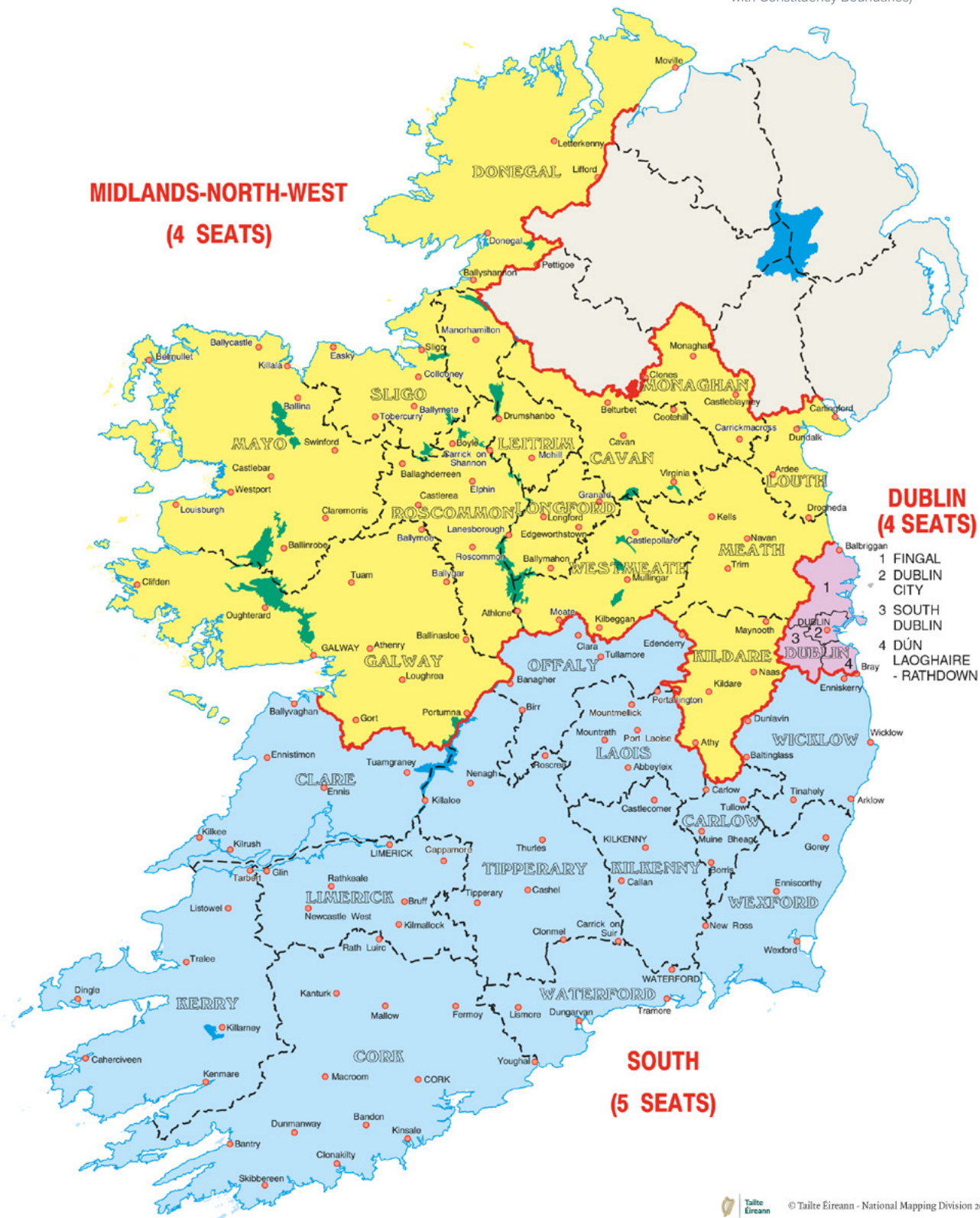
RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - -



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCIES

RECOMMENDED EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCY
BOUNDARIES

COUNTY BOUNDARIES
(except where they coincide
with Constituency Boundaries)



3 Establishment of An Coimisiún Toghcháin and the Constituency Review



3.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN COIMISIÚN TOGHCHÁIN

An Coimisiún Toghcháin, the Electoral Commission, was established on 9 February 2023 under the *Electoral Reform Act 2022*.

Under the Act the Commission takes on a number of existing and new functions. These include providing independent information during referendum campaigns, the registration of political parties, oversight of the electoral register, addressing misinformation and disinformation in the online space during electoral events, regulating online political

advertising, research, education and developing and implementing measures to increase turnout at electoral events in Ireland.

An Coimisiún Toghcháin is chaired by Supreme Court Justice Ms. Marie Baker. There are four ordinary members who were selected through a Public Appointments Service process, approved by both Houses of the Oireachtas and appointed by the President. These ordinary members are Mr. Alex Attwood, Mr. John Curran, Professor Caroline Fennell and Ms. Maura Quinn. There are also two ex-officio members, Mr. Ger Deering, Ombudsman, and Mr. Peter Finnegan, Clerk of the Dáil.

Under the *Electoral Reform Act 2022* An Coimisiún Toghcháin now has responsibility for reviewing constituency boundaries for Dáil and European elections.

3.2 CONSTITUENCY REVIEW

Under the legislation Constituency Reviews are to take place after every national census, usually every five years. In these reviews the number of TDs, the number and geographic layout of constituencies and the number of seats in each constituency are reviewed, and thereafter recommendations are made to the Oireachtas.

From 1980 to 2018 these reviews were carried out by 'Constituency Commissions'. These were independent, stand-alone bodies established after each census by the Minister with responsibility for electoral legislation and policy. When their reports were completed and laid before the Oireachtas, these commissions were disbanded.

3.3 TIMETABLE

The timetable for this Constituency Review was as follows:

- 23 June 2022: the CSO publishes Census of Population 2022 - Preliminary Results.
- 9 February 2023: the Electoral Commission established with responsibility for reviewing Dáil and European Parliament constituencies.
- 10 February 2023: public consultation begins seeking submissions from public.
- 10 May 2023: public consultation period ends.
- 30 May 2023: the CSO publishes Census of Population 2022 – Final Results. The Act provides that within three months of this date a Report is to be laid before the Oireachtas by An Coimisiún Toghcháin.
- 30 August 2023: Statutory deadline for laying of Constituency Review Report before the Houses of the Oireachtas.

3.4 STATUS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

This report contains recommendations by the Commission to the Houses of the Oireachtas. The final determination of the constituencies for both Dáil Éireann and the European Parliament will in due course be decided by the Houses of the Oireachtas in legislation.



4 Constitutional Provisions and Terms of Reference in Relation to Dáil Constituencies



This Constituency Review has been conducted in accordance with the provisions in Article 16 of the Constitution which determines both the average number of people our TDs represent as well as

equality of representation. It was further conducted in accordance with the statutory terms of reference contained in section 57 of the *Electoral Reform Act* of 2022.



4.1 CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

In relation to Dáil constituencies, the provisions governing membership of Dáil Éireann and the revision of Dáil constituencies are set out in Article 16 of the Constitution.

Article 16.2.2° of the Constitution provides for the calculation of the number of TDs:

“The number of members shall from time to time be fixed by law, but the total number of members of Dáil Éireann shall not be fixed at less than one member for each thirty thousand of the population, or at more than one member for each twenty thousand of the population.”

Article 16.2.3° of the Constitution provides for equality of representation across the constituencies:

“The ratio between the number of members to be elected at any time for each constituency and the population of each constituency, as ascertained at the last preceding census, shall, so far as it is practicable, be the same throughout the country.”

4.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

In relation to Dáil constituencies, the Commission is required in the preparation of a review to observe the constitutional imperatives and to have regard to the terms of reference set out in section 57 of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022*:

- a) the total number of members of Dáil Éireann, subject to Article 16.2.2 of the Constitution, shall be not less than 171 and not more than 181;
- b) each constituency shall return 3, 4 or 5 members;
- c) the breaching of county boundaries shall be avoided as far as practicable (shall be deemed not to include a reference to the boundary of a city or any boundary between any two of the counties of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin);
- d) each constituency shall be composed of contiguous areas;
- e) there shall be regard to geographic considerations including significant physical features and the extent of and the density of population in each constituency;
- f) subject to this section, the Commission shall endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of constituencies.

These mandatory provisions laid out by the Oireachtas establish the principles that must be reflected and balanced in decisions regarding constituency boundaries.

5 The Approach of An Coimisiún Toghcháin to the Review of Dáil Constituencies



This chapter outlines the Commission's approach to the consideration of the key issues and most important recommendations made in this Constituency Review. These include the recommendation to increase the number of TDs from 160 to 174 TDs, and the principles underpinning the approach to the composition of constituencies. It should be noted that the Commission took different approaches to that of previous reviews on certain issues. These are outlined in some detail below.

5.1 NUMBER OF TDS RECOMMENDED

Under the terms of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022* the Commission is required to recommend the number of TDs - but that number is fixed by section 57 as lying between 171 and 181. For the reasons we set out below, the number of TDs recommended by the Commission is 174. With a national population of 5,149,139, each TD would, on average, represent 29,593 people.

Before outlining the reasoning behind the recommendation of An Coimisiún for 174 TDs some historical context is useful.

5.1.1 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Since the foundation of the State, the number of people represented by each TD, or what is known as the level of representation, has varied considerably.

Table 2 shows the total Dáil membership since 1923. Until 1980 Dáil membership ranged between 138 and 148. This number was then increased to 166 in 1980. In 2013 it was revised down to 158, then rose to 160 in 2017.

Table 2: Number of TDs 1923 to 2017	
Year of Revision	Total number of members
1923	147*
1935	138
1947	147
1959	144
1961	144
1969	144
1974	148
1980	166
1983	166
1990	166
1995	166
1998	166
2005	166
2009	166
2013	158
2017	160

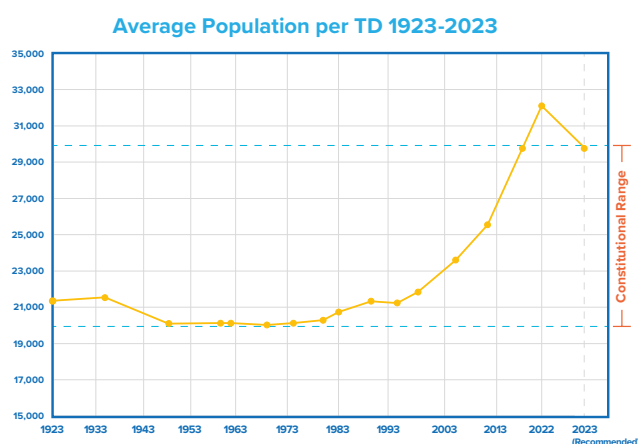
*Excludes 6 University members

In 1980 the first independent Constituency Review was undertaken. On the basis of the 1979 population of 3,368,217, the 1980 review

recommended 166 TDs, with each representing on average 20,290 people. This was close to the maximum permissible number of TDs. Since then, while Ireland's population has increased significantly, the number of TDs has remained relatively stable. As a result, there has been a gradual, but marked, increase in the number of people represented by each TD, particularly since the mid-1990s. Currently there are 160 TDs representing an average of 32,182 people. This is far in excess of the maximum of 30,000 permitted by the constitution.

These historical changes are shown below.

Chart 1: Average population per TD since the foundation of the State



5.1.2 POSSIBLE RANGE OF TDS TO BE RECOMMENDED

At the time of the passing of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022* the preliminary census figures estimated the population to be at 5,123,536. Therefore, the Oireachtas could have provided the Commission with a range between the minimum of 171 – in which each TD would represent 29,962 – and a maximum of 256 in which case each TD would represent on average 20,014 people. Under the *Electoral Reform Act 2022* the range was fixed at a minimum of 171 and a maximum of 181. Therefore, the Commission could recommend a minimum increase of 11 TDs and a maximum of 21.

However, when the CSO published the final 2022 census figures on 30 May 2023, the final population was 5,149,139 which was 25,603 more than the preliminary figure. As a result, it was not constitutionally possible for the Commission to recommend 171 TDs, as this would have resulted in each TD representing on average 30,112 people, in excess of the constitutional maximum permitted. Therefore, the range that the Commission considered was from 172 to 181 TDs.

5.1.3 WHY 174 TDS?

The Commission considered various options for individual constituencies throughout the country. During this lengthy and complex iterative process, it became clear that recommending 174 TDs would allow it to best meet the constitutional provisions and the terms of reference set by the Oireachtas.

One of the first considerations for the Commission was whether the number would be an even number or odd number. The decision of the Commission to recommend an even number is consistent with previous constituency reviews, all of which have recommended even numbers. Taking into account the fact that one of the members will be appointed as Ceann Comhairle of the Dáil with a casting vote, an uneven number of elected members could result in many tied votes in the Dáil.

Therefore, the Commission's approach focused on the five even numbers between 172 and 180, while remaining open to recommending an odd number.

Initially, the Commission believed that choosing a number at the higher end of the range could provide it with more options and greater flexibility. The Commission was aware, through both submissions received and general public and media commentary, that a number at the higher end of the 171-181 range was perceived as a means of 'future-proofing', so that changes at the next review might be minimised. However, future-proofing is not one of the terms of reference.

During the course of its deliberations the Commission concluded that a number at the higher end of the available range would not result in more coherent constituencies. With a higher number of seats the Commission would not have been able to recommend the removal of a number of existing county boundary breaches. It would also have had to recommend a number of new breaches of county boundaries. There would have been very low levels of continuity with changes having to be recommended in almost every constituency, if not every constituency. There would also have been a marked reduction in the number of 5 seat constituencies and an increase in the number of 3 seat constituencies.

Therefore, the Commission came firmly to the view that it should recommend a Dáil of 174 TDs. This would be an increase in the number of TDs by 14, the highest single increase in the number of TDs since 1980 and it would result in the largest Dáil in the State's history.

5.2 EQUALITY OF REPRESENTATION, VARIANCES AND BREACHES OF COUNTY BOUNDARIES

During the course of the review, the Commission spent considerable time deliberating the constitutional provision of equality of representation, the associated concept of 'variance', and the closely linked issue of the breaching of county boundaries, as well as the number of seats in a constituency, known as 'constituency magnitude' and other terms of reference. The Commission was required to consider all these factors. Some particular solutions met one or more of the criteria, but not others.

5.2.1 EQUALITY OF REPRESENTATION: THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 16.2.3 of the Constitution states that, “The ratio between the number of members to be elected at any time for each constituency and the population of each constituency, as ascertained at the last preceding census, shall, so far as it is practicable, be the same throughout the country.”

Essentially, this means that each TD in the country, whether they represent people in Wexford, Cork, Donegal or Dublin, should represent the same amount of people, ‘so far as

it is practicable’. Of course it is not possible for every TD to represent the exact same number of people. Therefore, each TD in a constituency would represent more or less than the national average. The measurement of this deviation from the national average is known as the ‘variance’. This concept is central to the Constituency Review process.

Taking the 2022 population of 5,149,139 and the proposed 174 TDs recommended in this report, each TD would represent, on average represent 29,593 people. Any number above or below this is given as a plus or minus percentage of ‘variance’.

The constitutional requirement does not require exact mathematical parity in the ratio of TDs to population between constituencies. There is no mathematical threshold regarding variance and there is no set rule in the Constitution or in the legislation as to an acceptable level of variance. In the last two Constituency Reviews a plus or minus variance of 5% has been used as a ‘rule of thumb’ for the highest accepted variances. However, higher levels of variance were accepted in previous Constituency Reviews. This information provided useful historical context to the Commission’s deliberations.

The National Average and Variance

What is the ‘National Average’?

The term ‘national average’ means the average number of Ireland’s population that each TD in a constituency represents. As noted above in a 174 seat Dáil each TD would represent 29,593 people. $\text{Current population of } 5,149,139 / 174 = 29,593 \text{ people.}$

What is ‘Variance’?

The term ‘variance’ means the difference between the national average and the actual number of people that each TD in a constituency represents. Variance can be shown in two ways - either as a percentage or as a number of people. In this report variance is generally shown in percentage terms. Variance can be higher or lower than the national average (and so shown as a plus or minus percentage).

Here are two examples to illustrate this concept both set out in a 174 seat Dáil with each TD representing on average 29,593.

- The population in a 4 seat constituency is 125,800, so each TD in that constituency would represent, on average, 31,450 people. The variance would be $(31,450 - 29,593) / 29,593 = 0.0627 \times 100$, or 6.27%.
- If the population in another 4 seat constituency is 115,000 each TD in the constituency would represent, on average, 28,750 people. The variance in this case would be $(28,750 - 29,593) / 29,593 = -0.028 \times 100$, or -2.8%.

As can be seen in Table 3 variances have been wider than plus or minus 5% in each previous review, with the highest total variance (the difference between the lowest and highest variance) being just over 15%.

Table 3: Highest and lowest percentage variances in Constituency Commission reports since 1980.			
Year of Report	Highest Variance %	Lowest Variance %	Total range of Variance
1980	+6.28	-6.42	12.70
1983	+6.68	-7.89	14.57
1990	+7.61	-6.98	14.59
1995	+6.80	-5.76	12.56
1998	+6.66	-7.44	14.10
2004	+7.87	-7.50	15.37
2007	+4.73	-6.03	10.76
2012	+4.93	-4.94	9.87
2017	+5.07	-5.25	10.32
2023*	+8.08*	-8.13*	16.21*

*Recommended

The Commission understands that a degree of divergence in the ratio of TDs to population is permitted where that is justified by practical considerations. However, it also understands that it is for the Oireachtas to consider and determine the practical considerations justifying differences in representation between constituencies.

The constitutional provision around equality of representation and the issue of variance have been considered in judgments of the High Court and the Supreme Court. The principles and guidance in those cases were carefully considered by the Commission. Given the importance of the issue and the limited legal history, the Commission also obtained independent legal opinion on the matter of equality of representation and the issue of variance in the context of this review. Ultimately, after taking all these matters into account the Commission decided to adopt a more flexible approach to variances for the reasons set out below.

5.2.2 FIXING THE VARIANCE

Strict adherence to a 5% variance figure would have led the Commission to make recommendations that appeared somewhat arbitrary and where the sole purpose was to 'fix the variance'. In the Constituency Review process this is done by moving Electoral Divisions (EDs) from one constituency to another. EDs are the basic unit used to allocate populations to constituencies. There are 3,440 EDs in the country containing populations ranging from less than 100 to more than 40,000.



The practicalities involved are illustrated here with a hypothetical example.

Hypothetical Example of Variance and Breach of County Boundaries

In this scenario the national average of population that each TD represents is 25,000 and 5% variances are not exceeded.

Constituency 1 is a constituency comprising of one entire county. It has a population of 110,000 and 4 TDs. Each of its TDs represents 27,500, or 2,500 more than the national average. This gives a plus variance of 10%. As this is greater than 5% there are two options.

Option A - add an additional TD to the constituency. If this was done then there would be 5 TDs for a population of 110,000, with each TD representing 22,000 people and a negative variance of 12%. In order to 'fix the variance' one or more EDs with at least 8,750 people must be transferred into this constituency from one or more bordering constituencies to bring the negative variance here to up to -5% or better. This requires the breach of one or more county boundaries. This may also result in a knock-on effect where the variances of these other constituencies could fall below -5%. If this was the case then EDs would need to be transferred from other constituencies in order to fix the variance in this constituency.

Option B – keep the constituency as a 4 seat constituency and reduce the population of the constituency to bring the variance below plus 5%. This involves moving EDs that have a total population of at least 5,000 from this constituency to one or more bordering constituencies. The moving of EDs to one or more bordering constituencies would result in one of more breaches of adjacent county boundaries. The moving of these EDs to one or more bordering constituencies may in turn require EDs from those constituencies having to be transferred to other constituencies in order to fix the variance in these constituencies. This could cause further breaches of county boundaries.

In each of these options the variance in the original constituency is 'fixed', but in doing so county boundaries are breached as people from one or more county constituencies are transferred to other county constituencies.

Following these deliberations, the Commission decided to adopt a more flexible approach to variances than was the case in the previous two reviews by allowing wider than plus or minus 5% variances on a case by case basis. The Commission went as far as 8.13% when this would allow either an existing breach of a county boundary to be removed, or would avoid a breach of a county boundary. The issue of constituency magnitude – the number of seats in a constituency – was also a consideration. By working with slightly higher levels of variance on occasions, it was able to retain a number of 5 seat constituencies, rather than creating a large number of additional 3 seat constituencies. However, the Commission looked at each constituency individually in order to decide the most appropriate recommendation.

5.2.3 VARIANCES AND BREACHES OF COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Throughout the history of the State the county has been regarded as the fundamental unit of the electoral and administrative systems. In fact, many of our constituencies can be described as 'county constituencies' where a constituency is entirely contained within a single county boundary.

The Electoral Reform Act states that the breaching of county boundaries is to be avoided "as far as is practicable".

A breach of a county boundary arises when the variance in one constituency, that is entirely or partially contained within a county boundary, requires the transfer of one or more EDs across a county boundary to a neighbouring constituency.

In practice, transferring EDs across county boundaries has generally been considered when the variance of a constituency is outside the range plus or minus 5%. A variance above 5% may have led to the transfer of EDs from this constituency across a county boundary to another constituency to bring the variance back below 5%. A variance below minus 5% may have led to EDs from a neighbouring county being transferred into this constituency. Both of these actions would result in 'fixing the variance', or, in other words, bringing a variance back to within plus or minus 5%. This can result in a county boundary being breached. It should be noted that due to their population, the boundaries of Dublin and Cork are rarely breached as constituency variance issues can be resolved within their boundaries.

Since the first independent Constituency Review was carried out in 1980, the number of counties whose boundaries have been breached has gradually increased. This is generally the result of population increases and the limit of 5 seats in any constituency.

During the course of its deliberations and from its review of submissions it became clear to the Commission that breaches of county boundaries are seen to have tangible impacts on people and communities. Among the views expressed were,

'One's identity is not a movable feast nor is an age-old boundary which is intrinsically linked to identity'

and that the Constituency Reviews

'have prioritised maintaining proportional representation to the absolute detriment of a handful of towns... who get handed about like small change...'

Table 4: Overview of County Breaches Since 1980

Year of Revision in Law	No. of Breaches of County Boundaries	Counties whose boundaries were breached
1980	3	Galway, Westmeath and Waterford
1983	3	Galway, Westmeath and Waterford
1990	5	Clare, Kildare, Galway (2) and Waterford
1995	4	Carlow, Clare, South Tipperary and Waterford
1998	4	Carlow, Clare, South Tipperary and Waterford
2005	6	Carlow, Clare, South Tipperary, Waterford, Leitrim and Westmeath
2009	9	Carlow, Clare, South Tipperary, Waterford, Leitrim, Westmeath, Limerick, Meath and Offaly
2013	10	Carlow, Cavan, Clare, Donegal, Galway, Kildare, Mayo, Meath, Tipperary, Westmeath.
2017	10	Donegal, Galway, Laois, Mayo, Meath (2), Offaly, Roscommon, Tipperary, Westmeath.
2023	6*	Donegal, Galway, Kilkenny, Meath, Wexford and Wicklow.

*Recommended

5.2.4 COUNTY BOUNDARY BREACHES AND 'EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION'

The Commission is required by section 59 of the *Electoral Reform Act* to publish and to consider every such submission in the making of its recommendations. It became evident during the consultation process that the breaching of county

boundaries was the single most important issue raised in submissions and was one that evoked strong views. It was clear when reviewing submissions that many people perceived this to have had a negative effect on their 'effective representation'.

Of the 541 submissions received, concerns about existing or potential future county boundary breaches were raised in nearly 300. Even allowing for the more than 140 submissions which were made about one particular ED, the breaching of county boundaries was still by far the most common issue raised. It was raised in reference to every constituency outside of those in Cork and Dublin, where all constituencies are contained within their boundaries.

5.2.5 KEY CONCERNS RAISED IN SUBMISSIONS

Many of the submissions received highlighted four principal concerns regarding breaching of county boundaries.

Adding part of a county to a constituency, either wholly or mostly composed of an adjoining county, is viewed by many as having a real everyday impact on how people are politically represented. Views were expressed that the area moved can sometimes be 'ignored' by representatives, or be regarded as carrying less weight or importance to representatives who concentrate on the EDs in their 'own' county.

Key Concerns in Submissions about County Boundary Breaches

1. Breaching county boundaries negatively impacts how people view their level of representation – they feel their voices are not as heard as others in the constituency.
2. Breaches of county boundaries result in people dealing with TDs who may be in a constituency based in an adjacent county.
3. Any breach impacts on people's sense of local community and belonging.
4. If breaches of county boundaries have to happen they should be sizeable, so elected representatives consider that area's needs.

This can result in constituents believing their area and their needs are not fully represented. This can be further exacerbated if there is an expectation that the next Constituency Review could reverse the transfer of those EDs, particularly for people living in EDs that have frequently been transferred between constituencies.

The transfer of a small population can add to the perception of lack of effective representation. A view was expressed in submissions that if a county boundary was to

be breached, the breach should involve the transfer of a sufficiently large number of persons to ensure that the transferred population carried some weight.

A further issue raised was that a county boundary breach creates a divergence of representation by local authority representatives and nationally elected representatives.

This is deemed by many to have a detrimental effect. Many submissions expressed a clear wish to have their national political representation coincide with their local authority boundaries. By being 'added on' to an adjoining county there is a perceived loss of cohesion between national and local representation.

In Dublin, there were a number of submissions that called for Dáil constituencies to align with local authority areas. This preference for aligning national electoral boundaries with local authority boundaries in Dublin is not provided for in the terms of reference.

A breach in a county boundary also appears to impact on local identity. While 'identity' is not part of the terms of reference, it is clear from submissions that people feel a loss of identity when their ED is added to another county with which they may have no strong connection.

5.2.6 SUBMISSIONS FROM POLITICAL PARTIES AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

The Commission received a number of submissions from national political parties, as well as from many members of the Oireachtas. The vast majority of these submissions referred to the desire of removing existing county boundary breaches and minimising new breaches, referencing both individual constituencies and national approaches. Many specifically asked that the Commission take a more flexible approach to variances than has been the case in the past to achieve this end. These submissions, when combined with submissions from the general public, made a strong impression on the Commission.

5.2.7 INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

During the course of its deliberations, the Commission carried out research into comparative international examples on the issue of acceptable levels of variance.

The Commission took particular note of guidance provided by The European Commission for Democracy through Law - better known as the Venice Commission, the Council of Europe's advisory body on constitutional matters. In the Venice Commission's 2003 publication 'Guidelines on Elections', Article 2.2 (iv) states that:

'The permissible departure from the norm should not be more than 10%, and should certainly not exceed 15% except in special circumstances (protection of a concentrated minority, sparsely populated administrative entity).'

The Commission also carried out research into variances accepted in a number of countries including Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, India, Malta, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. This research showed that there was a variety of approaches to variances in both constitutional and legal provisions, and that levels of acceptable variances ranged from 5% to 25%, depending on national circumstances.

5.2.8 ACCEPTANCE OF LARGER VARIANCES

Having considered the issues around variances and breaching of county boundaries, the Commission decided to adopt a more flexible approach than previously to the level of variance, particularly when this meant that it could either remove or not introduce a breach to a county boundary.

By tolerating higher variances on occasions, the Commission was able to avoid proposing a number of new breaches of county boundaries. It was able to propose fixes to seven of the 10 current breaches to county boundaries. These are the breaches of the Laois, Mayo, Meath, Offaly, Roscommon, Tipperary and Westmeath county boundaries.

The Commission recommends reducing the overall number of breaches of county boundaries from the current 10 to six (Donegal, Galway, Kilkenny, Meath, Wexford and Wicklow).

The Commission proposes improvements to two current breaches by recommending the transfer of Co. Galway EDs currently in the Roscommon-Galway constituency to Galway East and one Co. Meath ED in the Louth constituency to the Meath East constituency.

With regard to the Donegal constituency it was not possible to recommend the removal of the existing breach in its county boundary by the Sligo-Roscommon constituency. To have done so would have resulted in a variance of more than 12% which the Commission considered too high.

The Commission proposes three new breaches of county boundaries. The breach in the Kilkenny boundary by the Tipperary North constituency and the breaches of the Wicklow and Wexford county boundaries through the creation of the new Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

5.3 - 3, 4 AND 5 SEAT CONSTITUENCIES

The terms of reference state that each constituency shall return 3, 4 or 5 members. Historically, since 1947, these have been the only constituency seat configurations allowed. Since the first independent constituency review in 1980 the number of 3 seat constituencies has ranged between nine and 17, the number of 4 seat constituencies between 12 and 17 and the number of 5 seat constituencies between 11 and 15.

This information is set out in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Constituency sizes 1923 to 2023							
Year of Revision In Law	Number of TDs in constituency						Total number of constituencies
	3	4	5	7	8	9	
1923*	6	4	9	5	3	1	28
1935	15	8	8	3			34
1947	22	9	9				40
1959	21	9	9				39
1961	17	12	9				38
1969	26	14	2				42
1974	26	10	6				42
1980	13	13	15				41
1983	13	13	15				41
1990	12	15	14				41
1995	12	15	14				41
1998	16	12	14				42
2005	18	13	12				43
2009	17	15	11				43
2013	13	16	11				40
2017	9	17	13				39
2023^	13	15	15				43

*Excludes 6 University members ^Recommended

There is no guidance in the terms of reference as to whether a review should favour any particular constituency magnitude. In the submissions

received there was a clear preference for more 5 seat constituencies, and a general view that there should be a reduction in 3 seat constituencies. These were mostly based on the view that constituencies with larger seat numbers provide for more proportional results, and allow for more choice for the electorate.

In general, the Commission endeavoured to tailor the constituency size and number of seats to the population and circumstances of each constituency. However, in its work the Commission took the general view that there should be a reasonably even distribution between 3, 4 and 5 seat constituencies. It noted that due to population increases there was the potential for a number of 5 seat constituencies to be divided into two 3 seat constituencies. In some circumstances, this was avoided by the Commission decision to allow variances above 5%, where it would impact directly on a potential breach of county boundaries.

Because of the statutory terms of reference it is not possible for the Commission to recommend the creation of a constituency with 6 or more seats.

5.4 CONTIGUOUS AREAS AND GEOGRAPHIC CONSIDERATIONS

The terms of reference state that each constituency shall be composed of contiguous areas, or areas that are physically connected. This was implemented in all cases.

The terms of reference state that there shall be regard to geographic considerations including significant physical features, and the extent and density of population in each constituency. The Commission took physical features into account wherever possible. With regard to the density of population in each constituency, this means that in areas of low population density, constituency magnitude should be minimised where possible to avoid a constituency extending over a very large geographical area. In general, it is more appropriate to propose 5 seat constituencies in areas of higher population density.



5.5 CONTINUITY

The Commission endeavoured to ensure continuity in the arrangement of constituencies, where it deemed it appropriate and feasible having regard to the other terms of reference and to submissions received. However, continuing population growth, allied with the large number of constituencies with current average population per TD in excess of 30,000, meant changes in some constituency arrangements were unavoidable. However, by revising the

approach to variance the number of changes was reduced, with many changes outside of Dublin and Cork seeing the removal of breaches to county boundaries.

The issue of continuity was particularly relevant when looking at the overall number of TDs. In looking at the implications of recommending a number of TDs at the higher end of the possible range of 171-181 this would have resulted in nearly every constituency being changed, with numerous county breaches having to be proposed. In addition, there would have been

a marked reduction in the number of 5 seat constituencies and an increase in the number of 3 seat constituencies.

The Commission is recommending the largest increase in the number of new TDs since 1980. The addition of 14 TDs to the electoral landscape has been achieved with seven constituencies unchanged since the last review and nine of the changes recommended to constituencies either removing or reducing breaches to county boundaries.

Table 6: Numbers of constituencies revised: 1983 to 2023

Year of Revision in Law	Number of Constituencies in Revision	Number of Constituencies where no change was recommended	Percentage of constituencies changed
1983	41	37	10
1990	41	15	63
1995	41	20	51
1998	41	20	51
2005	42	15	64
2009	43	19	56
2013	43	11	74
2017	40	18	55
2023*	39	7	82

*Recommended

5.6 GROUPING OF COUNTIES

The work of the Commission began with consideration of the maps of the current constituencies, and the Census figures for every Electoral Division, in the context of both the constitutional provisions and the legislative terms of reference.

Considering constituencies in isolation was not appropriate, or useful, as changes in one could have consequential effects in constituencies with which they shared borders, as well as further consequential effects in other constituencies. It was clear, however, that certain groups of constituencies were more immediately linked to each other, and where changes in one would affect others. The Commission identified a number of groups of constituencies that were 'self-contained' within the boundaries of a number of counties.

These groups of counties were therefore considered together. They do not equate to any geographically recognised or demarcated regions. However, they provided a useful lens through which to consider constituencies. The work of the Commission thereby proceeded in the manner of a jigsaw with pieces identified and considered where linked together, ultimately facilitating consideration of the country as a whole.

The details regarding each of the 43 recommended constituencies, including the details of each Electoral Division recommended for transfer, are provided in Chapter 8 and Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

5.7 COMMISSION RESEARCH

As a result of issues that arose during this review, the Commission decided to undertake research into two specific areas.

Representation

The Commission intends to carry out research into the issue of representation and the manner in which the number of TDs are determined. This will be carried out in the context of:

- The level of population increase over the last number of years.
- The current proposed increase in the number of TDs.
- Representation remaining at the higher end of the constitutional range.
- The potential future population growth and the potential future increase in the number of TDs.
- Concerns expressed in many submissions regarding the current number of TDs and the potential for more.

Constituency Magnitude

The Commission noted that a number of submissions proposed 6 seat constituencies, an option not possible under the Act of 2022. A number of other submissions called for review of this limitation to permit constituencies of 6 or more seats.

While some submissions called for more 3 seat constituencies, the majority of those which referenced the issue proposed more 5 seat constituencies.

The Commission is also cognisant that, given the anticipated continued rise in population, it may not be possible to retain the current 5 seat county constituencies in future reviews.

The Commission will publish this research once it has been satisfactorily concluded and will make recommendations for consideration by the Houses of the Oireachtas.

6 Review of European Parliament Constituencies



The provisions concerning the revision of constituencies are in section 56 (1) (a) and 57 (1) (a) of the *Electoral Reform Act 2022*, as follows:

56. (1) The Commission shall conduct a review of all constituencies:

(a) following the publication, by the Central Statistics Office, of the preliminary result of a census of population of the State;

57. (1) (a) Where the Commission has conducted constituency reviews under section 56 (1) (a) it shall prepare reports containing the recommendations of the Commission in relation to:

(i) the constituencies for the election of members to Dáil Éireann;

(ii) the constituencies for the election of members of the European Parliament.

This section outlines the Commission's approach to the key issues and decisions made in respect of the European Parliament Constituency Review ahead of the June 2024 European Elections.

As with the Constituency Review for Dáil constituencies, the recommendations of the Commission are advisory. The final determination of the constituencies for the European Parliament is one for the Houses of the Oireachtas to set out in legislation.

6.1 THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCY REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE

In relation to European Parliament constituencies, the Commission shall have regard to the following:

- The total number of members to be elected in the State to the European Parliament shall be such as may be specified pursuant to the Treaties governing the European Communities (the number stands at 13 at present).
- There shall be reasonable equality of representation as between constituencies.
- Each constituency shall return 3, 4 or 5 members.
- The breaching of county boundaries shall be avoided as far as practicable

- Each constituency shall be composed of contiguous areas.
- There shall be regard to geographic considerations including significant physical features and the extent of and the density of population in each constituency; and
- Subject to the above matters, the Commission shall endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of constituencies.

6.2 NUMBER OF MEPS AND CONSTITUENCY MAKE-UP

This European Parliament Constituency Review was carried out by the Commission in the context of a process being run by the European Institutions on the overall composition of the European Parliament ahead of the 2024 European Elections, but which had not been concluded.

The current make-up of the European Parliament sees Ireland with 13 MEP seats, which are allocated across the three existing constituencies as per the table opposite.

In the context of there being no current change to the number of seats allocated to Ireland, the Commission proposes no change to this scenario.

6.3 SUBMISSIONS

During the course of the review of the European Parliament constituencies, the Parliament's Constitutional Affairs Committee considered a proposal to allocate an additional one or possibly two seats to Ireland in the next Parliament in line with the principle of degressive proportionality (the ratio of population to seats).

Arising from this development, the Commission sought further public submissions on the new proposals in a series of public notice advertisements on 9-16 April. The submissions in Appendix 5 therefore contain responses to the 3 different requested scenarios - no change in seat numbers, and an additional one or two seats, and these formed part of the Commission's considerations.

However, as set out at the time of printing of this report, there has been no formal decision to change the seat allocation although it is expected imminently. In the event of a definitive change, the Commission will undertake another short public consultation and publish a fresh recommendation for the European Parliament constituencies.

6.4 RECOMMENDATION

With no stated change in the number of MEP seats (13) announced within the timeframe of this Constituency Review, the Commission recommends to the Houses of the Oireachtas, in keeping with its terms of reference, the maintenance of the existing arrangement of constituencies for the election of members to the European Parliament.

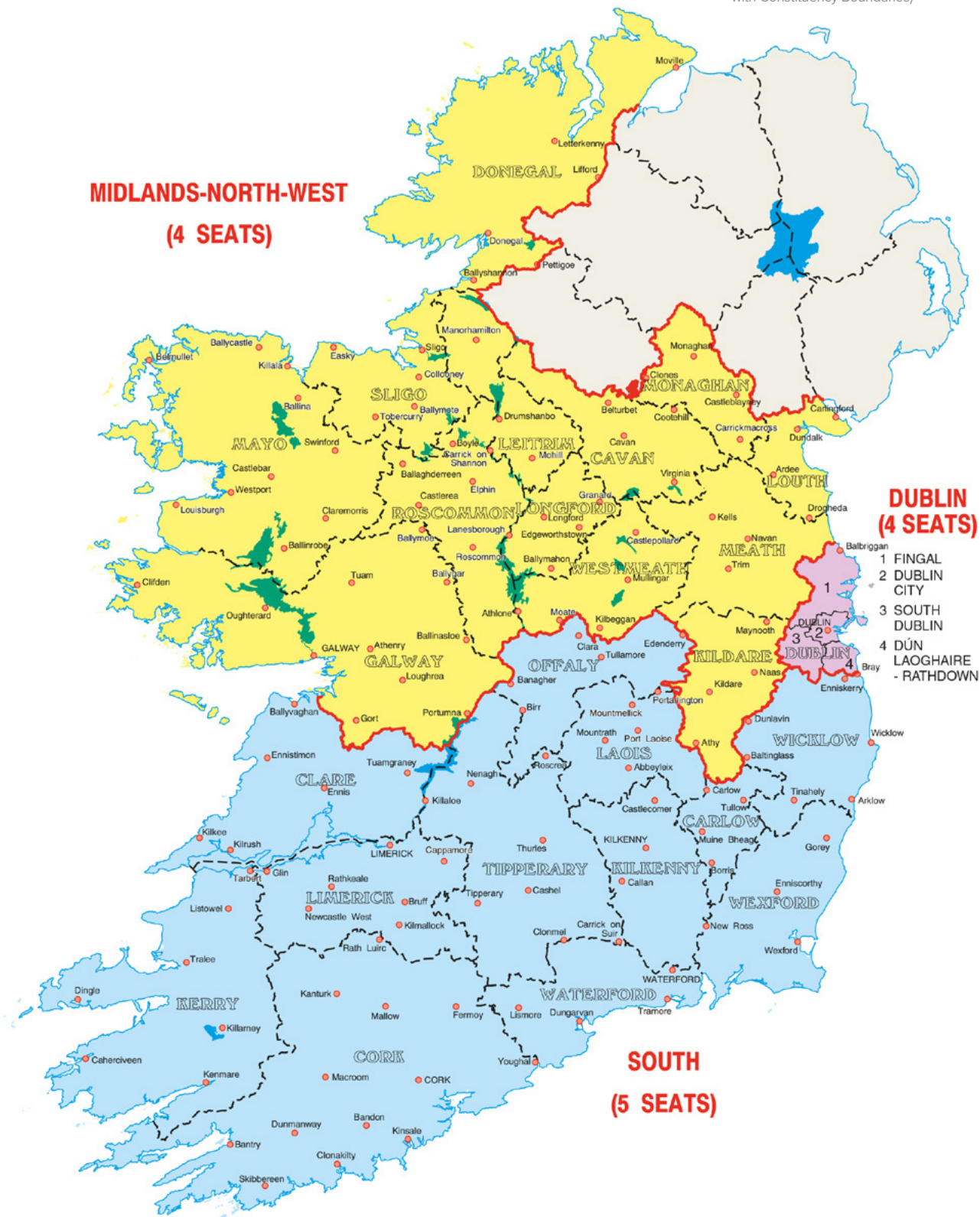
Table 7: The current and unchanged European Parliament constituencies		
Existing Constituency	Area	Number of MEPS 2022
Dublin	The counties of: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin; and the city of Dublin.	4
Midlands-North-West	The counties of Cavan, Donegal, Galway, Kildare, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Monaghan, Roscommon, Sligo and Westmeath; and the city of Galway.	4
South	The counties of Carlow, Clare, Cork, Kerry, Kilkenny, Laois, Offaly, Tipperary, Wexford and Wicklow; and the city of Cork, and the city and county of Limerick and the city and county of Waterford.	5



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCIES

RECOMMENDED EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT CONSTITUENCY
BOUNDARIES

COUNTY BOUNDARIES
(except where they coincide
with Constituency Boundaries)



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- (4) apply for a ballot paper at the European Parliament elections both in the State and in another Member State; or
- (5) vote if you are not registered in the register of electors or are not entitled to be registered.

PERSONS FOUND GUILTY OF THESE OFFENCES
ARE LIABLE ON CONVICTION TO SEVERE
PENALTIES, INCLUDING IMPRISONMENT.



7 Public Consultation Communications and Submissions Received



7.1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

An Coimisiún recognises that the total number of TDs and MEPs, and how these are distributed, are fundamental in shaping Ireland's electoral events in the coming years. Open and transparent public engagement is central to our work and this Review presented us with a valuable first opportunity to seek public views and raise awareness of our work.

In accordance with the *Electoral Reform Act 2022*, the Commission prepared and published a statement

setting out the constitutional provisions relating to Dáil constituencies, the terms of reference set out in the Act, together with then available population statistics relating to Dáil and European Parliament constituencies, and we invited public submissions. The statutory three-month consultation period for this Constituency Review began on 10 February 2023 and closed on 10 May.

A dedicated Constituency Review section on the Commission's website was created to facilitate public engagement (www.electoralcommission.ie/constituencyreview).

The Commission became aware during the consultation period that there was a relatively low level of public understanding of the constitutional and legal issues, as well as of the processes involved in a Constituency Review. Therefore, the Commission carried out a communications campaign to both encourage the public to make submissions, but also to help inform the public about the review. It is believed this is the first time that there has been such a comprehensive campaign to engage with the public about a Constituency Review.

The communications campaign included national newspaper advertising at the start of the campaign, a second series of advertisements in advance of the closing date, a schedule of national and regional media interviews and pieces, and the organic use of the Commission's social media accounts. The details are provided in Appendix 4.

The Act requires the Commission to publicise the submissions received and to make them available free of charge. A key part of the information campaign was the decision to publish submissions on the web page in advance of the closing date. This stimulated early analysis, commentary and debate on the content of the submissions. It led to an appreciable level of engagement with the issues and promoted a greater level of public understanding. An Coimisiún believes that the communications campaign contributed significantly to a broader understanding of the review, the role of the Commission in the review, and ultimately to a record number of submissions being received for consideration.

7.2 SUBMISSIONS

The list of those who made submissions is in Appendix 5. There were 541 submissions regarding Dáil constituencies and 33 submissions regarding European Parliament constituencies received during the consultation period. Submissions were received regarding every constituency in Ireland. The Commission was impressed by the number

of submissions, the strength of views felt on many issues and the great efforts that many people went to in order to assist the Commission in its work.

Submissions were received from six national political parties, 24 local political parties, 28 TDs, 12 Senators, 36 Councillors, 17 representative groups as well as 418 submissions from individuals.

The submissions varied from one-line submissions to extensive documents supported by maps; from one-issue submissions to those that addressed issues in every constituency.

The Commission has published its Submissions Summary Paper, summarising the main points of the submissions and the responses to those points. This is available on the Commission's website (<https://www.electoralcommission.ie/constituency-reviews/>).



The Commission identified three main issues arising from the submissions.

1. Many of those who made submissions were unaware of the constitutional or legislative provisions that underpin the work of the Commission in undertaking the Constituency Review. This underlined the importance of the communications campaign, but also highlighted the fact that there is a general lack of understanding of this part of our democratic system. Examples of this included calls for the number of TDs to be reduced, which would contravene the constitution, and the creation of 6 seat constituencies, which would contravene the terms of reference provided for in legislation. Many of those who made submissions were also not aware of the issues of equality of representation and the concept of variance.
2. The Commission was acutely aware that it had sought submissions without itself providing any information on what the Commission might recommend in terms of the overall number of TDs or the many decisions pertaining to individual constituencies. This presented a challenging task, summed up by one leading academic who commented that it was, “like you are submitting in a vacuum”.
3. The *Electoral Reform Act 2022* does not make provision for a further consultation period at the end of the review process. Therefore, there is no opportunity for the public to make submissions on the recommendations of the Commission contained in this report.

In light of these issues the Commission proposes to review the consultation process and may make recommendations to the Oireachtas in advance of the next Constituency Review.

7.3 THE CONTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

Despite the challenges already outlined, the submissions greatly assisted the Commission in our understanding of the general national issues of concern, and those related to the specific issues of individual constituencies.

While the Commission considered each of the submissions and endeavoured to address concerns so far as possible, it was obliged to do so within the parameters of the constitutional and statutory terms of reference. The submissions relating to the breaching of county boundaries, and the perceived impact on effective representation, were particularly noted by the Commission.

Submissions highlighted other issues of concern, which the Commission will incorporate into future research in relation to constituency magnitude and the method by which the number of TDs is determined. In addition, there were many useful insights into local circumstances and issues that assisted it in making these recommendations.





8 Recommendations for Dáil Constituencies



The work of the Commission began with consideration of the maps and census figures for the current constituencies in the context of both the constitutional provisions and the statutory terms of reference. Consideration of constituencies in isolation was not appropriate, or useful, as any changes would have consequential effects in adjacent constituencies, and possibly further consequential effects in other constituencies. It was clear, however, that certain groups of constituencies were more immediately linked to each other, and changes in one would affect a number of others.

The Commission identified a number of groups of constituencies that were ‘self-contained’ within the boundaries of a number of counties.

The constituencies in these groups of counties were therefore considered together. They do not equate to any geographically recognised or demarcated regions. However, they provided a useful lens through which to consider constituencies. The work of the Commission thereby proceeded in the manner of a jigsaw with pieces identified and considered where linked together, ultimately facilitating consideration of the country as a whole.

Constituencies are presented here in these groups as it is hoped that this will assist in understanding the recommendations made by the Commission. The details regarding each of the 43 recommended constituencies, including the details of each Electoral Division recommended for transfer, are in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

MAP 01

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Ireland

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
COUNTY BOUNDARIES



8.1 DONEGAL, SLIGO, LEITRIM, ROSCOMMON, GALWAY AND MAYO

The six counties of Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Galway, and Mayo form six constituencies, which currently elect 24 members to the Dáil.

The Commission recommends the allocation of two extra seats to constituencies in these counties to bring the number of TDs up to 26.

The Commission recommends making changes to the boundaries of five of the six constituencies, with the Donegal constituency remaining unchanged.

There are no new recommended breaches of county boundaries.

All of the recommended changes either remove or reduce the breaches to the Mayo, Roscommon and Galway county boundaries.

The entire population of the counties of Mayo and Roscommon would now be within each of their own constituencies. The Commission is also able to recommend a reduced number of Co. Galway Electoral Divisions (EDs) that are in the Roscommon-Galway constituency. However, it was not able to remove the breach of the Co. Donegal boundary by the Sligo-Leitrim constituency.

The Commission recommends that:

- 8,569 population of the 18 Co. Roscommon EDs in the constituency of Sligo-Leitrim be transferred to the constituency of Roscommon-Galway.

- 16,330 population of 32 Co. Galway EDs in the constituency of Roscommon-Galway be transferred to the constituency of Galway East.
- 5,926 population of six Co. Mayo EDs in the constituency of Galway West be transferred to the Mayo constituency.

The Commission recommends the allocation of one additional seat to both of the constituencies of Galway East and Mayo. The allocation of the additional seats is accompanied by transfers of population from neighbouring constituencies.

There would be three 5 seat constituencies - Donegal, Galway West and Mayo; two 4 seat constituencies - Galway East and Sligo-Leitrim; and one 3 seat constituency - Roscommon-Galway.





Constituency of Donegal

The Commission recommends that the Donegal constituency remains unchanged as a 5 seat constituency with no transfers of population.

The Donegal constituency would have a population of 157,700 and a variance of 6.58%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency, comprising the county of Donegal except for nine EDs from south Donegal located in the Sligo-Leitrim constituency.	Remains as an unchanged 5 seat constituency.

The Donegal constituency has a population of 157,700 (an increase of 4.67%). The constituency currently comprises the county of Donegal, except for nine EDs in the south of the county, with a population of 9,384. These nine EDs are located in the Sligo-Leitrim constituency.

The main consideration by the Commission regarding the Donegal constituency was the removal of the breach in the southern part of the county. This issue was raised in many submissions relating to this constituency. Some submissions suggested retaining Donegal as a 5 seat constituency, although more suggested creating two 3 seat constituencies.

The Commission considered the removal of the county boundary breach by transferring the nine Co. Donegal EDs, currently in the Sligo-Leitrim constituency into the Donegal 5 seat constituency. However, the Commission concluded that this was not possible, as adding this population would



have resulted in an unacceptably high variance of 12.92%.

The Commission also considered the possibility of creating two 3 seat constituencies in Co. Donegal, as a way of removing the existing county boundary breach. However, such a transfer would have precluded the removal of the county boundary breach in northern Co. Roscommon, the reduction in the county boundary breach in the eastern part of Co. Galway and the removal of the breach of the Mayo county boundary.

The Commission also considered extending the breach by transferring four EDs with a population of 1,356 into the Sligo-Leitrim constituency. This would have allowed for better variances in the Donegal and Sligo-Leitrim constituencies. However, the Commission decided against this approach as it favoured maintaining continuity, and did not want to extend the breach unnecessarily.

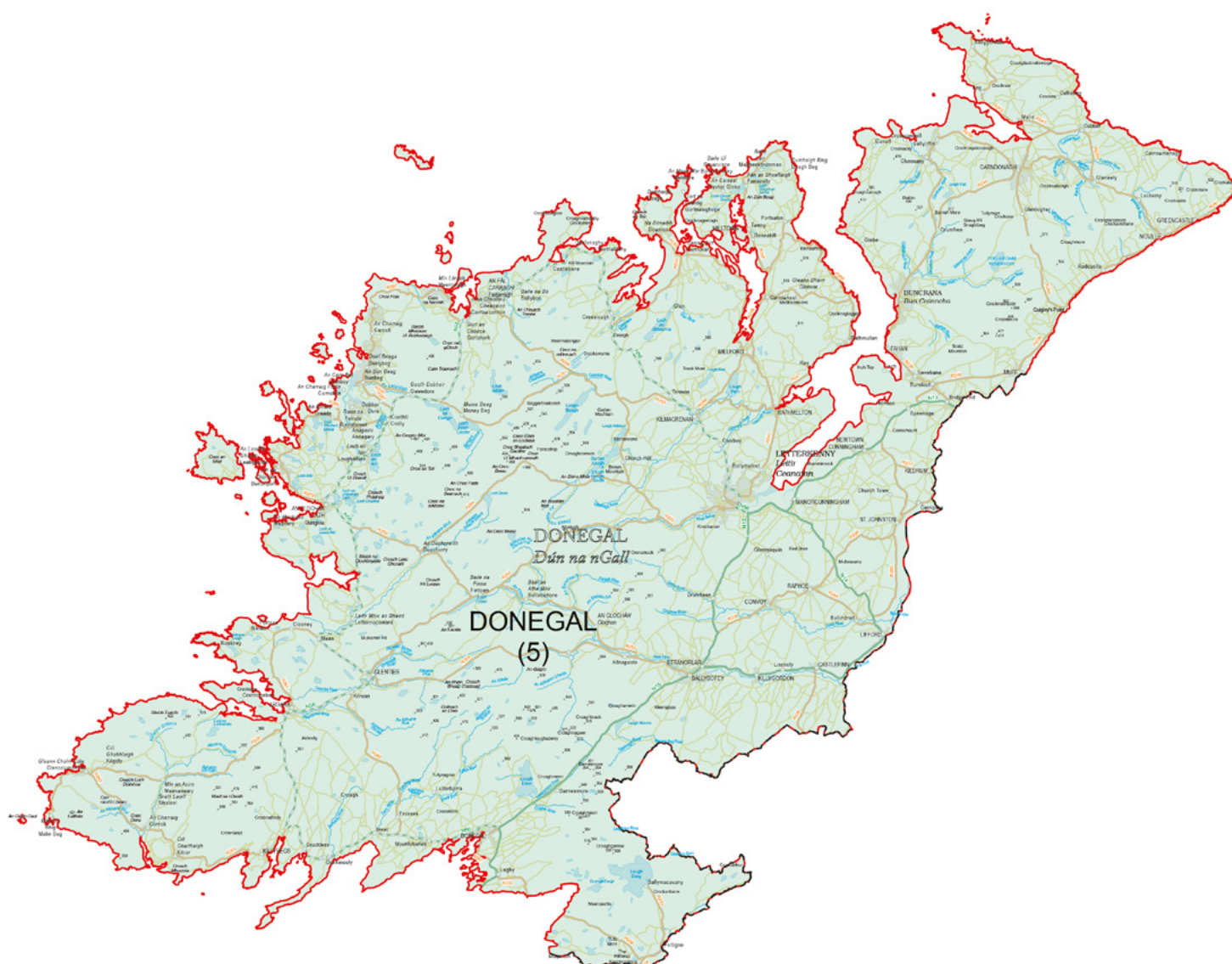
A key factor is that Co. Donegal is only contiguous with one other county – Leitrim. This tended to constrain the possible options open to the Commission.

MAP 02

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Donegal Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
COUNTY BOUNDARIES



0 10 20 30
Kilometers

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Constituency of Sligo-Leitrim

The Commission recommends that Sligo-Leitrim should remain a 4 seat constituency, with a transfer out of the 18 EDs (population 8,569) in the northern part of Co. Roscommon to the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

Following the recommended transfer, the constituency would contain all of both Co. Sligo and Co. Leitrim and nine EDs of southern Donegal.

The Sligo-Leitrim constituency would have a population of 114,781 with a variance of -3.03%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency, including all of Co. Sligo and Co. Leitrim, 18 EDs of north Roscommon and nine EDs of south Donegal.	Remains a 4 seat constituency encompassing all of counties Sligo and Leitrim, and the nine EDs of southern Donegal.
	The 18 EDs from the northern part of Co. Roscommon transfer to the Roscommon-Galway constituency, reunifying Roscommon in that constituency.

The current Sligo-Leitrim constituency is unique in that it currently comprises EDs from four counties. It consists of the entire counties of Sligo (population of 70,198) and Leitrim (population of 35,199) as well as nine EDs in southern Donegal with a population of 9,384, and the northern part of Co. Roscommon made up of 18 EDs with a population of 8,569. This brings the total existing constituency population to 123,350.



There are no breaches in the boundaries of the counties of either Sligo or Leitrim, while the breaches in the counties of Donegal and Roscommon are addressed under their respective constituencies.

While there was a small number of submissions that argued in favour of splitting counties Roscommon and Leitrim respectively, that approach was not viewed as desirable by the Commission.

The transfer out of Sligo-Leitrim of the 18 Roscommon EDs with a population of 8,569, into the Roscommon-Galway constituency, means that the Sligo-Leitrim constituency would contain all or part of three counties rather than the current four.

MAP 03

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Sligo-Leitrim Constituency

AREA TRANSFERRING
TO ROSCOMMON-GALWAY



RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES



COUNTY BOUNDARIES



ED BOUNDARIES



ED NAMES

BOYLE URBAN



Constituency of Roscommon-Galway

The Commission recommends that the Roscommon-Galway constituency should remain as a 3 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of 18 EDs with a population of 8,569 from the Sligo-Leitrim constituency to the constituency of Roscommon-Galway, as well as the transfer of 32 EDs with a population of 16,330 out of Roscommon-Galway to the constituency of Galway East.

Following the recommended transfers, the Roscommon-Galway constituency would contain the entire county of Roscommon and 16 EDs from the eastern part of Co. Galway with a population of 14,468.

The Roscommon-Galway constituency would have a population of 84,727 and a variance of -4.56%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency, including most of Co. Roscommon except for 18 EDs of north Roscommon, and 48 EDs from east Co. Galway.	Remains a 3 seat constituency. Would now contain all of Co. Roscommon, and a smaller area of 16 EDs from east Co. Galway.

The Roscommon-Galway constituency currently has a population of 92,488, an increase in population of 7.7% since 2016. The constituency currently contains the county of Roscommon – except for the 18 EDs of northern Roscommon, with a population of 8,569, that are in the Sligo-Leitrim constituency. It also contains a sizeable area in the eastern part of Co. Galway. The Galway part of the constituency is currently 48 EDs with a corresponding population of 30,798.



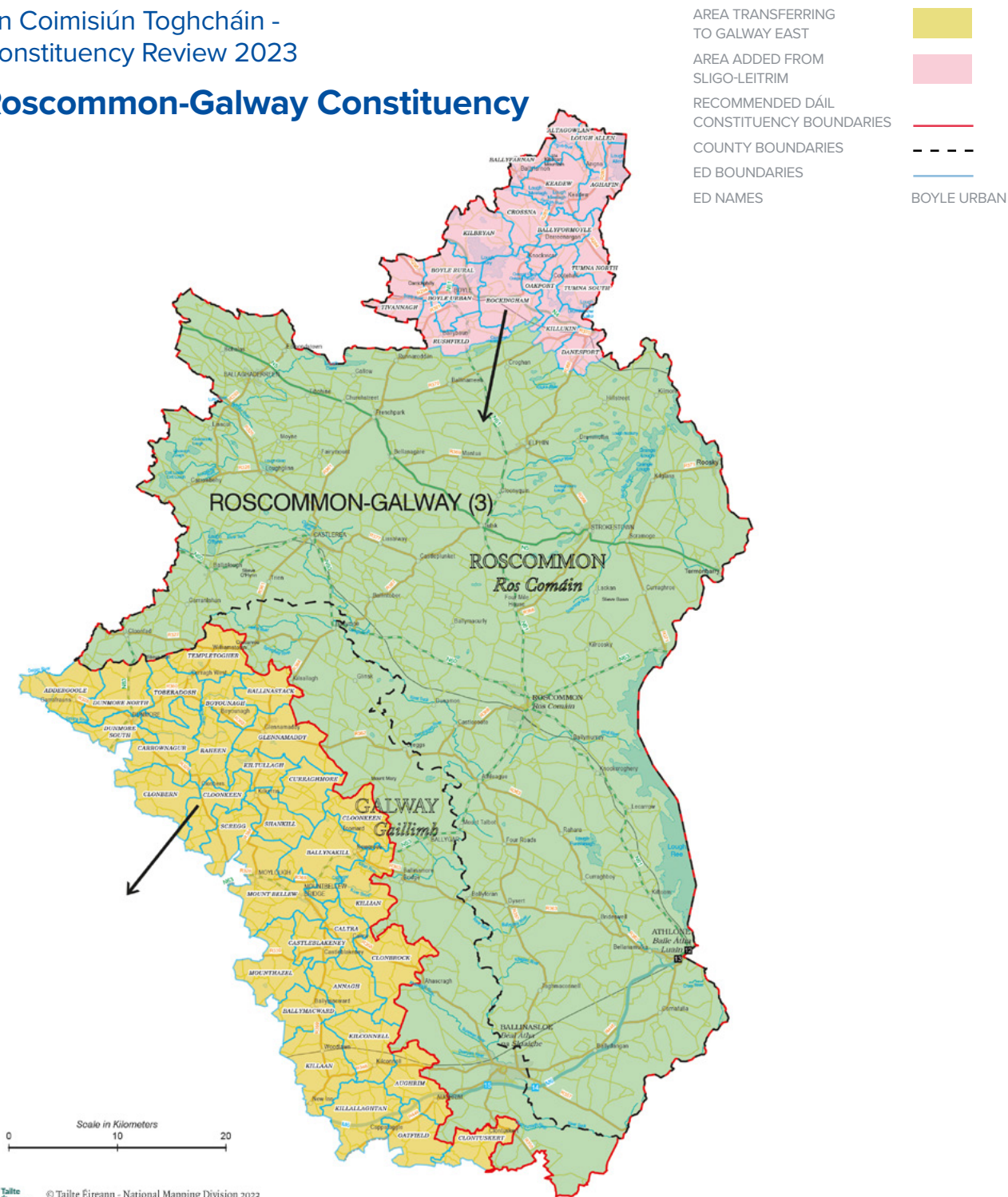
The Commission considered proposals in a number of the submissions in relation to the EDs in northern Roscommon that are currently in the Sligo-Leitrim constituency. Submissions favoured respecting of county boundaries, although some proposed making no change in this area. In view of the desirability of removing the Co. Roscommon boundary breach, the Commission recommends the transfer of the Roscommon EDs from Sligo-Leitrim to the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

By transferring the 18 EDs, the entire population of Co. Roscommon would be in the Roscommon-Galway constituency. As Co. Roscommon does not have sufficient population (70,259) for a standalone 3 seat constituency, it is necessary to retain some of the population in east Galway that is in the constituency. Therefore, the breach of the county boundary of Galway, while greatly reduced from 48 EDs with a population of 30,798 to 16 EDs with a population of 14,468, could not be fully resolved.

MAP 04

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Roscommon-Galway Constituency



Constituency of Galway East

The Commission recommends that the Galway East constituency should become a 4 seat constituency with the addition of one seat.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Galway East constituency of 32 EDs with a population of 16,330 from the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

The transfer of EDs from Roscommon-Galway and population increase in the constituency of Galway East since 2016 and the addition of a seat would see it with a population of 113,254 and a variance of -4.32%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency, including most of eastern Co. Galway, except for 48 EDs located in the Roscommon-Galway constituency.	Becomes a 4 seat constituency which would contain 32 extra EDs of east Galway, leaving 16 EDs from east Galway in the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

The Galway East constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 96,924.

The Commission considered proposals in a number of submissions on the existing county



Galway boundary breach by the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

As outlined in the Roscommon-Galway constituency section, Co. Roscommon does not have a sufficient population to support a standalone 3 seat constituency. As a result, the Commission is not in a position to recommend the complete removal of the county boundary breach with the Roscommon-Galway constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of 32 EDs with a population of 16,330 from the Roscommon-Galway constituency to the Galway East constituency. This transfer and the increase in population of 7,376 (8.24%) since the 2016 Census, mean that the Galway East constituency could be allocated an extra seat.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Donegal	5	157,700	31,540	1,947	6.58
Sligo-Leitrim	4	114,781	28,695	-898	-3.03
Roscommon-Galway	3	84,727	28,242	-1,350	-4.56
Galway East	4	113,254	28,314	-1,279	-4.32

Constituency of Galway West

The Commission recommends that the Galway West constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

Six EDs in the south-eastern part of Co. Mayo, with a combined population of 5,926, are recommended for transfer out of the Galway West constituency to the Mayo constituency. This leaves the Galway West constituency otherwise unchanged as a 5 seat constituency.

The Galway West constituency would have a population of 150,015 with a variance of 1.39%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency comprising western Co. Galway and six EDs of south-east Mayo.	Continues as a 5 seat constituency, but with the six EDs of south-east Mayo transferred to the Mayo constituency.

The Galway West constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 155,941. Galway West is made up of the western part of Co. Galway, and Galway City, as well as six EDs with a population of 5,926 from the south-eastern part of Co. Mayo. The remainder of Co. Galway is located in the Galway East and Roscommon-Galway constituencies.

In relation to the Galway West constituency, the Commission considered the county boundary breach, involving the six EDs from Co. Mayo. The majority of submissions called for this breach of the boundary of Co. Mayo to be removed.

Due to population increases in the Galway West Constituency of 11,027 (7.6%) the Commission is

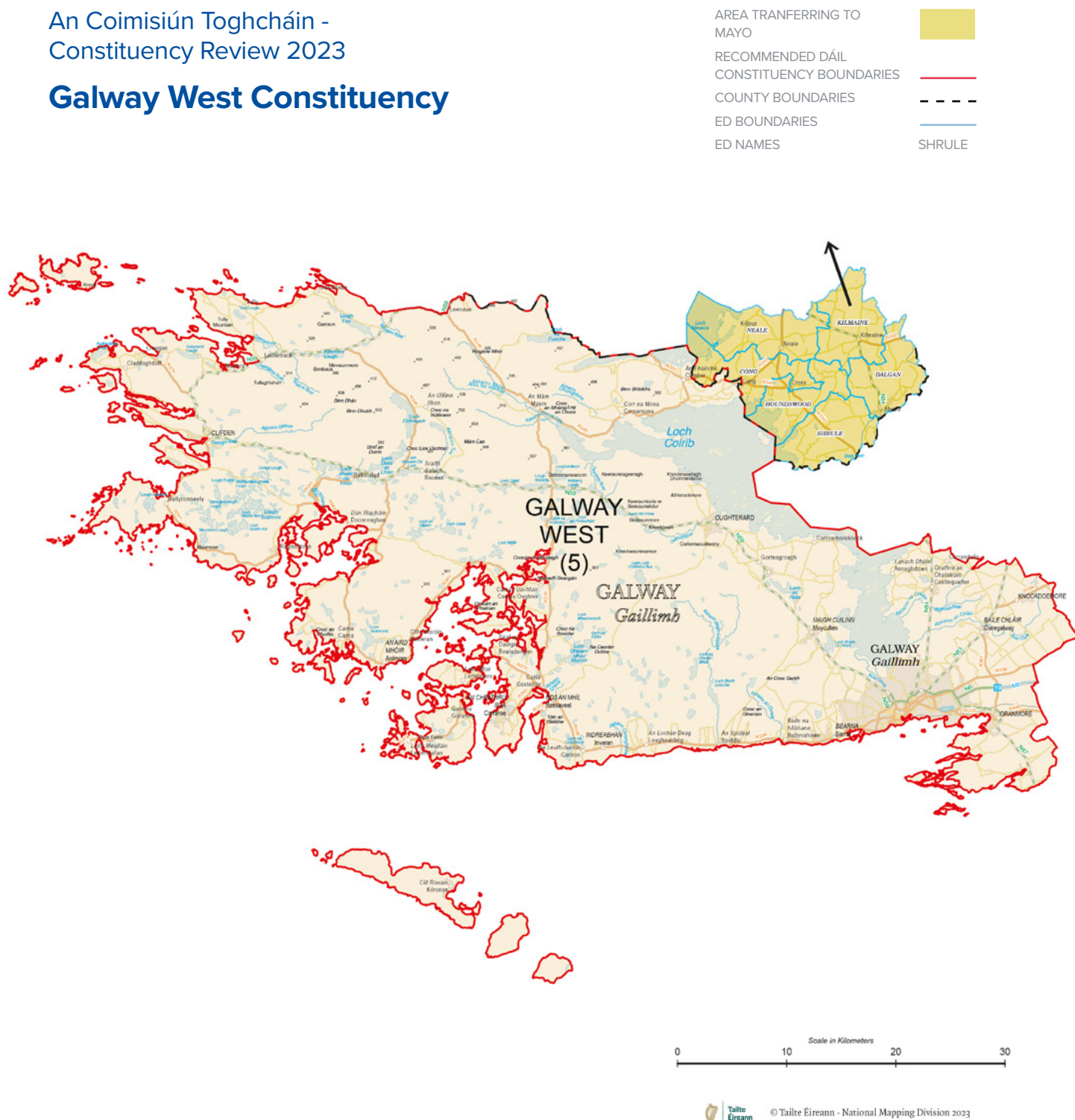


able to recommend the transfer of the six Co. Mayo EDs of Galway West to the Mayo constituency, while maintaining the Galway West constituency as a 5 seat constituency.

MAP 06

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Galway West Constituency



Constituency of Mayo

The Commission recommends that the Mayo constituency should become a 5 seat constituency, with the addition of one seat.

Six EDs in the south-eastern part of Co. Mayo with a total population of 5,926 are recommended for transfer to the Mayo constituency from the Galway West constituency.

As a result of this transfer and the population increase in the Mayo constituency, it is recommended that the Mayo constituency should become a 5 seat constituency.

The Mayo constituency would have a population of 137,970 with a variance of -6.75%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency, largely made up of Co. Mayo except for six EDs of south-east Mayo located in the Galway West constituency.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency based on the county boundary of Mayo. Six EDs from the area of south-east Mayo are transferred to the Mayo constituency, reunifying the county.

The Mayo constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 132,044, an increase of 7,069 (5.66%) since 2016. It consists of



all of Co. Mayo except the six EDs with a population of 5,926 that are located in the Galway West constituency.

The primary factors for the Commission in relation to the Mayo constituency was the breach of the county boundary by the Galway West constituency, and the increase of 7,069 (5.66%) of population in the Mayo constituency since the 2016 Census. The 4 seat Mayo constituency, with a population of 132,044, has a variance of 11.55% which is beyond what the Commission would consider acceptable.

Submissions received by the Commission were overwhelmingly in favour of removing the breach in the Mayo county boundary. Many submissions called for Mayo to be allocated an extra seat and become a 5 seat constituency.

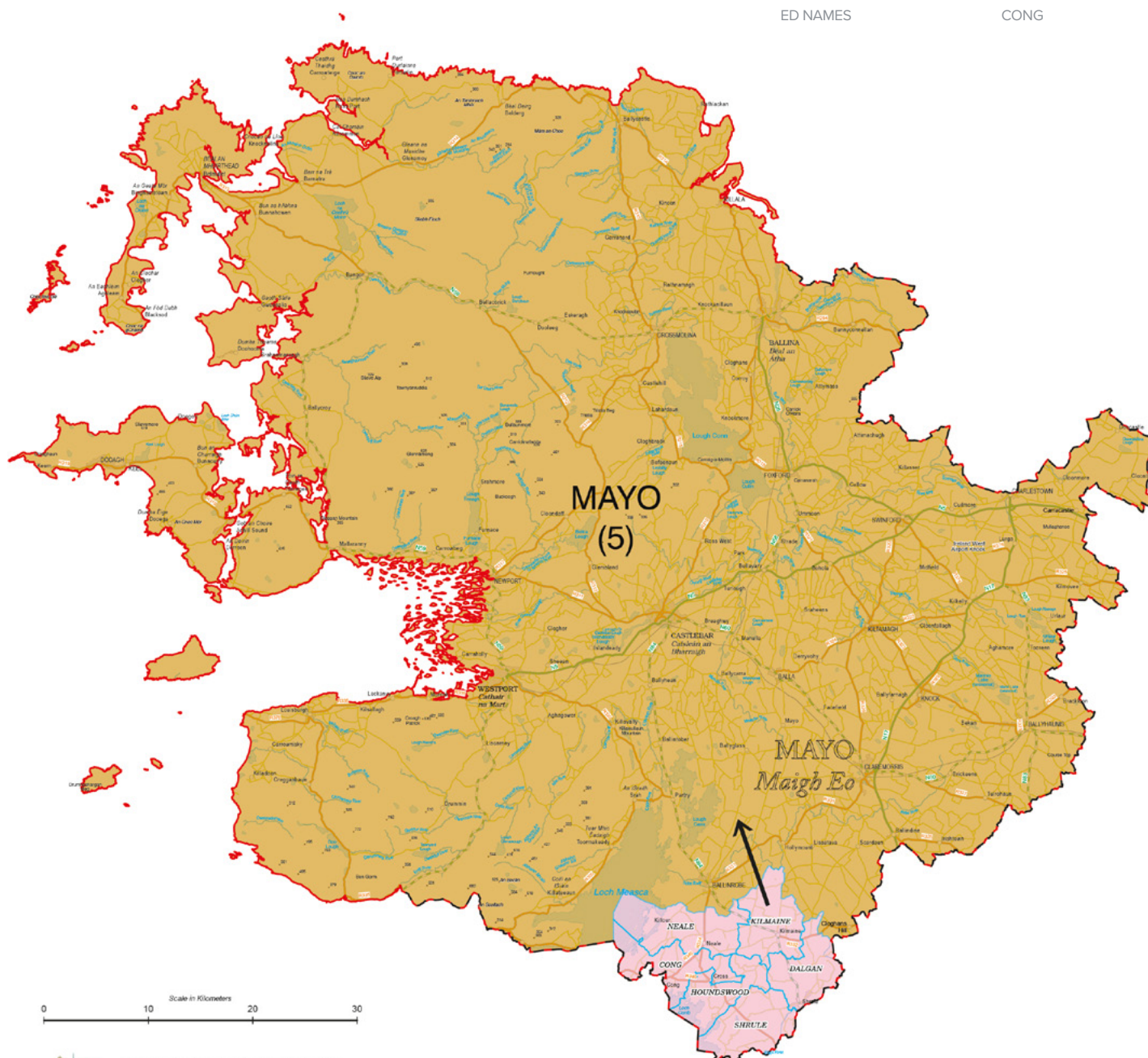
The Commission's recommendation sees the breach of Co. Mayo removed, and reverts to the arrangement in place between 1995 and 2013.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Galway West	5	150,015	30,003	410	1.39
Mayo	5	137,970	27,594	-1,999	-6.75

MAP 07

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Mayo Constituency





8.2 CAVAN, MONAGHAN, LOUTH, MEATH, WESTMEATH AND LONGFORD

The six counties of Cavan, Monaghan, Louth, Meath, Westmeath and Longford comprise five constituencies, which currently elect 20 TDs.

The Commission recommends the allocation of two extra seats to constituencies in these counties to bring the number of TDs up to 22.

The Commission recommends making changes to each of the five constituencies, and recommends the allocation of an additional seat each to the two constituencies of Longford-Westmeath and Meath East.

The Commission recommends the removal of the boundary breach in County Meath by the Cavan-Monaghan constituency, and recommends reducing the boundary breach in County Meath by the Louth constituency.

The Commission recommends the removal of the boundary breach in the county of Westmeath by the Meath West constituency.

The Commission recommends that the Cavan-Monaghan constituency should comprise the counties of Cavan and Monaghan.

The Commission recommends that the Longford-Westmeath constituency should be made up of the counties of Longford and Westmeath.

The boundary between the Meath East and Meath West constituencies should remain unchanged.

- The Commission recommends that seven EDs with a population of 4,185 in the northern part of Co. Meath be transferred from the Cavan-Monaghan constituency to the Meath East constituency.
- The Commission recommends the reduction of the boundary breach of Co. Meath by the Louth constituency from two EDs to a single ED. This would be done by transferring the Julianstown



ED with a population of 11,501 from the Louth constituency to the Meath East constituency. This means that the only remaining county boundary breach in this group of counties is the St. Mary's (Part) ED in Co. Meath with a population of 16,403.

- The Commission recommends that the Longford-Westmeath constituency should now be made up of Co. Longford and Co. Westmeath. The 19 EDs with a population of 9,484 in the eastern part of Co. Westmeath are recommended to be transferred from the Meath West constituency to the Longford-Westmeath constituency.

The counties in this area would contain three 5 seat constituencies – Cavan-Monaghan, Louth and Longford-Westmeath; one 4 seat constituency – Meath East; and one 3 seat constituency – Meath West.

Constituency of Cavan-Monaghan

The Commission recommends that the Cavan-Monaghan constituency should remain a 5 seat constituency.

Seven EDs located in the northern part of Co. Meath are recommended for transfer to the Meath East constituency. The Cavan-Monaghan constituency would then contain only the counties of Cavan and Monaghan.

The Cavan-Monaghan constituency would have a population of 146,992 with a variance of -0.66%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency comprising the whole counties of Cavan and Monaghan and seven EDs from northern Co. Meath.	Remains a 5 seat constituency comprising the whole of the counties of Cavan and Monaghan. The seven EDs from the northern part of Co. Meath are transferred to the Meath East constituency.

The Cavan-Monaghan constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 151,177, an increase of 9,642 (6.8%) from the 2016 Census. The constituency is currently made up of Co. Cavan, Co. Monaghan and seven EDs from the northern part of Co. Meath.

The Commission considered the breach in county boundaries involving the seven Co. Meath EDs. These EDs, with a combined population of 4,185, were transferred from Meath East into Cavan-Monaghan after the previous Constituency Review in 2017.



Submissions received from the public were in favour of returning the part of north Meath currently contained in the constituency back into one of the two Meath constituencies.

The Commission noted that the counties of Cavan (population 81,704) and Monaghan (population 65,288) do not have the required populations for two 3 seat constituencies, without extensive breaches of county boundaries.

The recommendation of the Commission is that the seven Co. Meath EDs, with a combined population of 4,185, be transferred to the Meath East constituency and that Cavan-Monaghan remains a 5 seat constituency

This recommendation returns the configuration to that which was in place for the constituency from 1980-2013.

MAP 08

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Cavan-Monaghan Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING
TO MEATH EAST
- RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
- COUNTY BOUNDARIES
- ED BOUNDARIES
- ED NAMES
- CARRICKLECK



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Constituency of Louth

The Commission recommends that the Louth constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

The Julianstown ED with a population of 11,501 is recommended for transfer to the Meath East constituency, while the St Mary's (Part) ED would stay in the Louth constituency. This reduces the breach of the county boundary of Meath from two EDs to one ED.

The Louth constituency would have a population of 156,106 and a variance of 5.50%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
5 seat constituency comprising the entire county of Louth along with two EDs in the eastern part of Co. Meath.	Remains a 5 seat constituency comprising the whole county of Louth along with one ED in Co. Meath. The Julianstown ED in Co. Meath is transferred to the Meath East constituency, thereby reducing the breach of the county boundary of Meath from two EDs to one ED.

The Louth constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 167,607, an increase of 16,683 (11.05%) since 2016. The Louth constituency is currently made up of Co. Louth and two Co. Meath EDs south of Drogheda.

The main consideration for the Commission was the current breach of the Meath county boundary and how best to accommodate the increase in the constituency's population.



The Commission considered if the current breach of the Co. Meath boundary could be reduced and whether the Louth constituency could be divided into two 3 seat constituencies.

The two EDs in the Co. Meath part of the constituency have a combined population of 27,904. A large part of one of these EDs St Mary's (Part) (population of 16,403) is in the town of Drogheda. The other ED of Julianstown has a population of 11,501.

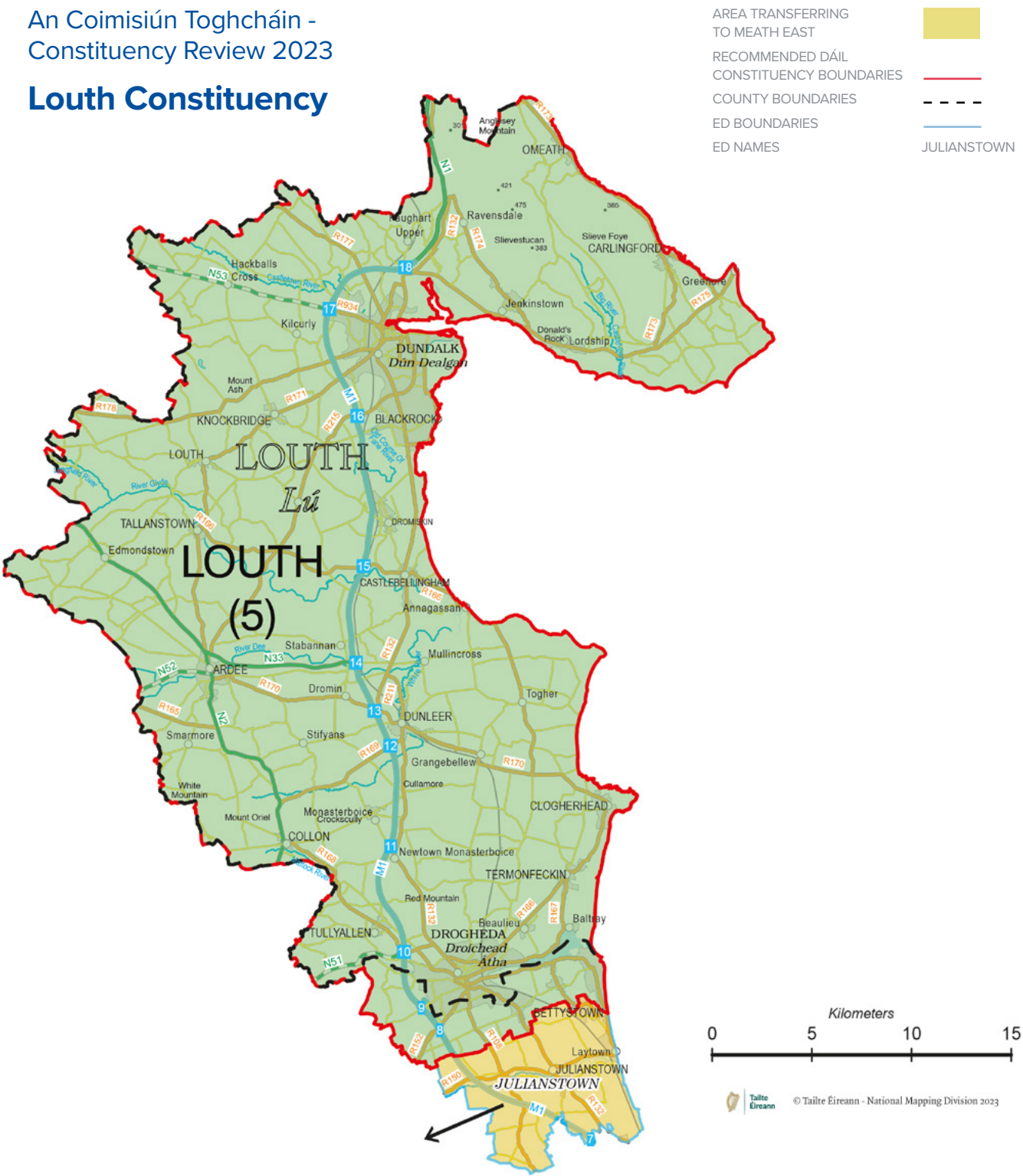
There were a large number of submissions relating to the Louth constituency (over 10% of all submissions received during the consultation period). The majority of submissions called for the breach of the Co. Meath boundary to be either continued, or increased with the transfer of more Co. Meath EDs to the Louth constituency or a new Drogheda constituency created which would take in further EDs from Co. Meath.

Many of these submissions stated that they were part of a campaign promoting city status for Drogheda. The Commission also noted that many submissions received called for all of the Co. Meath EDs to be located in Co. Meath constituencies.

Taking into account the terms of reference, the Commission recommends that the Julianstown ED be transferred to Meath East and that Louth should remain a 5 seat constituency.

MAP 09

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023
Louth Constituency



Constituency of Meath East

The Commission recommends that the Meath East constituency should be allocated an extra seat to become a 4 seat constituency.

Seven EDs in the northern part of Co. Meath with a population of 4,185 that are currently in the Cavan-Monaghan constituency are recommended for transfer to Meath East. This removes the breach of the Co. Meath boundary by the Cavan-Monaghan constituency.

The Commission also recommends that the Julianstown ED with a population of 11,501 in the Louth constituency should be transferred to Meath East.

The 4 seat Meath East constituency would have a population of 114,631 and a variance of -3.16%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
3 seat constituency comprising the eastern half of Co. Meath, except for two EDs to the east which are in the Louth constituency and seven EDs in the northern part of Co. Meath which are in the Cavan-Monaghan constituency.	Becomes a 4 seat constituency which would contain the seven EDs in the northern part of Co. Meath which are in the Cavan-Monaghan constituency. Would also contain the Julianstown ED from the Louth constituency.

The Meath East constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 98,945, an increase of 11,776 (13.5%) from 2016. This is the highest percentage increase of any constituency in the country.



Meath East is made up of the eastern half of Co. Meath, except for the two EDs with a population of 27,904 that are in the Louth constituency, and the seven EDs in the

north of the county with a population of 4,185 that are in the Cavan-Monaghan constituency.

The main considerations for the Commission were the breaches of the Meath county boundary by the Cavan-Monaghan and Louth constituencies, as well as the population growth in the Meath East constituency. Submissions for the Meath East constituency largely focused on the county boundary breaches. Submissions in relation to the northern part of Co. Meath in the Cavan-Monaghan constituency were unanimously in favour of the return of these EDs to a Meath constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the seven EDs from the Cavan-Monaghan constituency with a population of 4,185 to the Meath East constituency to remove that breach in the Meath county boundary.

The Commission also recommends transferring the Julianstown ED with a population of 11,501 to Meath East, while retaining the St. Mary's (Part) ED with a population of 16,403 in the Louth constituency. This would allow for reasonable variances while also ensuring the town of Drogheda is contained within a single constituency.

These transfers and the substantial population growth (11,776) since the 2016 Census mean that Meath East should be allocated an extra seat.

MAP 10

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Meath East Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING FROM LOUTH
 - AREA TRANSFERRING FROM CAVAN-MONAGHAN
 - RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - COUNTY BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
- ARDAGH



Constituency of Meath West

The Commission recommends that the Meath West constituency should remain as a 3 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends that 19 Co. Westmeath EDs with a population of 9,484 be transferred from Meath West to the Longford-Westmeath constituency.

The Meath West constituency would have a population of 89,792 and a variance of 1.14%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
3 seat constituency comprising the western part of Co. Meath and 19 EDs from the eastern part Co. Westmeath.	Remains a 3 seat constituency. With the transfer out of 19 EDs from the eastern part of Co. Westmeath, the Meath West constituency would now be solely made up of areas of Co. Meath.

Meath West is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 99,276 - an increase of 8,733 (9.6%) from 2016. The constituency is made up of the western part of Co. Meath and 19 EDs with a population of 9,484 from eastern Co. Westmeath.

The main consideration for the Commission was whether the breach of the county boundary with Co. Westmeath could be removed in light of the increase in population.

Submissions in relation to the Meath West constituency focused on the existing breach of Co. Westmeath by the constituency. Submissions requested the return of all or part of the area of Co. Westmeath currently contained in the Meath



West constituency to the Longford-Westmeath constituency.

The Commission recommends transferring the 19 EDs from Co. Westmeath in the Meath West constituency into the Longford-Westmeath constituency. This transfer would be largely offset by the increase of 8,733 in population that the Meath West constituency has experienced since 2016.

This means that for the first time since the Meath West constituency was formed in 2005, it would solely comprise of areas of Co. Meath.

Constituency of Longford-Westmeath

The Commission recommends that Longford-Westmeath should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

Nineteen EDs with a population of 9,484 in the eastern part of Co. Westmeath are recommended for transfer from the Meath West constituency to the Longford-Westmeath constituency.

The Longford Westmeath constituency would have a population of 142,972 with a variance of -3.37%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
4 seat constituency comprising all of Co. Longford and most of Co. Westmeath, except for 19 Westmeath EDs located in the Meath West constituency.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency. 19 EDs transferred from the Meath West constituency to the Longford-Westmeath constituency. The constituency will entirely comprise the counties of Longford and Westmeath.

The constituency of Longford-Westmeath is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population

of 133,488, an increase of 12,526 (10.4%) from the 2016 Census. It is made up of the entire county of Longford and the county of Westmeath, except for 19 EDs with a population of 9,484 in the eastern part of Co. Westmeath that are in the Meath West constituency.

The main considerations for the Commission in relation to the Longford-Westmeath constituency were the 10.4% rise in population and the existing breach in the Co. Westmeath boundary by the Meath West constituency.

Submissions focused primarily on the breach in the county boundary, requesting that the Co. Westmeath EDs in the Meath West constituency should be transferred to the Longford-Westmeath constituency. The Commission recommends this transfer.

The Longford-Westmeath constituency would have the population to justify the allocation of an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency. The Longford-Westmeath constituency would now be exclusively made up of the entire counties of Longford and Westmeath for the first time since 1980.

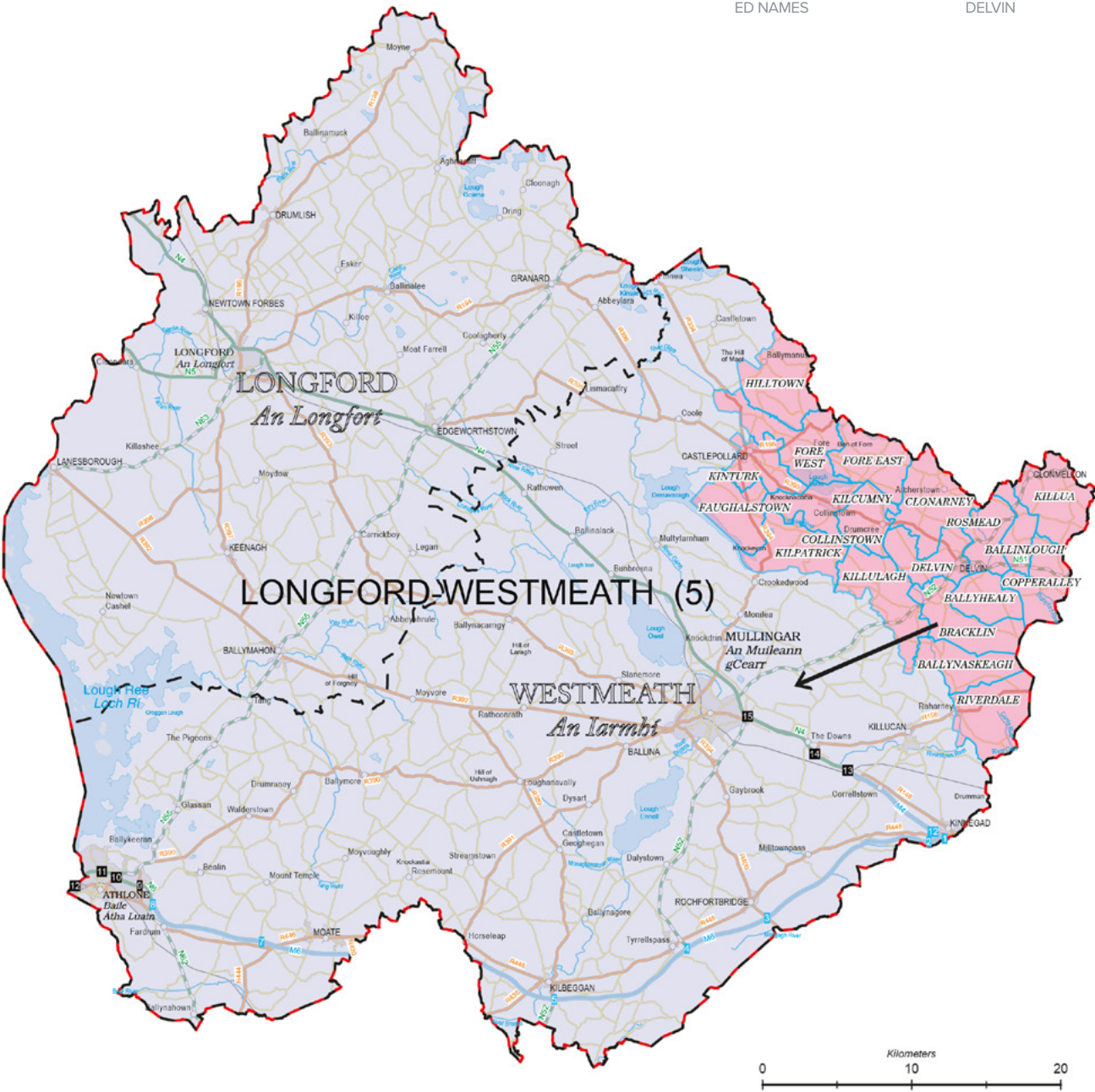
Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Cavan-Monaghan	5	146,992	29,398	-194	-0.66
Louth	5	156,106	31,221	1,628	5.50
Meath East	4	114,631	28,658	-935	-3.16
Meath West	3	89,792	29,931	338	1.14
Longford-Westmeath	5	142,972	28,594	-998	-3.37

MAP 12

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Longford-Westmeath Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING FROM MEATH WEST
 - RECOMMENDED DAIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - COUNTY BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
-
- DELVIN





8.3 CLARE, LIMERICK AND KERRY

The three counties of Clare, Limerick and Kerry form four constituencies which currently elect 16 TDs.

The Commission recommends that the number of seats for these counties remains the same at 16.

There are no county boundary breaches in Clare, Limerick or Kerry. There is currently one breach of the county boundary of Tipperary, with three EDs from Co. Tipperary in the Limerick City Constituency.

The Commission considered making the Limerick constituencies contiguous with the county boundary.

In the period 2016-2022 each of the four constituencies experienced population growth - Clare's population grew by 9,121 (7.7%), Limerick City's by 10,273 (9.1%), Kerry's by 8,751 (5.9%) and Limerick County's by 4,642 (5.4%).

- The Commission recommends changes to the constituency of Limerick City and no change to the constituencies of Clare, Kerry and Limerick County.
- The Commission was in a position to resolve the boundary breach in Co. Tipperary by the Limerick City constituency by transferring three EDs with a combined population of 4,653 to the newly formed Tipperary North constituency.

These counties have a combined population of 493,932 which is an increase of 28,134 (6%) from the 2016 Census. The Commission, having regard to the terms of reference regarding maintaining continuity and breaches of county boundaries, does not recommend any changes to either of the constituencies of Limerick County and Kerry.

While there has been an increase in population in Co. Clare, in the interest of retaining both county boundaries and maintaining continuity, it was decided to leave the Clare constituency unchanged.

The counties in this area continue to contain one 5 seat constituency – Kerry; two 4 seat constituencies - Clare and Limerick City; and one 3 seat constituency - Limerick County.



Constituency of Clare

The Commission recommends that the Clare constituency remains unchanged as a 4 seat constituency.

This constituency continues to encompass the entire county of Clare with no breaches to county boundaries.

Although this leaves the Clare constituency with a relatively high variance, it both respects the Clare county boundary and ensures continuity.

The Clare constituency would have a population of 127,938 with a relatively high variance of 8.08%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency comprising the whole county of Clare.	Remains unchanged as a 4 seat constituency comprising the whole county of Clare.

The Clare constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 127,938, an increase of 9,121 (7.7%) from the 2016 Census.

The constituency is exclusively made up of the county of Clare, with no breach of the county boundary.

The Commission considered the increase in population in relation to the current make-up of the constituency.

Submissions for the Clare constituency saw a significant number focus on the placement of the Ballyglass ED. A large number of submissions referred directly to the position of this ED. Although a small number of these were in favour of the



Ballyglass ED returning to the Limerick City constituency, the vast majority were in favour of the Ballyglass ED remaining in the Clare constituency.

There were also submissions that advocated for Clare to become a 5 seat constituency with transfers from Galway East. However, this would have created a new county boundary breach.

The Commission recommends that the Clare constituency should remain unchanged as a 4 seat constituency with a population of 127,938 and a variance of 8.08%.

MAP 13

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Clare Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - - -



0 10 20 30
Scale in Kilometers

 Táirte Éireann © Táirte Éireann - National Mapping Division 2023

Constituency of Limerick City

The Commission recommends that the Limerick City constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

Three EDs with a population of 4,653 are recommended for transfer to the new Tipperary North constituency, thereby making the Limerick constituencies contiguous with the county boundary.

The Limerick City constituency would have a population of 119,041 with a variance of 0.57%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency made up of Limerick City and its immediate hinterlands along with three EDs in Co. Tipperary.	Remains as a 4 seat constituency. Three Co. Tipperary EDs transferred to the new Tipperary North constituency.

Limerick City is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 123,694, an increase of 10,273 (9.1%) from the 2016 Census.

The constituency currently contains three EDs from Co. Tipperary with a population of 4,653.

The Commission considered the feasibility of returning the part of Co. Tipperary currently in the Limerick City constituency and catering for the population growth.

A number of submissions generally supported Limerick City remaining as a 4 seat constituency, while there was also a proposal for a 5 seat constituency taking in a large part of Co. Clare.



The Commission did consider allocating an additional seat to the Limerick City constituency. However, this would have involved significant transfers of population.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the Birdhill, Kilcomenty and Newport EDs to the new Tipperary North constituency, thereby making the Limerick constituencies contiguous with the county boundary.

MAP 14

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Limerick City Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING TO TIPPERARY NORTH
 - RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - COUNTY BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
- NEWPORT



Constituency of Limerick County

The Commission recommends that the Limerick County constituency should remain unchanged as a 3 seat constituency.

The Limerick County constituency would have a population of 90,495 with a variance of 1.93%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency comprising Co. Limerick except for the Limerick City constituency.	Remains unchanged as a 3 seat constituency.

The Limerick County constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 90,495 which is an increase of 4,642 (5.4%) since the 2016 Census - the lowest population increase in a constituency in the country.

The two Limerick constituencies are located entirely within the county of Limerick.

The Commission's recommendation is for the Limerick County constituency to remain unchanged.



MAP 15

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Limerick County Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - - -



Scale in Kilometers
0 10 20

Táille Éireann © Táille Éireann - National Mapping Division 2023

Constituency of Kerry

The Commission recommends that the Kerry constituency should remain unchanged as a 5 seat constituency, and continue to encompass the entire county of Kerry with no breaches to its county boundary.

This recommendation allows for both the respecting of county boundaries and continuity.

The Kerry constituency would have a population of 156,458 with a variance of 5.74%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency comprising the whole county of Kerry.	Remains unchanged as a 5 seat constituency comprising the whole county of Kerry.

The Kerry constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 156,458, an increase of 8,751 (5.9%) from the 2016 Census. The constituency is made up of the entire county of Kerry.

The Commission considered the increase in population and assessed whether it was possible to maintain the entire county of Kerry within a single



5 seat constituency, mindful of county boundaries and maintaining continuity.

Submissions were mostly in relation to whether Kerry should remain as a 5 seat constituency or be split between two 3 seat constituencies. The preferences were relatively evenly divided.

The Commission recommendation is that the Kerry constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

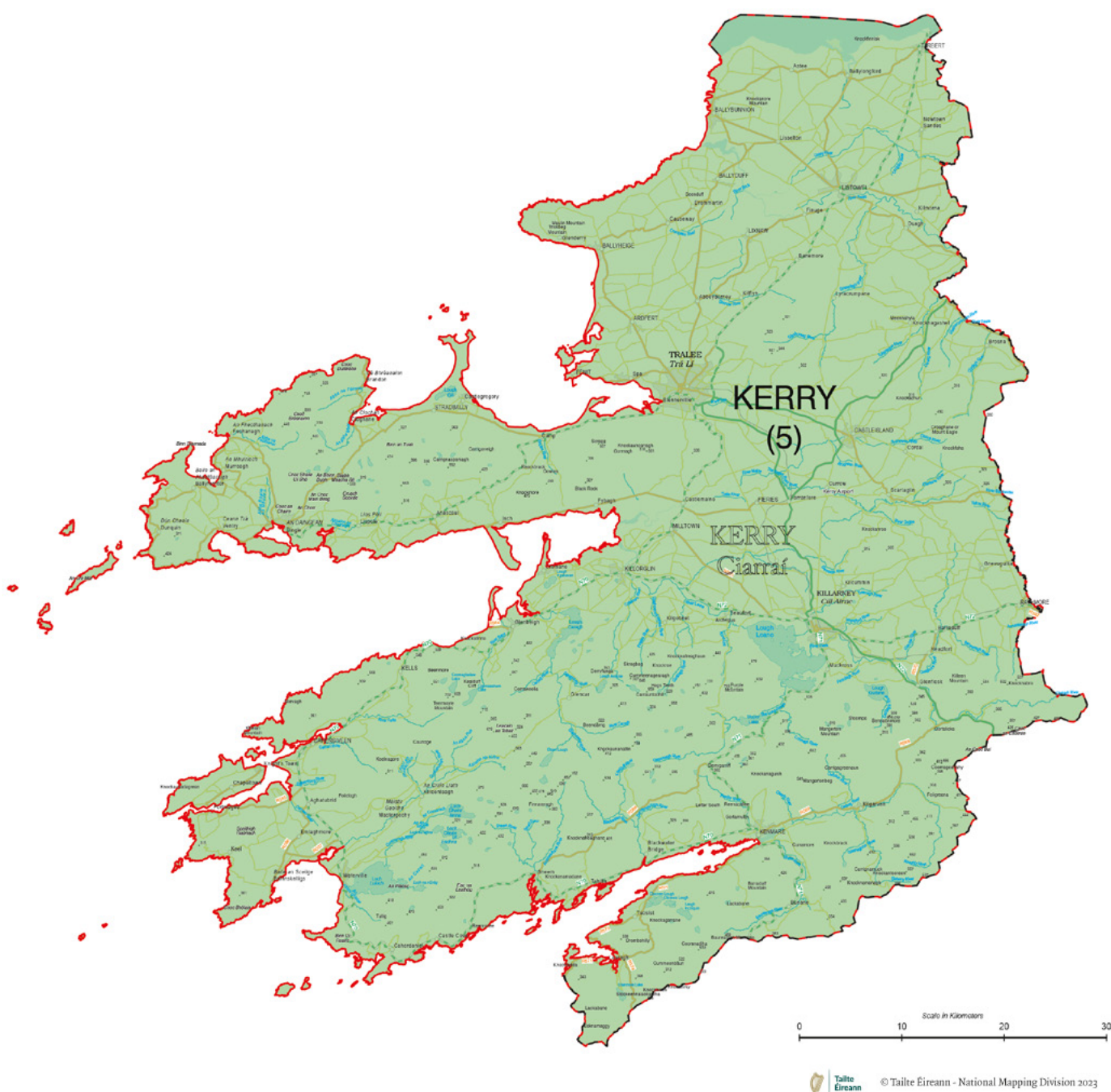
Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Clare	4	127,938	31,985	2,392	8.08
Limerick City	4	119,041	29,760	167	0.57
Limerick County	3	90,495	30,165	572	1.93
Kerry	5	156,458	31,292	1,699	5.74

MAP 16

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Kerry Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - - -





No SELFIES!

Polling Station
Ionad Votála

8.4 KILDARE, OFFALY, LAOIS, CARLOW, KILKENNY, TIPPERARY, WATERFORD, WICKLOW AND WEXFORD

The nine counties of Kildare, Offaly, Laois, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford, Wicklow and Wexford currently form eight constituencies - five of which are 5 seat constituencies - which elect 37 members to the Dáil.

The Commission recommends the allocation of four extra seats to constituencies in these counties, to bring the number of TDs up to 41.

The Commission recommends making changes to all the constituencies except the Waterford constituency. In total, there would be 11 constituencies instead of the current 8.

The existing 5 seat constituency of Laois-Offaly would be divided into two 3 seat constituencies - Laois and Offaly.

The existing 5 seat Tipperary constituency would also be divided into two 3 seat constituencies - Tipperary North and Tipperary South.

There would be a new 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency, while the existing 5 seat constituencies of Wexford and Wicklow would be changed to 4 seat constituencies.

A seat would be added to the constituency of Kildare North.

The Commission was in a position to recommend the resolution of the boundary breach of Co. Tipperary by the Limerick City constituency as well as the breaches of Co. Laois and Co. Offaly by the Kildare South constituency.

The Commission recommends one new county boundary breach in the western part of Co. Kilkenny by the new Tipperary North constituency.

The recommended new 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency would comprise of significant populations from both counties.

The Commission recommends:

- The allocation of an additional seat to the Kildare North constituency to be accompanied by the transfer of four EDs from Kildare South with a population of 4,135;
- The transfer of four EDs from the Kildare South constituency with a population of 10,510 to the newly formed Laois constituency;
- The transfer of the Portarlinton North ED from Kildare South with a population of 2,591 to the newly formed Offaly constituency;
- The transfer of 13 EDs, with a population of 6,431, to the newly formed Tipperary North constituency from the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency.

The Commission recommends a new 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency. In order to create this, one seat is taken from each of the existing Wexford and Wicklow constituencies, and one further seat added.

There would be two 5 seat constituencies – Carlow-Kilkenny and Kildare North; four 4 seat constituencies – Kildare South, Wicklow, Wexford and Waterford; and five 3 seat constituencies - Laois, Offaly, Tipperary North, Tipperary South and Wicklow-Wexford.

Constituency of Kildare North

8.4.1 KILDARE, OFFALY AND LAOIS

The Commission recommends that the Kildare North constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

Four EDs with a population of 4,135 from the constituency of Kildare South are recommended for transfer to the Kildare North constituency. These four EDs are located in the area around Naas.

This transfer, along with the population growth since 2016 in the Kildare North constituency, would leave the population of this constituency at 139,031 with a variance of -6.04%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency, made up of the north and north-eastern part of Co. Kildare.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency with the transfer of four EDs from Kildare South.

The Kildare North constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 134,896. Census 2022 showed the Kildare North constituency to be the second fastest growing constituency nationally, rising by 15,348 (12.8%) since 2016. It comprises the north-eastern part of Co. Kildare, and shares the remainder of Co. Kildare with the Kildare South constituency.

A consideration for the Commission in the Kildare North constituency was accommodating the large population increase of 15,348.

Submissions relating to the Kildare North constituency focused largely on calls for it to be allocated an additional seat and for population



transfers between the Kildare North and Kildare South constituencies.

The population of Co. Kildare as a whole is sufficient to be allocated an extra seat, bringing the overall total to nine. Given that the Kildare North constituency had the largest population increase, it is recommended to allocate the seat to it. This means that transfers required from the Kildare South constituency to the Kildare North constituency are minimised, allowing for good continuity.

Constituency of Kildare South

The Commission recommends that the Kildare South constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

Four EDs with a population of 4,135 are recommended for transfer to the Kildare North constituency, the Portarlington North ED with a population of 2,591 is recommended for transfer to the newly formed Offaly constituency, and four EDs with a population of 10,510 to the newly formed Laois constituency. The latter two transfers would remove the breaches of the county boundaries of Offaly and Laois by the Kildare South constituency.

The constituency of Kildare South would have a population of 108,743 with a variance of -8.13%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency, made up of the southern part of Co. Kildare along with one ED from Co. Offaly and four EDs from Co. Laois.	<p>Remains a 4 seat constituency, with the following transfers:</p> <p>Four EDs to the Kildare North constituency.</p> <p>Four EDs to the new Laois constituency;</p> <p>The Portarlington North ED to the new Offaly constituency.</p>

The Kildare South constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 125,979, an increase of 11,169 (9.7%) since 2016. The Kildare South constituency consists of the south of the county up to Ballymore Eustace in the east and beyond Carbury in the north-west. The



constituency currently includes the Portarlington North ED from Co. Offaly and four EDs from Co. Laois.

In relation to the Kildare South constituency, the Commission considered the county boundary breaches of Co. Offaly and Co. Laois.

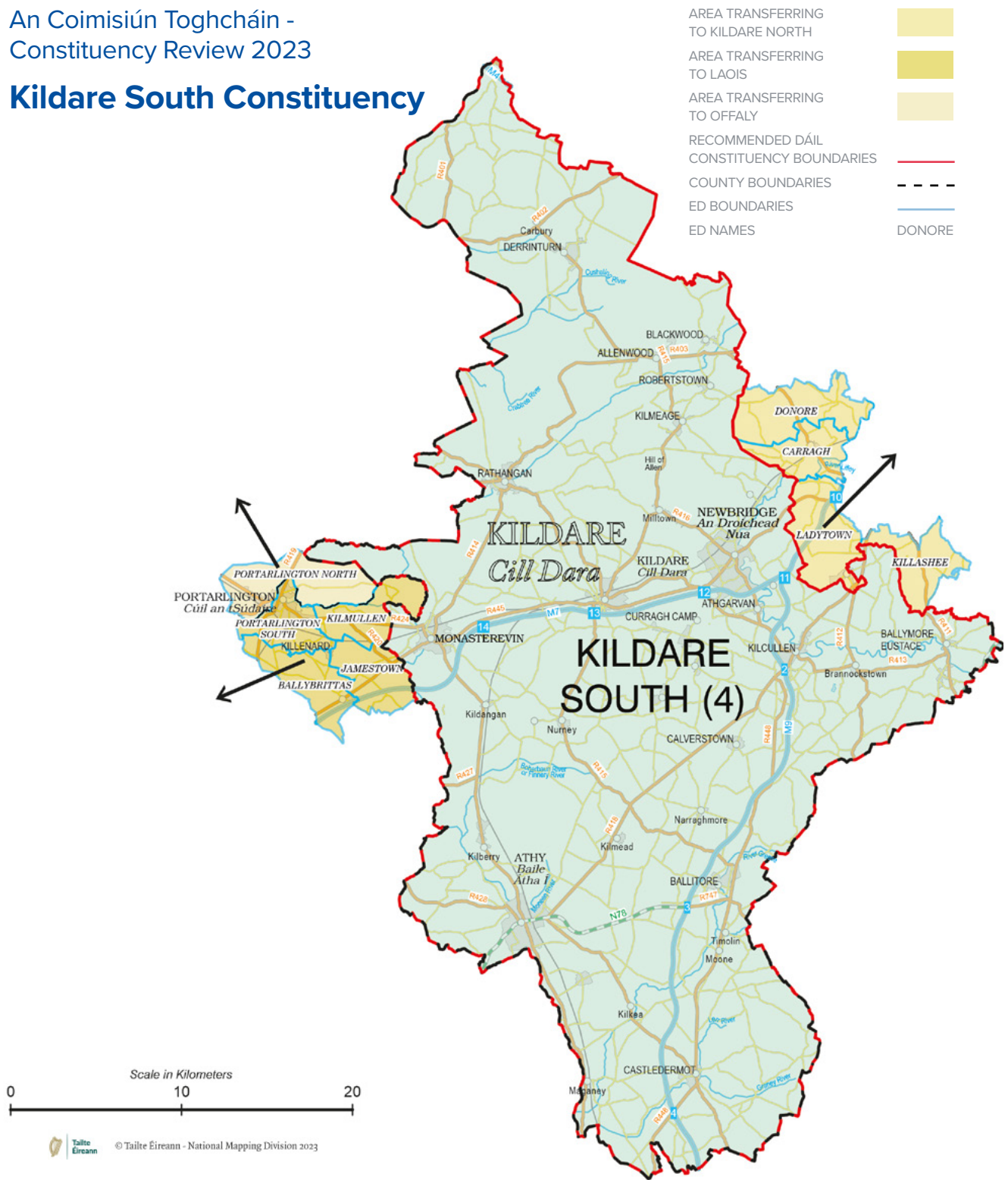
The submissions received focused on the breach in the county boundaries of Co. Offaly and Co. Laois, and proposed generally minor adjustments to the configuration of the boundary between the Kildare South and Kildare North constituencies.

Due to the population increase in the Kildare South constituency the Commission is able to recommend the transfers to the constituencies of Kildare North, Offaly and Laois, removing the boundary breaches of the counties of Laois and Offaly, while maintaining Kildare South as a 4 seat constituency.

MAP 18

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Kildare South Constituency



Constituency of Offaly

The Commission recommends that the 5 seat Laois-Offaly constituency be divided into two 3 seat constituencies. These would be the constituencies of Offaly and Laois, respectively.

The Commission recommends that the constituency of Offaly should align with the Co. Offaly boundary. This involves the transfer of the Portarlington North ED from the Kildare South constituency with a population of 2,591.

The Offaly constituency would have a population of 83,150 with a variance of -6.34%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of the counties of Laois and Offaly - except for four EDs in Laois and one ED from Offaly from the area around Portarlington that are in the Kildare South constituency.	A new 3 seat constituency to be formed consisting only of the county of Offaly.

The Laois-Offaly constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 161,926. It had a population growth of 11,122 (7.4%) since 2016. It covers the entire counties of Laois and Offaly, except for five EDs in the Portarlington area - one in Co. Offaly and four in Co. Laois - which are in the Kildare South constituency.

In relation to the Laois-Offaly constituency, the Commission considered the breach of county boundaries by the Kildare South constituency in the Portarlington area and the increase in population



of the constituency which meant that it could not remain a 5 seat constituency without substantial transfers out.

Submissions were mostly in favour of splitting the Laois-Offaly constituency into two 3 seat constituencies, primarily based on their respective county boundaries.

While some of the submissions called for the retention of the breach of county boundaries in and around the town of Portarlington, the Commission considered that removal of the breach would be the best approach.

The Commission considers the variance of -6.34% in the Offaly constituency to be acceptable in light of the fact that the Offaly constituency would align with its county boundary.

This would be the first time that the Offaly constituency would fully align with its county boundary.

MAP 19

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Offaly Constituency



Constituency of Laois

The Commission recommends that the 5 seat Laois-Offaly constituency should be divided into two 3 seat constituencies. These two would be the constituencies of Laois and Offaly, respectively.

The Commission recommends that the constituency of Laois should align with the boundary of Co. Laois. This involves the transfer of four EDs from the Kildare South constituency with a combined population of 10,510.

The Laois constituency would have a population of 91,877 with a variance of 3.49%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of the counties of Laois and Offaly - except for four EDs in Laois and one ED from Offaly from the area around Portarlington that are in the Kildare South constituency.	A new 3 seat constituency to be formed consisting only of the county of Laois.

The Laois-Offaly constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 161,926. It had a population growth of 11,122 (7.4%) since 2016.

It covers the entire counties of Laois and Offaly, except for five EDs in the Portarlington area - one in Co. Offaly and four in Co. Laois - which are in the Kildare South constituency.

In relation to Laois-Offaly, the Commission considered the breach of county boundaries with the Kildare South constituency in the Portarlington area and the increase in population of the constituency which meant that it could not remain a 5 seat constituency without substantial transfer out.

The submissions in relation to Laois-Offaly were mostly in favour of splitting the Laois-Offaly constituency into two 3 seat constituencies, primarily based on their respective county boundaries. Many of these submissions called for areas around Portarlington in Co. Laois to be transferred to the Offaly constituency.

The variance in the new 3 seat Laois constituency would be 3.49%.

This would be the first time that a Laois constituency fully aligns with its county boundary.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Kildare North	5	139,031	27,806	-1,787	-6.04
Kildare South	4	108,743	27,186	-2,407	-8.13
Offaly	3	83,150	27,717	-1,876	-6.34
Laois	3	91,877	30,626	1,033	3.49

MAP 20

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023
Laois Constituency

- AREA ADDED FROM KILDARE SOUTH
 - RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - COUNTY BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
- BALLYBRITTAS



Constituency of Carlow-Kilkenny

8.4.2 CARLOW, KILKENNY, TIPPERARY AND WATERFORD

The Commission recommends that the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends that 13 EDs with a population of 6,431 from the western part of Co. Kilkenny should be transferred to the newly formed Tipperary North constituency.

The Carlow-Kilkenny constituency would have a population of 159,697 with a variance of 7.93%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Carlow and Co. Kilkenny.	A 5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Carlow and Co. Kilkenny - except for 13 EDs in the western part of Co. Kilkenny which are transferred to the new Tipperary North constituency.

The Carlow-Kilkenny constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 166,128. The constituency's population grew by 9,964 (6.4%) since 2016. The Carlow-Kilkenny constituency is currently made up of the entire counties of Carlow and Kilkenny.

The increase in population was an important factor due to the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency already being a 5 seat constituency, the maximum seat size permitted.

Submissions for the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency included proposals to respect the county boundaries of Carlow and Kilkenny. Some submissions called for the county of Carlow to form the basis of a new constituency with transfers in from other counties, and the Commission did consider dividing the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency into two 3 seat constituencies based on their respective counties. However, Co. Carlow's population of 61,968 is insufficient to support a standalone constituency, and this approach would give rise to breaches of the boundaries of adjacent counties.

The Commission considered the current constituency population as requiring a change to its current form, and recommends the transfer of 13 EDs, with a population of 6,431, from the western part of Co. Kilkenny to the newly formed Tipperary North constituency. These EDs are in the general area of the town of Urlingford. This transfer allows for the constituency to remain otherwise unchanged with a relatively high variance of 7.93%.

The Commission, conscious of its approach to county boundaries generally, considered at some length a number of possible alternatives to reduce the extent of this variance. However, the Commission ultimately decided on this option to minimise the number of breaches of county boundaries in the area and to provide for the highest level of continuity.

The continuation of the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency maintains the historical electoral link between the two counties since 1948.

MAP 21

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Carlow-Kilkenny Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING TO
TIPPERARY NORTH
- RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
- COUNTY BOUNDARIES
- ED BOUNDARIES
- ED NAMES
- URLINGFORD



Constituency of Tipperary North

The Commission recommends that the 5 seat Tipperary constituency should be divided into two new 3 seat constituencies - Tipperary North and Tipperary South.

The Commission recommends that the Tipperary North constituency should consist of the northern half of Co. Tipperary along with 13 EDs from the western part of Co. Kilkenny with a combined population of 6,431.

The breach of the Co. Tipperary boundary by the Limerick City constituency is removed with the transfer into Tipperary North of three EDs with a population of 4,653.

The new Tipperary North constituency would have a population of 87,799 with a variance of -1.10%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Tipperary except for three EDs in the Limerick City constituency.	A new 3 seat constituency of Tipperary North Constituency formed with EDs from the northern part of Co. Tipperary and 13 EDs from western part of Co. Kilkenny.

The Tipperary constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 163,242 which has seen a population growth of 8,064 (5.2%) since 2016. The current constituency is made up of the county of Tipperary, except for three EDs which are in the Limerick City constituency.

In relation to the Tipperary constituency, the Commission considered the breach of the Co. Tipperary boundary by the Limerick City constituency and the increase of population.



The increase in population was an important factor due to the Tipperary constituency already being a 5 seat constituency, the maximum possible seat size.

The submissions received primarily concerned the integrity of the county's boundary, particularly the breach by the Limerick City constituency.

Submissions focused on having the entirety of Co. Tipperary accommodated within one or two Tipperary constituencies. There was also a widely held view that if a constituency split was to be proposed it should be on a north-south basis.

The Commission recommends the removal of the breach of the county boundary by the Limerick City constituency with the transfer of three Co. Tipperary EDs. However, it also recommends a new county boundary breach of Co. Kilkenny. This breach would involve the transfer of 13 EDs from western Kilkenny with a population of 6,431, the largest of which is the ED of Urlingford. This would serve to reduce the variance in the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency to an acceptable level.

The division of the Tipperary constituency into two constituencies - Tipperary North and Tipperary South – would be a return to a configuration similar to that prior to 2013.

MAP 22

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Tipperary North Constituency

- AREA ADDED FROM LIMERICK CITY
- AREA ADDED FROM CARLOW-KILKENNY
- RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
- COUNTY BOUNDARIES
- ED BOUNDARIES
- ED NAMES



Scale in Kilometers
0 10 20

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Constituency of Tipperary South

The Commission recommends that the 5 seat Tipperary constituency should be divided into two 3 seat constituencies. These would be the constituencies of Tipperary North and Tipperary South.

The Commission recommends that the Tipperary South constituency should consist of the southern part of Co. Tipperary.

The Tipperary South constituency would have a population of 86,527 with a variance of -2.54%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Tipperary - except for three EDs in the Limerick City constituency.	A new 3 seat constituency of Tipperary South formed exclusively of EDs in the southern part of Co. Tipperary.

The Tipperary constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 163,242 which had a population growth of 8,064 (5.2%) since 2016. The current constituency is made up of Co. Tipperary, except for three EDs which are in the Limerick City constituency.

In relation to the Tipperary constituency, the Commission considered the breach of the Co. Tipperary boundary by the constituency of Limerick City and the increase of population. The increase in population was an important factor due to the Tipperary constituency already being a 5 seat constituency, the maximum possible seat size.

The submissions received primarily concerned the integrity of the county's boundary - particularly



the breach by the Limerick City constituency. Submissions focused on having the entirety of Co. Tipperary accommodate one or two Tipperary constituencies. There was also a widely held view that if a constituency split was to be proposed it should be on a north-south basis.

The new 3 seat constituency of Tipperary South is made up entirely of EDs from Co. Tipperary. It would have a population of 86,527 with a variance of -2.54%.

MAP 23

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023

Tipperary South Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - - -



Scale in Kilometers
0 10 20

Constituency of Waterford

The Commission recommends that the Waterford constituency should remain unchanged as a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends no changes to the Waterford constituency and that it should remain fully aligned with the boundary of Co. Waterford.

The Waterford constituency would have a population of 127,363 with a variance of 7.60%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency consisting of Co. Waterford.	No changes recommended.

The Waterford constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 127,363. It aligns with the boundary of Co. Waterford, and has seen a population increase of 11,187 (9.6%) since 2016.

The Commission considered the increase in population and whether this population necessitated an extra seat. The Commission noted that the Waterford constituency does not have sufficient population to support an additional seat without significant transfers and one or more breaches of county boundaries.



A number of submissions called for areas of south Co. Kilkenny to be transferred to the Waterford constituency to justify the allocation of an additional seat.

The Commission decided to maintain the Waterford constituency as it is, mindful of the continuity of arrangements and the prevention of county boundary breaches.

This marks the third consecutive constituency review in which the boundary of the Waterford constituency would remain aligned with the Co. Waterford boundary.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Carlow-Kilkenny	5	159,697	31,939	2,347	7.93
Tipperary North	3	87,799	29,266	-326	-1.10
Tipperary South	3	86,527	28,842	-750	-2.54
Waterford	4	127,363	31,841	2,248	7.60

MAP 24

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Waterford Constituency

RECOMMENDED DÁIL
CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
COUNTY BOUNDARIES



Scale in Kilometers



8.4.3 WEXFORD AND WICKLOW

The Commission proposes an entirely new arrangement of the constituencies in the counties of Wexford and Wicklow. This stems from the fact that both constituencies are currently 5 seat constituencies.

For Wexford to remain a 5 seat constituency would have required significant transfers of population and a number of consequential county boundary breaches. Wexford also does not have sufficient population to support two 3 seat constituencies without significant transfers and a number of county boundary breaches.

The Commission noted that the combined populations of Co. Wicklow and Co. Wexford equated to almost exactly 11 seats. It also noted some submissions highlighted close ties between south Co. Wicklow and north Co. Wexford. In light of this the Commission examined, in detail, different variations of how these two constituencies could be divided to accommodate a third combined constituency.

The Commission recognises that its recommendation is a novel approach of merging sizeable parts of the two counties to create a new 'inter-county' constituency. However, it believes that it is appropriate to the specific and particular local circumstances.



Constituency of Wexford

The Commission recommends that the Wexford constituency should be a 4 seat constituency - a reduction of one seat. This seat would be transferred to the recommended Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of 41 EDs from the current Wexford constituency with a population of 49,743 to a new Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Wexford constituency would have a population of 114,176 with a variance of -3.54%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Wexford.	A 4 seat constituency consisting of Co. Wexford less 41 EDs in north Wexford, which transfer to the new Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Wexford constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 163,919. The Wexford constituency, which is fully aligned with Co. Wexford, has experienced a growth of population of 14,197 (9.5%) since 2016.

The Commission considered how best to cater for the increase in population and the resulting

high variance of 10.78% in what is already a 5 seat constituency.

There was a strong sentiment in submissions received against breaching Wexford's county boundaries. Some submissions called for Wexford to become two 3 seat constituencies with a north-south divide being the majority view. Some submissions also highlighted close links between the constituencies of north Wexford and south Wicklow.

The Commission considered that due to population increase the Wexford constituency could no longer remain a 5 seat constituency without significant transfers of population and consequent boundary breaches. Equally, it could not become two 3 seat constituencies without other transfers and county boundary breaches.

The Commission decided to examine the neighbouring constituencies of Wexford and Wicklow together, on the premise that the population of these two constituencies combined now justified the allocation of 11 seats between them.

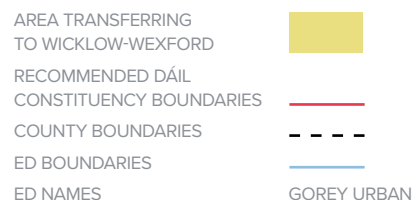
The Commission decided to recommend a 4 seat Wexford constituency aligned with a newly formed 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Wicklow	4	120,143	30,036	443	1.50
Wicklow-Wexford	3	85,451	28,484	-1,109	-3.75
Wexford	4	114,176	28,544	-1,049	-3.54

MAP 25

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Wexford Constituency



Constituency of Wicklow

The Commission recommends that the Wicklow constituency should become a 4 seat constituency - a reduction of one seat. This reduction partly facilitates the creation of a new Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of 31 EDs with a population of 35,708 from the south of the current Wicklow constituency to a new 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Wicklow constituency would have a population of 120,143 with a variance of 1.50%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency consisting of Co. Wicklow.	A 4 seat constituency consisting of Co. Wicklow - except 31 EDs in the southern part of Co. Wicklow, which transfer to a new Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

The Wicklow constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 155,851. The Wicklow constituency, which contains the entire county of Wicklow, experienced a growth of population of 13,426 (9.4%) since 2016. Retaining Wicklow as a 5 seat constituency would give it a variance of 5.33%.

Submissions provided varying perspectives. These included that the boundary of Co. Wicklow should not be breached, and that Wicklow constituency be split into two 3 seat constituencies, divided on a north-south basis given the profile of the county.

A key consideration with regard to the Wicklow constituency were issues regarding the adjacent



constituency of Wexford. The population of the Wexford constituency is too high to maintain its current 5 seat configuration. The variance would be 10.78%. However, Co. Wexford could not form two 3 seat constituencies within its county boundary. When various options were considered it became apparent that creating two 3 seat constituencies in Wexford would have resulted in the breaching of a number of county boundaries.

The Commission then examined the neighbouring constituencies of Wicklow and Wexford together on the basis that the population of these two constituencies combined justified an allocation of 11 seats. It considered a range of variations of how three Co. Wexford and Co. Wicklow constituencies could be configured.

The Commission recommends a new 4 seat Wicklow constituency aligned with a newly formed 3 seat Wicklow-Wexford constituency.

MAP 26

An Coimisiún Toghcháin -
Constituency Review 2023
Wicklow Constituency

- AREA TRANSFERRING TO WICKLOW-WEXFORD
 - RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - COUNTY BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
- RATHDRUM



Constituency of Wicklow-Wexford

The Commission recommends the formation of a new 3 seat constituency called Wicklow-Wexford.

This constituency should comprise 41 EDs with a population of 49,743 from north Wexford and 31 EDs with a population of 35,708 from south Wicklow.

The Wicklow-Wexford constituency would have a population of 85,451 with a variance of -3.75%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
This is a new constituency.	A new 3 seat constituency - comprising 41 EDs from north Wexford, and 31 EDs from south Wicklow.

As stated in the section on the constituencies of Wexford and Wicklow, the Commission found that the constituencies of Wexford and Wicklow had a combined population sufficient to justify the allocation of 11 seats.

The Commission, after extensive deliberations, therefore decided to create a new constituency called Wicklow-Wexford. It was decided to reduce the two 5 seat constituencies of Wicklow and Wexford by one seat each and allocated an additional seat to create this new 3 seat constituency.

Three constituencies are now contained in the counties of Wexford and Wicklow.



8.5 DUBLIN

Dublin currently has 11 constituencies that elect 45 TDs to the Dáil.

With a combined population of 1,458,154 the Dublin area as a whole should be allocated 49 TDs in a 174 member Dáil, an increase of 4. Maps for the Dublin constituencies can be found in a pocket inside the back cover of this publication.

The River Liffey forms a natural boundary in Dublin, dividing the constituencies in the north from those in the south of the area. It is recommended that four additional seats be divided equally between the north and south Dublin constituencies. This would bring the north Dublin area up to 23 TDs from 21 and the south Dublin area up to 26 TDs from 24.

The Commission recommends the splitting of the 5 seat Dublin Fingal constituency in order to create two new constituencies - Dublin Fingal West (3 seats) and Dublin Fingal East (3 seats).

The Commission recommends the following in Dublin:

- A 3 seat Dublin Fingal East and a 3 seat Dublin Fingal West constituency should replace the 5 seat Dublin Fingal constituency.
- 5,544 population of the ED of Balgriffin from the current Dublin Fingal constituency should be transferred to the Dublin Bay North constituency. 15,015 population of the parts of three EDs from the Dublin North-West constituency should be transferred to the newly formed Dublin Fingal West constituency.
- 12,674 population of three EDs from the Dublin Bay North constituency should be transferred to the Dublin North-West constituency.
- 2,284 population of parts of two EDs from the Dublin North-West constituency should be transferred to the Dublin West constituency.



- The population of the part of the single ED of Clondalkin-Monastery north of the M50, from the Dublin South-Central constituency be transferred to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.
- 10,733 population from parts of two EDs and all of three EDs from the Dublin South-Central constituency be transferred to the Dublin South-West constituency.
- 11,335 population of one ED from the Dublin South-West constituency be transferred to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.
- 12,407 population from part of one ED and all of three EDs from the Dún Laoghaire constituency be transferred to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency.

The Commission recommends one additional seat each to the constituencies of Dublin Mid-West, Dublin-Rathdown and Dublin West. The seats are in addition to the creation of two new constituencies, Dublin Fingal East (3 seats) and Dublin Fingal West (3 seats), which are created out of the existing 5 seat Dublin Fingal constituency.

There would be four 5 seat constituencies- Dublin Bay North, Dublin Mid-West, Dublin South-West and Dublin West; five 4 seat constituencies - Dublin Bay South, Dublin Central, Dublin South-Central, Dublin-Rathdown and Dún Laoghaire; and three 3 seat constituencies - Dublin North-West, Dublin Fingal East and Dublin Fingal West.

Constituency of Dublin Fingal West

The Commission recommends that the current 5 seat Dublin Fingal constituency should be divided into two constituencies, a 3 seat Dublin Fingal West constituency and a 3 seat Dublin Fingal East constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of parts of three EDs with a population of 15,015 from the Dublin North-West constituency to the Dublin Fingal West constituency. The Dublin Fingal West constituency would be fully contained within the local authority area of Fingal County Council.

The Dublin Fingal West constituency would have a population of 88,167 with a variance of -0.69%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency called Dublin Fingal.	<p>The creation of a new 3 seat Dublin Fingal West constituency with parts of three EDs from Dublin North-West.</p> <p>The Dublin Fingal West constituency would be contained within the Fingal County Council area.</p>

The Dublin Fingal constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 171,062. The constituency experienced a population growth of 18,976 (12.5%) since 2016 which made it the fastest growing constituency in Dublin by percentage, and the constituency with the largest absolute population growth nationally.

In relation to the Dublin Fingal constituency, the Commission considered how best to cater for



the large increase in population. As it is a 5 seat constituency already, there was no possibility of allocating an additional seat.

While several submissions called for the retention of the current Dublin Fingal constituency as a 5 seat constituency, many recognised the fact that the Dublin Fingal constituency has too large a population to remain as a 5 seat constituency. There were differences between submissions on how a split might be approached, but most were clear that the local authority boundaries should be considered and that the town of Swords should not be divided.

In the context of a rapidly growing population and a variance of 15.61%, the current Dublin Fingal constituency needed to change. The Commission opted for recommending the creation of two new constituencies of Dublin Fingal West and Dublin Fingal East. The Dublin Fingal West constituency would receive a transfer of population from the Dublin North-West constituency.

Constituency of Dublin Fingal East

The Commission recommends that the 5 seat Dublin Fingal constituency be divided into two constituencies, a 3 seat Dublin Fingal East constituency and a 3 seat Dublin Fingal West constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the ED of Balgriffin with a population of 5,544 to the Dublin Bay North constituency from the current Dublin Fingal constituency.

The Dublin Fingal East constituency would have a population of 92,366 with a variance of 4.04%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency called Dublin Fingal.	Two new constituencies with the allocation of one additional seat.
	A 3 seat Dublin Fingal West constituency with the transfer of parts of three EDs Dublin North West.
	A 3 seat constituency Dublin Fingal East.
	Both constituencies would be contained within the boundary of Fingal County Council.

The Dublin Fingal constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 171,062 and population growth of 18,976 (12.5%) since 2016, which made it the fastest growing constituency in Dublin by percentage, and the constituency with the largest absolute population growth nationally.



The Commission considered the significant population growth and that it is already a 5 seat constituency, the maximum permitted.

The Commission also considered whether it might be possible to align the constituencies in Co. Dublin to their respective local authorities, in this instance Fingal County Council.

While several submissions called for the retention of the current Dublin Fingal constituency as a 5 seat constituency, many recognised the fact that the population of the Fingal constituency is too big for a 5 seat constituency.

There were differences between submissions on how the division of the constituency might be approached. There was also a strong view voiced in submissions that the local authority boundaries should be adhered to and in particular that the town of Swords should not be divided between constituencies.

The Commission recommends the division of the existing constituency into two smaller Dublin Fingal constituencies including the creation of a new 3 seat Dublin Fingal East constituency.

Constituency of Dublin Bay North

The Commission recommends that the Dublin Bay North constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the Balgriffin ED with a population of 5,544 from the current Dublin Fingal constituency to Dublin Bay North and the transfer of three EDs with a population of 12,674 to the Dublin North-West constituency.

The Dublin Bay North constituency would have a population of 149,062 with a variance of 0.74%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency comprising areas of the Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council local authority areas.	A 5 seat constituency. Transfer in of the Balgriffin ED from the current Dublin Fingal constituency and the transfer out of three EDs to Dublin North-West.

The Dublin Bay North constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 156,192. The Dublin Bay North constituency experienced a population growth of 8,313 (5.6%) since 2016. It is currently located across two local authority areas.

The current Dublin Bay North constituency comprises an area within the Dublin City Council local authority area with a number of EDs from the Fingal County Council area, namely Baldoy, Howth and Sutton with a combined population of 22,284.

In relation to the Dublin Bay North constituency, the Commission considered the alignment of Dublin



constituencies to their respective local authority boundaries.

Submissions in relation to the Dublin Bay North constituency were varied. Some called for the preservation of Dublin Bay North as a 5 seat constituency within its current boundaries. Others sought a transfer of territory to Dublin North-West or transfers to a newly formed Fingal constituency. There was a view across a number of submissions for Dublin constituency boundaries to align with their respective local authority boundaries. However, in this instance, such a large transfer would have had considerable knock-on effects in neighbouring constituencies.

A transfer from Dublin Bay North to the Dublin North-West constituency of 12,674 is recommended. The Commission also recommends the transfer of the Balgriffin ED with a population of 5,544 from the current Dublin Fingal constituency to Dublin Bay North. These transfers would bring the Dublin Bay North variance to 0.74%.

Constituency of Dublin North-West

The Commission recommends that the Dublin North-West constituency should remain as a 3 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs with a population of 12,674 from Dublin Bay North to the Dublin North-West constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of parts of three EDs with a population of 15,015 to the newly formed Dublin Fingal West constituency, and parts of two EDs with a population of 2,284 to the Dublin West constituency.

The Dublin North-West constituency would have a population of 85,322 with a variance of -3.89%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency comprising areas in Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council areas.	Remains as a 3 seat constituency. Transfer of three EDs from Dublin Bay North, part of three EDs to Dublin Fingal West and part of two EDs to Dublin West.

The Dublin North-West constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 89,947. The Dublin North-West constituency population increased by 5,349 (6.3%) since 2016.

The Commission considered if it could align the Dublin constituencies to their respective local authority boundaries. The Dublin North West constituency is largely made up of areas within the Dublin City Council area, but also contains parts of five EDs in the Fingal County Council area.

A number of submissions specific to the Dublin North-West constituency called for it to become a 4 seat constituency. A number of submissions, more widely focused across Dublin, set out a general view that constituencies should be aligned with the different local authority boundaries.

The Commission recommends that the constituency should remain as a 3 seat constituency.

A transfer in to the Dublin North West constituency of three EDs with a population of 12,674 from Dublin Bay North is recommended. While parts of three EDs with a population of 15,015 are recommended for transfer out of the constituency to the new constituency of Dublin Fingal West, and parts of two EDs with a population of 2,284 are recommended for transfer out to the constituency of Dublin West.

The transfer in to Dublin North West of the three EDs from Dublin Bay North is required to balance the variances of both constituencies.

The transfers out of the constituency to Dublin Fingal West and to Dublin West would allow the constituency to be contained within the Dublin City Council area.

The Commission did consider alternatives including the possibility of allocating an additional seat. However, this was decided against as it would have required significant transfers of population.

Constituency of Dublin West

The Commission recommends that the Dublin West constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

The transfer of parts of two EDs with a population of 2,284 from the Dublin North-West constituency to the Dublin West constituency is recommended.

The Dublin West constituency would have a population of 137,360 with a variance of -7.17%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
4 seat constituency, largely comprising of Fingal County Council areas, with EDs from the Dublin City Council local authority area.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency. Parts of two EDs transferred from Dublin North-West.

The Dublin West constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 135,076. The Dublin West constituency population increased by 13,179 (10.8%) since 2016.

The Dublin West constituency is mostly made up of EDs in the Fingal County Council area - with some EDs from the Dublin City Council area. The Commission considered the large increase of population that the constituency experienced since 2016, and the alignment of the local authority boundaries.

A number of the submissions received called for the Navan Road/Ashtown area to be transferred to the Dublin Central constituency. There were also some calls for the Dublin West constituency to be allocated an additional seat - to become a 5 seat constituency.



The Commission considered that the variance of Dublin West is 14.1%, which is an unacceptably high figure. The transfer of a small population from Dublin North West of 2,284, consisting of parts of two EDs, would provide the constituency with sufficient population to support the allocation of an additional seat, making it a 5 seat constituency. It would also allow for maximum continuity and for aligning some of the constituency boundary with the Dublin City boundary.

Accordingly, the Commission recommends the transfer of parts of two EDs with a population of 2,284 from the Dublin North-West constituency.

Constituency of Dublin Central

The Commission recommends that the Dublin Central constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

The Dublin Central constituency would have a population of 127,302 with a variance of 7.54%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency, contained within the Dublin City Council local authority area.	Remains as a 4 constituency with no transfers in or out.

The Dublin Central constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 127,302. The Dublin Central constituency experienced a population growth of 13,537 (11.9%).

Submissions focused on whether the Navan Road/Ashtown area, currently in the Dublin West constituency, should transfer in to the Dublin Central constituency. As part of its consideration of the issue, the Commission reflected on the history of the Ashtown EDs and recommends no change to maintain continuity in the constituency.



Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Dublin Fingal West	3	88,167	29,389	-204	-0.69
Dublin Fingal East	3	92,366	30,789	1,196	4.04
Dublin Bay North	5	149,062	29,812	220	0.74
Dublin North-West	3	85,322	28,441	-1,152	-3.89
Dublin West	5	137,360	27,472	-2,121	-7.17
Dublin Central	4	127,302	31,826	2,233	7.54

Constituency of Dublin Bay South

The Commission recommends that the Dublin Bay-South constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer out of the Dublin Bay South of the ED of Kimmage C with a population of 3,738 to the Dublin South-Central constituency.

The Dublin Bay South constituency would have a population of 124,257 with a variance of 4.97%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency within the boundaries of Dublin City Council local authority area.	Remains as a 4 seat constituency. Transfer of the Kimmage C ED to the Dublin South-Central constituency.

The Dublin Bay South constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 127,995. The Dublin Bay South constituency experienced a population growth of 6,819 (5.6%) since 2016.

The Commission considered whether any changes were required as there was a relatively modest population growth and the constituency is contained within the Dublin City Council area.

The consideration of the Kimmage-Rathmines Local Electoral Area (currently split between Dublin Bay South and Dublin South-Central) was the only specific question raised by submissions, with differing views expressed in submissions as to its placement.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the Kimmage C ED with a population of 3,738 from



the Dublin Bay-South constituency to the Dublin South-Central constituency in order to improve the variance in each constituency while retaining a high level of continuity.

Constituency of Dublin South-Central

The Commission recommends that the Dublin South-Central constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Dublin South-Central constituency of the ED of Kimmage C with a population of 3,738 from the Dublin Bay South constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer out of the Dublin South-Central constituency of three EDs and parts of another two EDs with a combined population of 10,743 to the Dublin South West constituency.

The Commission also recommends the transfer of a part of the Clondalkin-Monastery ED from the Dublin South-Central constituency to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.

The Dublin South-Central constituency would have a population of 119,383 with a variance of 0.85%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency largely made up of EDs in the Dublin City Council area, with a relatively small part of it falling within the South Dublin County Council area.	Remain a 4 seat constituency. Transfer of the Kimmage C ED from Dublin Bay South. Transfer of three EDs and part of two EDs to the Dublin South-West constituency. Transfer of part of the Clondalkin-Monastery ED to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.



The Dublin South-Central constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 126,388. The population of the Dublin South-Central constituency increased by 6,919 (5.8%) since 2016.

The Commission considered aligning the constituency to a single local authority area - the constituency is made up of EDs in the Dublin City Council area with a small part falling within the South Dublin County Council area.

Submissions in relation to the Dublin South-Central constituency proposed various suggestions in relation the Kimmage-Rathmines Local Electoral Area. Some also proposed the transfer of population from the Dublin Mid-West constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs and part of two EDs to the Dublin South-West constituency and part of the Clondalkin-Monastery ED, to the north of the M50, to the Dublin Mid-West constituency. These transfers would mean the Dublin South-Central constituency would be entirely within the Dublin City Council area.

Constituency of Dublin Mid-West

The Commission recommends that the Dublin Mid-West constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Dublin Mid-West constituency of the ED of Tallaght-Fettercairn with a population of 11,335 from the Dublin South-West constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Dublin Mid-West constituency of part of the Clondalkin-Monastery ED from the Dublin South-Central constituency.

The Dublin Mid-West constituency would have a population of 142,140 with a variance of -3.94%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency contained within the South Dublin County Council local authority area.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency with the transfer of one ED from Dublin South-West constituency, and the transfer of a part of the Clondalkin-Monastery ED from the Dublin South-Central constituency.

The Dublin Mid-West constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 130,795. Its population grew by 12,819 (10.9%) since 2016.

The Commission had to consider whether this justified the allocation of an additional seat. There were calls in submissions for Dublin Mid-West to be allocated an additional seat.



Although the Dublin Mid-West constituency is already contained within the South Dublin County Council area, the consideration of local authority area boundaries led to transfer of part of an ED from Dublin South-Central.

The Commission decided to allocate the Dublin Mid-West constituency an additional seat, thus making it a 5 seat constituency. The transfers between the Dublin South-Central and Dublin Mid-West constituencies align each constituency within the respective local authority boundaries of South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council.

Constituency of Dublin South-West

The Commission recommends that the Dublin South-West constituency should remain as a 5 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer into the Dublin South-West constituency of three EDs and a part of another two EDs with a combined population of 10,733 from the Dublin South-Central constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer out of the constituency of the Tallaght-Fettercairn ED with a population of 11,335 to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.

The Dublin South-West constituency would have a population of 158,935 with a variance of 7.41%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 5 seat constituency located within the South Dublin County Council area.	Remains a 5 seat constituency. Transfer in of three EDs and parts of another two EDs from Dublin South-Central. Transfer out of the Tallaght-Fettercairn ED to the Dublin Mid-West constituency.

The Dublin South-West constituency is currently a 5 seat constituency with a population of 159,537. The population of the Dublin South-West constituency increased by 9,042 (6%) since 2016.

The Commission considered the large population of 159,537 and the fact that it was not possible to add a seat to the constituency as it was already a 5 seat constituency.



The Dublin South-West constituency is already contained within the South Dublin County Council area.

Submissions made a number of proposals for boundary revisions of the Dublin South-West constituency and proposals relating to areas of Saggart, Citywest, Rathfarnham and Greenhills.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs and part of two EDs from the Dublin South-Central constituency to the Dublin South-West constituency, which aligns the constituency with that of the South Dublin County Council area.

The transfer of the Tallaght-Fettercairn ED with a population of 11,335 from Dublin South-West to the Dublin Mid-West constituency improves the variances in both constituencies.

The Commission did consider alternative transfers for the Dublin South-West constituency. These included alternative EDs transferred to the Dublin Mid-West constituency and the retention of the Terenure-Cherryfield ED in the Dublin South-Central constituency. However, the Commission opted to transfer the Terenure-Cherryfield ED with a population of 2,229 to the Dublin South-West constituency since that would align the constituency boundaries with the local authority boundary.

Constituency of Dublin-Rathdown

The Commission recommends that the Dublin-Rathdown constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency of three EDs and a part of a fourth, to provide a combined transfer of population of 12,407 from the Dún Laoghaire constituency.

The Dublin-Rathdown constituency would have a population of 113,625 with a variance of -4.01%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency located within the Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council area.	Becomes a 4 seat constituency with the transfer of three EDs, and a part of the Glencullen ED from the constituency of Dún Laoghaire.

The Dublin-Rathdown constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 101,218. The population of the constituency grew by 8,281 (8.9%) since 2016.

The Commission considered how best to cater for the increase in population and whether this justified the allocation of an additional seat.

The Dublin-Rathdown and Dún Laoghaire constituencies are both entirely contained within the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council area. It was possible to recommend retaining this alignment by means of some limited transfers between the constituencies, and thus also having good continuity.



The small number of submissions specific to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency were largely in favour of allocating an additional seat to the constituency. Some of these submissions included proposed transfers of EDs from the Dún Laoghaire constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs and part of a fourth ED, with a combined population of 12,407, from the Dún Laoghaire constituency. This transfer, combined with the population increase since 2016, means that the Dublin-Rathdown constituency would have sufficient population to justify the allocation of an additional seat.

Constituency of Dún Laoghaire

The Commission recommends that the Dún Laoghaire constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer from this constituency of three EDs and a part of a fourth with a combined population of 12,407 to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency

The Dún Laoghaire constituency would have a population of 120,235 with a variance of 1.57%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency located within the Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council area.	Remains a 4 seat constituency. Transfer to Dublin-Rathdown constituency of three EDs and a part of another ED.

The Dún Laoghaire constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 132,642. The Dún Laoghaire constituency experienced a population growth of 7,561 (6%) since 2016.

The Commission considered that it was necessary to make some changes to the Dún Laoghaire

constituency since, although there has been comparatively modest population growth since 2016, the variance is now 12.06%.

The constituency is entirely located within the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council area.

Within the submissions received there were calls for the transfer of EDs from the Dún Laoghaire constituency to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency. There were also a number of submissions that called for the Dún Laoghaire constituency to be allocated an additional seat.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs and a part of a fourth ED with a combined population of 12,407 to the Dublin-Rathdown constituency. This transfer would allow for better variances in each of the constituencies. It brings the variance of the Dún Laoghaire constituency to 1.57%.

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Dublin Bay South	4	124,257	31,064	1,471	4.97
Dublin South-Central	4	119,383	29,846	253	0.85
Dublin Mid-West	5	142,140	28,428	-1,165	-3.94
Dublin South-West	5	158,935	31,787	2,194	7.41
Dublin-Rathdown	4	113,625	28,406	-1,187	-4.01
Dún Laoghaire	4	120,235	30,059	466	1.57



8.6 CORK

The County of Cork and its five constituencies currently elect 18 TDs to the Dáil.

With a population of 584,156, equivalent to an allocation of 19.74 seats in a 174 member Dáil, the Commission recommends the allocation of two extra TDs to the Cork constituencies to bring the number of TDs up to 20. Maps for the Cork constituencies can be found in a pocket inside the back cover of this publication.

The Commission recommends making changes to four of the five constituencies in Cork. The Cork South-West constituency remains unchanged.



The Commission considered issues of population density when recommending that two additional seats go to the Cork City constituencies. This approach allowed for minimising changes to existing constituencies in the county.

Since 2016 the population of Cork North Central increased by 7,631 (6.1%), Cork South-Central by 9,170 (7.5%), Cork North-West by 7,118 (8%), Cork East by 10,104 (8.3%) and Cork South-West by 7,265 (8.5%).

In the Cork constituencies the Commission recommends:

- 22,050 population of 12 EDs from the Cork North-Central constituency be transferred to the Cork South-Central constituency.
- 20,497 population of one ED from the Cork North-West constituency be transferred to the Cork North-Central constituency.
- 14,408 population of three EDs from the Cork East constituency be transferred to the Cork North-Central constituency.
- 2,944 population of two EDs from the Cork North-Central constituency be transferred to the Cork North-West constituency.
- 5,667 population of five EDs from the Cork East constituency be transferred to the Cork North-West constituency.

The Commission recommends that the constituencies of Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central be allocated one additional seat each - with both constituencies now becoming 5 seat constituencies with associated transfers.

As a result, in County Cork there would be two 5 seat constituencies - Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central; one 4 seat constituency - Cork East; and two 3 seat constituencies - Cork North-West and Cork South-West.

Constituency of Cork North-Central

The Commission recommends that the Cork North-Central constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Cork North-Central constituency of the ED of Ballincollig with a population of 20,497 from the Cork North-West constituency and three EDs, with a population of 14,408, from the Cork East constituency.

The Commission further recommends the transfer out of the Cork North-Central constituency of 12 EDs with a population of 22,050 to the Cork South-Central constituency and two EDs with a population of 2,944 to the Cork North-West constituency.

The Cork North-Central constituency would have a population of 142,378 and a variance of -3.78%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency with the transfer in of the Ballincollig ED from the Cork North-West constituency and three EDs from Cork East. Transfer out of the constituency of 12 EDs to Cork South-Central and two EDs to Cork North-West.

The Cork North-Central constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 132,467. The population of the Cork North-Central constituency increased by 7,631 (6.1%) since 2016.

The geographical element of the terms of reference was a key factor in the Commission's consideration of the two Cork City constituencies. The Commission considered the River Lee as a natural and clear boundary between Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central constituencies.

The Commission considered that EDs south of the River Lee currently in the Cork North Central Constituency should transfer to the recommended 5-seat Cork South-Central constituency.

The River Lee also runs along the northern part of the Ballincollig ED (population 20,497) which is located in the current Cork North-West constituency. Moving this ED to the Cork South-Central constituency was considered. However, this was rejected as it would have caused a variance in Cork South-Central that would have required a subsequent split of the Carrigaline area and transfers to the Cork South-West constituency. To maximise continuity in this area, the Commission decided against the transfer of the Ballincollig ED to the Cork South-Central constituency, in favour of its transfer to the other city constituency of Cork North-Central.

The transfer of the Ballincollig ED to the recommended 5-seat Cork North-Central constituency would still present a significant negative variance for Cork North-Central, therefore a further inward transfer would be necessary.

The commission recommends moving the Mallow rural and urban EDs in the Cork East constituency to the Cork North-Central constituency.

Constituency of Cork North-Central *Continued*

The ED of Ballincollig with a population of 20,497 transfers from the Cork North-West constituency, and three EDs in the Mallow area with a population of 14,408 transfer from Cork East.

The Commission recommends the transfer of 12 EDs with a combined population of 22,050 from the Cork North-Central constituency to the Cork South-Central constituency. This transfer means that the River Lee is now the border between the

two constituencies - with the exception of the ED of Ballincollig.

The increase in population of the constituency following these four transfers would be 10,453 which, in addition to the population increase since 2016, means that its population would require the allocation of an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency with a variance of -3.78%.



Constituency of Cork South-Central

The Commission recommends that the Cork South-Central constituency should be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

The transfer into the Cork South-Central constituency of 12 EDs with a population of 22,050 from the Cork North-Central constituency is recommended.

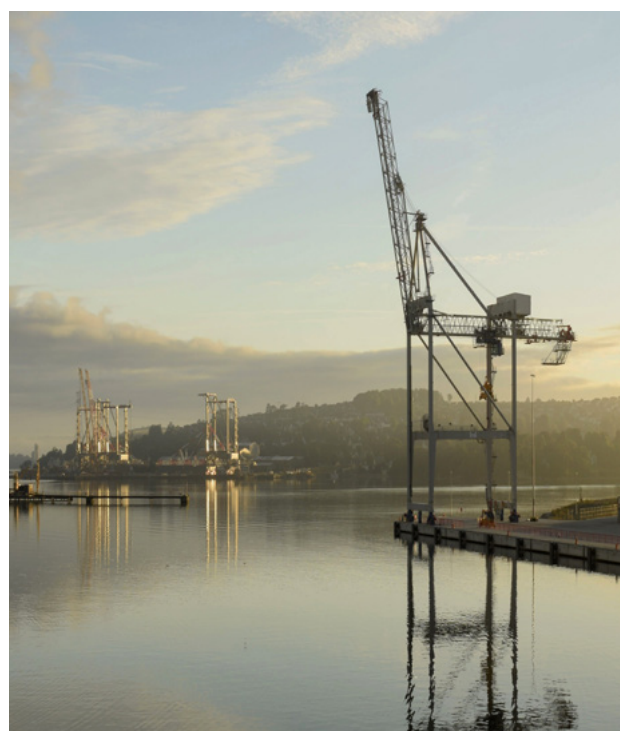
The Cork South-Central constituency would have a population of 153,441 with a variance of 3.70%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency.	Becomes a 5 seat constituency with the transfer of 12 EDs from the Cork North-Central constituency.

The Cork South-Central constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 131,931. The population increased by 9,170 (7.5%) since 2016.

As set out in the discussion of the Cork North-Central Constituency, the Commission in its considerations noted the River Lee as a natural and desirable geographic boundary between the two central constituencies.

The Commission considered that EDs south of the River Lee, currently part of the Cork North-Central Constituency, should be transferred to the recommended 5-seat Cork South-Central constituency. The Commission therefore recommends the transfer of 12 EDs, including Bishopstown, with a combined population of 22,050 to the Cork South-Central constituency.



This transfer, combined with the population growth since 2016, requires Cork South-Central constituency be allocated an additional seat to become a 5 seat constituency.

Submissions received centred on Ballincollig, Bishopstown, and setting the constituency boundary at the River Lee. There were calls for the ED of Ballincollig, currently in the Cork North-West constituency, to transfer to either the Cork South-Central or Cork North-Central constituencies.

The Commission did consider alternatives including dividing the Cork South-Central constituency with the creation of a new constituency. However, this was rejected due to considerations of continuity and the impact it would have on surrounding constituencies.

Constituency of Cork East

The Commission recommends that the Cork East constituency should remain as a 4 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs with a population of 14,408 out of the Cork East constituency to the Cork North-Central constituency, and five EDs with a population of 5,667 to the Cork North-West constituency.

The Cork East constituency would have a population of 111,458 with a variance of -5.84%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 4 seat constituency.	Remains a 4 seat constituency. Transfer of three EDs to Cork North-Central and five EDs to Cork North-West.

The Cork East constituency is currently a 4 seat constituency with a population of 131,533. The population of the constituency has increased by 10,104 (8.3%) since 2016.

Submissions directly related to the Cork East constituency called for the allocation of an additional seat to the constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfers from the Cork East constituency to the Cork North-Central and Cork North-West constituencies to reduce the Cork East variance to -5.84%. Therefore, the addition of a seat to this constituency would have necessitated considerable transfers and precluded other changes proposed in submissions.



The Commission recommends the transfer of three EDs with a population of 14,408 to the Cork North-Central constituency, and five EDs with a population of 5,667 to the Cork North-West constituency. Cork East remains a 4 seat constituency with a variance of -5.84%.

Constituency of Cork North-West

The Commission recommends that the Cork North-West constituency should remain as a 3 seat constituency.

The Commission recommends the transfer to the Cork North-West constituency of five EDs with a population of 5,667 from the Cork East constituency, and the transfer of two EDs with a population of 2,944 from the Cork North-Central constituency.

The Commission also recommends the transfer out of the constituency of the Ballincollig ED with a population of 20,497.

The Cork North-West constituency would have a population of 84,312 and a variance of -5.03%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency.	Remains a 3 seat constituency. Transfer in of five EDs from Cork East and two EDs from Cork North-Central. Transfer out of the Ballincollig ED to Cork North-Central.

The Cork North-West constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 96,198. The population of the constituency has increased by 7,118 (8%) since 2016.

The Commission recommends the transfer of the Ballincollig ED from Cork North-West to Cork North-Central. That represents a relatively large cohort of population. Therefore, two EDs are recommended to transfer back from the Cork North-Central constituency to the Cork North-West constituency.



The Commission also recommends the transfer of five EDs from Cork East to Cork North-West. After these transfers the Cork North-West constituency would have a variance of -5.03%.

Submissions made a number of different proposals for the Cork North-West constituency. These included calls for the transfer of the ED of Ballincollig into either the Cork North-Central or the Cork South-Central constituencies. There were also calls for the transfer of individual EDs from the Cork North-West constituency to the Cork South-West constituency.

The Commission considered alternatives for the Cork North-West constituency, including sizeable transfers of population to and from the constituencies of Cork South-West and Cork East. However, the Commission decided that the recommended transfers allow for the greatest level of continuity.

Constituency of Cork South-West

The Commission recommends that the Cork South-West constituency should remain unchanged as a 3 seat constituency.

The Cork South-West constituency would have a population of 92,567 with a variance of 4.27%.

Current configuration	Recommended configuration
A 3 seat constituency.	Remains unchanged as a 3 seat constituency.

The Cork South-West constituency is currently a 3 seat constituency with a population of 92,567. The population has increased by 7,265 (8.5%) since 2016.

The Commission considered that the current Cork South-West constituency has a variance of 4.27%. While several submissions proposed moving EDs from the southern part of the Cork North-West constituency to the Cork South-West constituency, the Commission considered that transferring these EDs to the Cork South-West constituency would have consequences for continuity and seat distribution. The Commission therefore recommends that the Cork South-West constituency should remain unchanged.



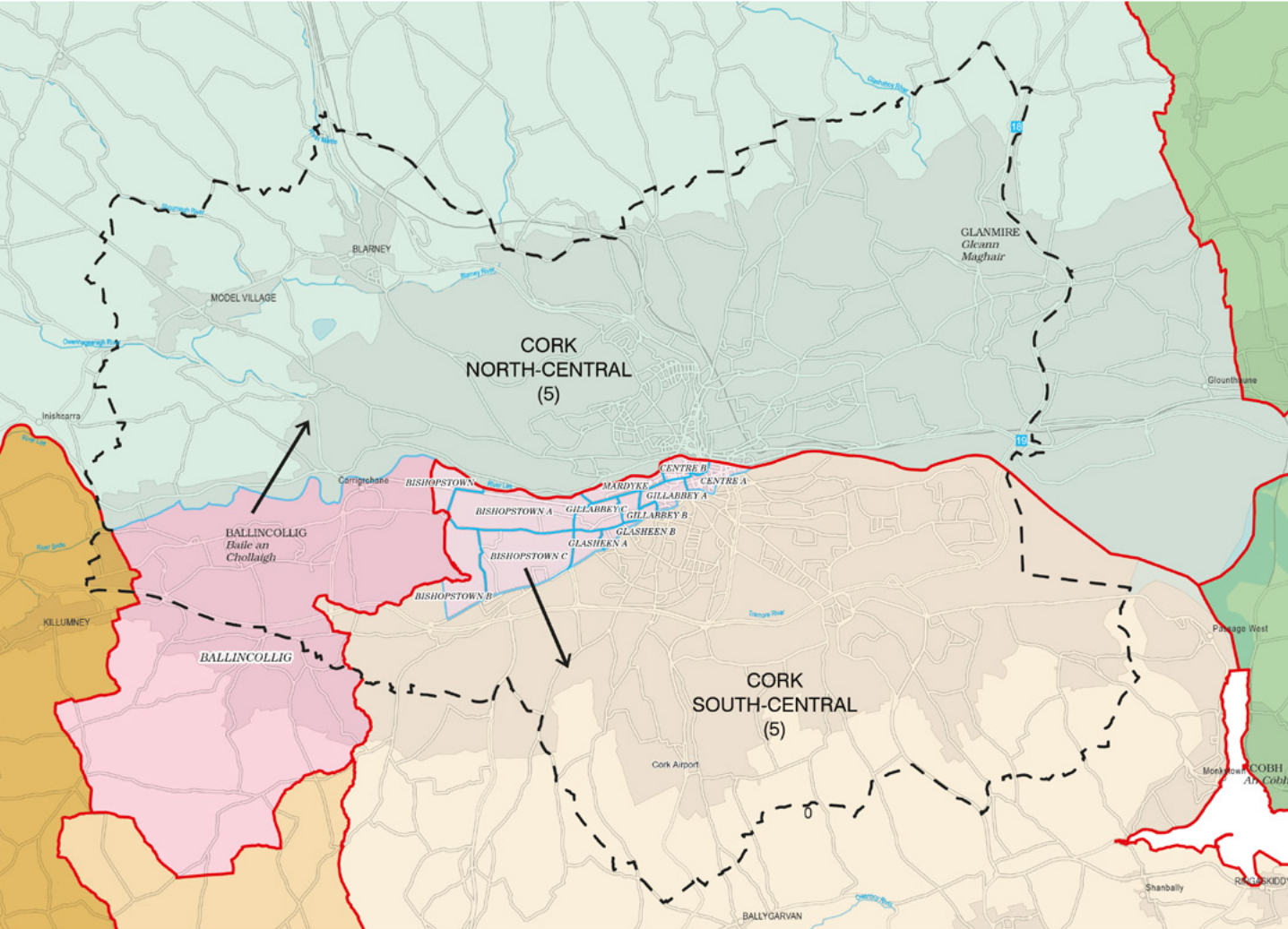
Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	Variance from National Average Population per TD in a 174 member Dáil	
				Number	%
Cork North-Central	5	142,378	28,476	-1,117	-3.78
Cork South-Central	5	153,441	30,688	1,095	3.70
Cork East	4	111,458	27,865	-1,728	-5.84
Cork North-West	3	84,312	28,104	-1,489	-5.03
Cork South-West	3	92,567	30,856	1,263	4.27

MAP 28

An Coimisiún Toghcháin - Constituency Review 2023

Cork City Constituencies

- AREA ADDED FROM CORK NORTH-WEST
 - AREA ADDED FROM CORK NORTH-CENTRAL
 - RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
 - ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES
 - ED BOUNDARIES
 - ED NAMES
- BISHOPSTOWN C



Appendices

Appendix 1

SPECIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

Existing Dáil constituencies are specified in the Electoral (Amendment)(Dáil Constituencies) Act 2017 (No. 39 of 2017)

<p>Carlow Kilkenny – 5 members</p> <p>The county of Carlow; and the county of Kilkenny except the parts thereof which are comprised in the constituency of Tipperary North.</p>
<p>Cavan-Monaghan – 5 Members</p> <p>The county of Cavan and the county of Monaghan.</p>
<p>Clare – 4 Members</p> <p>The county of Clare.</p>
<p>Cork East – 4 Members</p> <p>In the county of Cork, the electoral divisions of:</p> <p>Cobh Rural, Knockraha, in the former <i>Rural District of Cork</i>;</p> <p>Aghern, Ballyhooly, Ballynoe, Castlecooke, Castle Hyde, Castletyons, Castletownroche, Coole, Curraglass, Fermoy Rural, Glanworth East, Glanworth West, Gortnaskehly, Gortroe, Kilcor, Kilcummer, Killathy, Kilworth, Knockmourne, Leitrim, Rathcormack, in the former <i>Rural District of Fermoy</i>;</p> <p>Carrig, Clenor, Monanimy, Shanballymore, Skahanagh, Wallstown, in the former <i>Rural District of Mallow</i>;</p> <p>Ballintemple, Ballycottin, Ballyspillane, Carrigtohill, Castlemartyr, Clonmult, Cloyne, Corkbeg, Dangan, Dungourney, Garryvoe, Ightermurragh, Inch, Lisgoold, Middleton Rural, Mogeely, Rostellan, Templebodan, Templenacarriga, in the former <i>Rural District of Middleton</i>;</p> <p>Ballyarthur, Derryvillane, Farahy, Kildorrery, Kilgullane, Kilphelan, Marshalstown, Mitchelstown, Templemolaga, in the former <i>Rural District of Mitchelstown No. 1</i>;</p> <p>Ardagh, Clonpriest, Kilcronat, Killeagh, Kilmacdonogh, Youghal Rural, in the former <i>Rural District of Youghal No. 1</i>; and Cobh Urban, Fermoy Urban, Middleton Urban and Youghal Urban.</p>
<p>Cork North-Central – 5 Members</p> <p>In the city of Cork, the electoral divisions of:</p> <p>Blackpool A, Blackpool B, Churchfield, Commons, Fair Hill A, Fair Hill B, Fair Hill C, Farranferris A, Farranferris B, Farranferris C, Gurranebraher A, Gurranebraher B, Gurranebraher C, Gurranebraher D, Gurranebraher E, Knocknaheeny, Mayfield, Montenotte A, Montenotte B, St. Mary's, St. Patrick's A, St. Patrick's B, St. Patrick's C, Shanakiel, Shandon A, Shandon B, Sunday's Well A, Sunday's Well B, The Glen A, The Glen B, Tivoli A, Tivoli B;</p> <p>and those parts that are contained within the city of Cork of the electoral divisions of;</p> <p>Ballincollig, Blarney, Caherlag, Carrigrohanebeg, Matehy, Rathcooney, Riverstown, Whitechurch;</p> <p>and, in the county of Cork, the electoral divisions of:</p> <p>Ballynaglogh, Blackpool, Carrignavar, Firmount, Glenville, Greenfort, Killeagh, Knockantota, in the former <i>Rural District of Cork</i>;</p> <p>and those parts that are contained within the county of Cork of the electoral divisions of;</p> <p>Ballincollig, Blarney, Caherlag, Carrigrohanebeg, Matehy, Rathcooney, Riverstown, Whitechurch, in the former <i>Rural District of Cork</i>;</p> <p>Carrig, Kildinan, Watergrasshill, in the former <i>Rural District of Fermoy</i>;</p> <p>Ballynamona, Mallow Rural, Rahan in the former <i>Rural District of Mallow</i>;</p> <p>and Mallow North Urban, Mallow South Urban.</p>

Cork North-West – 3 Members

In the county of Cork, the electoral divisions of:

Ballygroman, Ballymurphy, Bengour, Brinny, Kilbonane, Knockavilly, Moviddy, Murragh, Teadies, Templemartin, in the former *Rural District of Bandon*;

Dripsey, in the former *Rural District of Cork*;

and that part that is contained within the County of Cork of the electoral division of;

Ovens in the former *Rural District of Cork*;

Aultagh, Bealock, Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh, Carrigboy, Castletown, Coolmountain, Garrown, Kinneigh, Manch, Teerelton, in the former *Rural District of Dunmanway*;

Allow, Ballyhoolahan, Banteer, Barleyhill, Barnacurra, Bawncross, Boherboy, Castlecarr, Castlemagner, Clonfert East, Clonfert West, Clonmeen, Coolclogh, Dromina, Glenlara, Gortmore, Greenane, Kanturk, Kilbrin, Kilmeen, Knockatooan, Knocktemple, Meens, Milford, Nad, Newmarket, Newtown, Roskeen, Rosnalee, Rows, Tincoora, Tullylease, Williamstown, in the former *Rural District of Kanturk*;

Aghinagh, Aglish, An Sliabh Riabhach, Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh, Cannaway, Ceann Droma, Cill na Martra, Claonráth, Clondrohid, Clonmoyle, Doire Fhínnín, Gort na Tiobhratan, Gowlane, Greenville, Inchigeelagh, Kilberriher, Kilcullen, Macloneigh, Magourney, Mashanaglass, Mountrivers, Na hUláin, Rahalisk, Warrenscourt, in the former *Rural District of Macroom*;

Ardskeagh, Ballyclogh, Buttevant, Caherduggan, Churchtown, Doneraile, Dromore, Imphrick, Kilmaclenine, Kilshannig, Liscarroll, Milltown, Rathluirc, Springfort, Streamhill, Templemarty, in the former *Rural District of Mallow*;

Caherbarnagh, Coomlogane, Crinnaloo, Cullen, Derragh, Doonasleen, Drishane, Keale, Kilcorney, Knocknagree, Rathcool, Skagh, in the former *Rural District of Millstreet*;

and Macroom Urban;

and in the City of Cork, that part that is contained within the City of Cork of the electoral division of;

Ovens.

Cork South-Central – 5 Members

The city of Cork, except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Cork North-Central;

and, in the county of Cork, the electoral divisions of:

Carrigaline, Monkstown Urban in the former *Rural District of Cork*;

and those parts contained in the county of Cork of the electoral divisions of;

Ballygarvan, Douglas, Inishkenny, Monkstown Rural, in the former Rural District of Cork; Carrigaline, Kilpatrick, Liscleary, Templebreedy, in the former *Rural District of Kinsale*.

Cork South-West – 3 Members

The county of Cork, except the parts thereof which are comprised in the constituencies of Cork East, Cork North Central, Cork North-West and Cork South-Central.

Donegal – 5 Members

The county of Donegal, except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Sligo-Leitrim.

Dublin Bay North – 5 Members

In the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Ayrfield, Beaumont C, Beaumont D, Beaumont E, Clontarf East A, Clontarf East B, Clontarf East C, Clontarf East D, Clontarf East E, Clontarf West A, Clontarf West B, Clontarf West C, Clontarf West D, Clontarf West E, Edenmore, Grace Park, Grange A, Grange B, Grange C, Grange D, Grange E, Harmonstown A, Harmonstown B, Kilmore B, Kilmore C, Kilmore D, Priorswood A, Priorswood B, Priorswood C, Priorswood D, Priorswood E, Raheny-Foxfield, Raheny-Greendale, Raheny-St. Assam;

and, in the county of Fingal, the electoral divisions of:

Baldoye, Balgriffin, Howth, Sutton.

Dublin Bay South – 4 Members

In the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Mansion House A, Mansion House B, Pembroke East A, Pembroke East B, Pembroke East C, Pembroke East D, Pembroke East E, Pembroke West A, Pembroke West B, Pembroke West C, Rathfarnham, Rathmines East A, Rathmines East B, Rathmines East C, Rathmines East D, Rathmines West A, Rathmines West B, Rathmines West C, Rathmines West D, Rathmines West E, Rathmines West F, Royal Exchange A, Royal Exchange B, St. Kevin's, South Dock, Terenure A, Terenure B, Terenure C, Terenure D, Wood Quay A, Wood Quay B.

Dublin Central – 4 Members

In the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Arran Quay A, Arran Quay B, Arran Quay C, Arran Quay D, Arran Quay E, Ballybough A, Ballybough B, Botanic A, Botanic B, Botanic C, Cabra East A, Cabra East B, Cabra East C, Cabra West A, Cabra West B, Cabra West C, Cabra West D, Drumcondra South A, Drumcondra South B, Drumcondra South C, Inns Quay A, Inns Quay B, Inns Quay C, Mountjoy A, Mountjoy B, North City, North Dock A, North Dock B, North Dock C, Rotunda A, Rotunda B.

Dublin Fingal East – 3 Members

In the county of Fingal, the electoral divisions of:

Donabate, Kinsaley, Malahide East, Malahide West, Portmarnock North, Portmarnock South, Swords-Forrest, Swords-Glasmore, Swords-Lissenhall, Swords-Seatown, Swords Village.

Dublin Fingal West – 3 Members

In the county of Fingal, the electoral divisions of:

Airport, Balbriggan Rural, Balbriggan Urban, Ballyboghil, Balscadden, Clonmethan, Dubber, Garristown, Hollywood, Holmpatrick, Kilsallaghan, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Turnapin.

Dublin Mid-West – 5 Members

In the county of South Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Clondalkin-Cappaghmore, Clondalkin-Dunawley, Clondalkin-Monastery, Clondalkin-Moorfield, Clondalkin-Rowlagh, Clondalkin Village, Lucan-Esker, Lucan Heights, Lucan-St. Helens, Newcastle, Palmerston Village, Palmerston West, Rathcoole, Saggart, Tallaght-Fettercairn.

Dublin North-West – 3 Members

In the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Ballygall A, Ballygall B, Ballygall C, Ballygall D, Ballymun A, Ballymun B, Ballymun C, Ballymun D, Ballymun E, Ballymun F, Beaumont A, Beaumont B, Beaumont F, Finglas North A, Finglas North B, Finglas North C, Finglas South A, Finglas South B, Finglas South C, Finglas South D, Kilmore A, Whitehall A, Whitehall B, Whitehall C, Whitehall D.

Dublin Rathdown – 4 Members

In the county of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, the electoral divisions of:

Ballinteer-Broadford, Ballinteer-Ludford, Ballinteer-Marley, Ballinteer-Meadowbroads, Ballinteer-Meadowmount, Ballinteer-Woodpark, Churchtown-Castle, Churchtown-Landscape, Churchtown-Nutgrove, Churchtown-Orwell, Churchtown-Woodlawn, Clonskeagh-Belfield, Clonskeagh-Farranboley, Clonskeagh-Milltown, Clonskeagh-Roebeck, Clonskeagh-Windy Arbour, Dundrum-Balally, Dundrum-Kilmacud, Dundrum-Sandyford, Dundrum-Sweetmount, Dundrum-Taney, Foxrock-Carrickmines, Foxrock-Torquay, Glencullen, Stillorgan-Deerpark, Stillorgan-Kilmacud, Stillorgan-Leopardstown, Stillorgan-Merville, Stillorgan-Mount Merrion, Tibbradden.

Dublin South-Central – 4 Members

In the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Carna, Chapelizod, Cherry-Orchard A, Cherry-Orchard C, Crumlin A, Crumlin B, Crumlin C, Crumlin D, Crumlin E, Crumlin F, Decies, Drumfinn, Inchicore A, Inchicore B, Kilmainham A, Kilmainham B, Kilmainham C, Kimmage A, Kimmage B, Kimmage C, Kimmage D, Kimmage E, Kylemore, Merchants Quay A, Merchants Quay B, Merchants Quay C, Merchants Quay D, Merchants Quay E, Merchants Quay F, Ushers A, Ushers B, Ushers C, Ushers D, Ushers E, Ushers F, Walkinstown A, Walkinstown B, Walkinstown C;

and that part of the electoral division of Phoenix Park situated south of a line drawn along Chapelizod Road, Conyngham Road and Parkgate Street.

Dublin South-West – 5 Members

In the county of South Dublin, the electoral divisions of:

Ballinascorney, Ballyboden, Bohernabreena, Clondalkin-Ballymount, Edmondstown, Firhouse-Ballycullen, Firhouse-Knocklyon, Firhouse Village, Rathfarnham-Ballyroan, Rathfarnham-Butterfield, Rathfarnham-Hermitage, Rathfarnham-St. Enda's, Rathfarnham Village, Tallaght-Avonbeg, Tallaght-Belgard, Tallaght-Glenview, Tallaght-Jobstown, Tallaght-Killinardan, Tallaght-Kilnamanagh, Tallaght-Kiltipper, Tallaght-Kingswood, Tallaght-Millbrook, Tallaght-Oldbawn, Tallaght-Springfield, Tallaght-Tymon, Templeogue-Cypress, Templeogue-Kimmage Manor, Templeogue-Limekiln, Templeogue-Orwell, Templeogue-Osprey, Templeogue-Village, Terenure-Cherryfield, Terenure-Greentrees, Terenure-St. James.

Dublin West – 5 Members

In the county of Fingal, the electoral divisions of:

Blanchardstown-Abbotstown, Blanchardstown-Blakestown, Blanchardstown-Coolmine, Blanchardstown-Corduff, Blanchardstown-Delwood, Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown-Roselawn, Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown, Castleknock-Knockmaroon, Castleknock-Park, Lucan North, The Ward; and, in the city of Dublin, the electoral divisions of: Ashtown A, Ashtown B; and that part of the electoral division of Phoenix Park situated north of a line drawn along Chapelizod Road, Conyngham Road and Parkgate Street.

Dún Laoghaire – 4 Members

In the county of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, the electoral divisions of:

Ballybrack, Blackrock-Booterstown, Blackrock-Carysfort, Blackrock-Central, Blackrock-Glenomena, Blackrock-Monkstown, Blackrock-Newpark, Blackrock-Seapoint, Blackrock-Stradbroom, Blackrock-Templehill, Blackrock-Williamstown, Cabinteely-Granitefield, Cabinteely-Kilbogget, Cabinteely-Loughlinstown, Cabinteely-Pottery, Dalkey-Avondale, Dalkey-Bullock, Dalkey-Coliemore, Dalkey Hill, Dalkey Upper, Dún Laoghaire-East Central, Dún Laoghaire-Glasthule, Dún Laoghaire-Glenageary, Dún Laoghaire-Monkstown Farm, Dún Laoghaire-Mount Town, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin East, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin South, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin West, Dún Laoghaire-Salthill, Dún Laoghaire-Sandycove, Dún Laoghaire-West Central, Foxrock-Beechpark, Foxrock-Deansgrange, Killiney North, Killiney South, Shankill-Rathmichael, Shankill-Rathsallagh, Shankill-Shanganagh, Stillorgan-Priory.

Galway East – 4 Members

In the county of Galway, the electoral divisions of:

Abbeygormacan, Aughrim, Ballymacward, Clonfert, Clontuskert, Kilconnell, Killaan, Killallaghtan, Killoran, Kilmacshane, Kiltormer, Laurecetown, Oatfield in the former *Rural District of Ballinasloe*;

Aughrim, Belleville, Deerpark, Stradbally in the former *Rural District of Galway*;

Ardamullivan, Ardahan, Ballycahalan, Beagh, Cahernmore, Cappard, Castletaylor, Doorus, Drumacoo, Gort, Kilbeacanty, Killeely, Killeenavarra, Killinny, Kiltartan, Kilthomas, Kinvarra, Rahasane, Skehanagh, in the former *Rural District of Gort*;

Ballinastack, Boyounagh, Curraghmore, Glennamaddy, Kiltullagh, Raheen, Scregg, Shankill, Templetogether in the former *Rural District of Glennamaddy*;

Aille, Athenry, Ballynagar, Bracklagh, Bullaun, Cappalusk, Castleboy, Cloonkeen, Colmanstown, Craughwell, Derrylaur, Drumkeary, Graigabbey, Grange, Greethill, Kilchreest, Kilconickny, Kilconierin, Killimor, Killogilleen, Kilmeen, Kilreekill, Kiltesskill, Kiltullagh, Lackalea, Leitrim, Loughatorick, Loughrea Rural, Loughrea Urban, Marblehill, Mountain, Moyode, Raford, Tiaquin, Woodford, in the former *Rural District of Loughrea*;

Annagh, Ballynakill, Caltra, Castleblakeney, Clonbrock, Cloonkeen, Cooloo, Derryglassaun, Killian, Mount Bellew, Mounthazel in the former *Rural District of Mount Bellew*;

Abbeyville, Ballyglass, Coos, Derrew, Drummin, Eyrecourt, Killimor, Kilmalinoge, Kilquain, Meelick, Moat, Pallas, Portumna, Tiranascragh, Tynagh, in the former *Rural District of Portumna*;

Abbey East, Abbey West, Addergoole, Annaghdown, Ballinderry, Ballinduff, Ballynapark, Beaghmore, Belclare, Carownagur, Carrowrevagh, Claretuam, Clonbern, Cloonkeen, Cummer, Donaghpatrick, Doonbally, Dunmore North, Dunmore South, Foxhall, Headford, Hillsbrook, Kilbennan, Kilcoona, Killeany, Killeen, Killererin, Killower, Killursa, Kilmoylan, Kilshanvy, Levally, Milltown, Monivea, Moyne, Ryehill, Toberadosh, Tuam Rural, Tuam Urban, in the former *Rural District of Tuam*.

Galway West – 5 Members

The city of Galway;

and in the county of Galway, the electoral divisions of:

Abhainn Ghabhla, An Cnoc Buí, An Uillinn, Ballynakill, Binn an Choire, Bunowen, Cleggan, Clifden, Cloch na Rón, Cushkillary, Derrycunlagh, Derrylea, Doonloughan, Errislannan, Inishbofin, Maíros, Rinvyle, Scainimh, Sillerna, in the former *Rural District of Clifden*;

An Carn Mór, An Spidéal, Árainn, Baile Chláir, Baile an Teampaill, Ballynacourty, Bearna, Ceathrú an Bhrúnaigh, Cill Aithnín, Clarinbridge, Eanach Dhúin, Galway Rural (part), Kilcummin, Leacach Beag, Liscananaun, Lisín an Bhealaigh, Maigh Cuilinn, Na Forbacha, Oranmore, Sailearna, Sliabh an Aonaigh, Tulaigh Mhic Aodháin, in the former *Rural District of Galway*;

An Chorr, An Crompán, An Fhairche, An Ros, An Turlach, Camas, Cill Chuimín, Conga, Garmna, Leitir Breacáin, Leitir Móir, Letterfore, Oughterard, Wormhole, in the former *Rural District of Oughterard*.

Kerry – 5 Members

The county of Kerry.

Kildare North – 5 Members

In the county of Kildare, the electoral divisions of:

Balraheen, Celbridge, Cloncurry, Donadea, Donaghcumper, Kilcock, Leixlip, Maynooth, Straffan, in the former *Rural District of Celbridge No. 1*;

Ballynadrumny, Cadamstown, Dunfieth in the former *Rural District of Edenderry No. 2*;

Bodenstown, Clane, Carragh, Donore, Downings, Kill, Killashee, Kilteel, Ladytown, Naas Rural, Newtown, Oughterard, Rathmore, Timahoe North, in the former *Rural District of Naas No. 1*;

and Naas Urban.

Kildare South – 4 Members

The county of Kildare, except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Kildare North.

Laois – 3 Members

The county of Laois.

Limerick City – 4 Members

In the city and county of Limerick, the electoral divisions of:

Abbey A, Abbey B, Abbey C, Abbey D, Ballinacurra A, Ballinacurra B, Ballynanty, Castle A, Castle B, Castle C, Castle D, Coolrairie, Custom House, Dock A, Dock B, Dock C, Dock D, Farranshone, Galvone A, Galvone B, Glentworth A, Glentworth B, Glentworth C, John's A, John's B, John's C, Killeely A, Killeely B, Market, Prospect A, Prospect B, Rathbane, Shannon A, Shannon B, Singland A, Singland B, St. Laurence, in the former *City of Limerick*;

Abington, Ballybricken, Ballycummin, Ballysimon, Ballyvarra, Caherconlish East, Caherconlish West, Castleconnell, Clonkeen, Glenstal, Limerick North Rural, Limerick South Rural, Roxborough, in the former *Rural District of Limerick No. 1*.

Limerick County – 3 Members

The city and county of Limerick, except the parts thereof which are comprised in the constituency of Limerick City.

Longford-Westmeath – 5 Members

The county of Longford and the county of Westmeath.

Louth – 5 Members

The county of Louth; and, in the county of Meath, the electoral division of:

St. Mary's (part), in the former *Rural District of Meath*.

Mayo – 5 Members

The county of Mayo.

Meath East – 4 Members

In the county of Meath, the electoral divisions of:

Drumcondra, Grangegeeth, Killary, in the former *Rural District of Ardee No. 2*;

Culmullin, Donaghmore, Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Kilbrew, Killeen, Kilmore, Rathfeigh, Ratoath, Rodanstown, Skreen, in the former *Rural District of Dunshaughlin*;

Ardagh, Carrickleck, Ceanannas Mór Rural, Cruicetown, Kilmainham, Maperath, Moybolgue, Moynalty, Newcastle, Newtown, Nobber, Posseckstown, Staholmog, Trohanny, in the former *Rural District of Kells*;

Ardcath, Duleek, Julianstown, Mellifont, Stamullin, in the former *Rural District of Meath*;

Ardmulchan, Castletown, Domhnach Phádraig, Kentstown, Painestown, Rathkenny, Slane, Stackallan, Tara, in the former *Rural District of Navan*;

and Ceannanas Mór Urban.

Meath West – 3 Members

The county of Meath, except the parts thereof which are comprised in the constituencies of Louth and Meath East.

Offaly – 3 Members

The county of Offaly.

Roscommon Galway – 3 Members

The county of Roscommon; and the county of Galway except the parts thereof which are comprised in the constituencies of Galway East and Galway West.

Sligo-Leitrim – 4 Members

The county of Sligo;

and the county of Leitrim;

and in the county of Donegal, the electoral divisions of:

Ballintra, Ballyshannon Rural, Ballyshannon Urban, Bundoran Rural, Carrickboy, Cavangarden, Cliff, in the former *Rural District of Ballyshannon*;

Ballintra in the former *Rural District of Donegal*;

and Bundoran Urban.

Tipperary North – 3 Members

In the county of Tipperary, the electoral divisions of:

Aglishcloghane, Ballingarry, Ballylusk, Borrisokane, Carrig, CloghJordan, Cloghprior, Clohaskin, Finnoe, Graigue, Kilbarron, Lorrha East, Lorrha West, Mertonhall, Rathcabban, Redwood, Riverstown, Terryglass, Uskane, in the former *Rural District of Borrisokane*;

Clogher, Clonoulty East, Clonoulty West, Gaile, in the former *Rural District of Cashel*.

Abington, Aghnameadle, Ardcroney, Ballina, Ballygibbon, Ballymackey, Ballynaclogh, Birdhill, Burgesbeg, Carrigatogher, Castletown, Derrycastle, Dolla, Kilcomenty, Kilkeary, Killoscully, Kilmore, Kilnaneave, Kilnarath, Knigh, Lackagh, Latteragh, Monsea, Nenagh Rural, Newport, Templederry, Youghalarra, in the former *Rural District of Nenagh*;

Borrisnafarney, Borrisnoe, Bourney East, Bourney West, Killavinoge, Killea, Rathnaveoge, Roscrea, Timoney, in the former *Rural District of Roscrea No.1*;

Buolick, Fennor, Kilcooly, in the former *Rural District of Slieveardagh*;

Ballycahill, Borrisoleigh, Drom, Foilnahan, Glenkeen, Gortkelly, Holycross, Inch, Kilrush, Littleton, Longfordpass, Loughmore, Moyaliff, Moycarky, Moyne, Rahelty, Templetouhy, Thurles Rural, Two-mile-Borris, Upperchurch, in the former *Rural District of Thurles*;

Cappagh, Curraheen, Donohill, Glengar, in the former *Rural District of Tipperary No.1*;

Nenagh East Urban, Nenagh West Urban, Templemore, Thurles Urban;

and in the county of Kilkenny, the electoral divisions of:

Ballybeagh, Freshford, Rathealy, Tullaroan, in the former *Rural District of Kilkenny*;

Balleen, Baunmore, Clomantagh, Galmoy, Glashare, Johnstown, Lisdowney, Tubbridbritain, Urlingford, in the former *Rural District of Urlingford*.

Tipperary South – 3 Members The county of Tipperary except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Tipperary North.
Waterford – 4 Members The city and county of Waterford.
Wexford – 4 Members The county of Wexford except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Wicklow-Wexford.
Wicklow – 4 Members The county of Wicklow except the part thereof which is comprised in the constituency of Wicklow-Wexford.
Wicklow-Wexford – 3 Members In the county of Wexford, the electoral divisions of; Ballindaggan, Ballycarney, Ballymore, Castledockrell, Ferns, Kilbora, Kilcormick, Kilrush, Moyacomb, Newtownbarry, Rossard, St. Mary's, The Harrow, Tinnacross, Tombrack, in the former <i>Rural District of Enniscorthy</i> ; Ardamine, Balloughter, Ballybeg, Ballycanew, Ballyellis, Ballygarrett, Ballylarkin, Ballynestragh, Cahore, Coolgreany, Courtown, Ford, Gorey Rural, Gorey Urban, Huntingtown, Kilcomb, Kilgorman, Killenagh, Killincooly, Kilnahue, Limerick, Monamolin, Monaseed, Rossminoge, Wells, Wingfield, in the former <i>Rural District of Gorey</i> ; and in the county of Wicklow, the electoral divisions of; Arklow Rural, Aughrim, Ballinacash, Ballinacor, Ballinderry, Ballyarthur, Cronebane, Dunganstown East, Dunganstown South, Dunganstown West, Ennereilly, Kilbride, Ovoca, Rathdrum, in the former <i>Rural District of Rathdrum</i> ; Aghowle, Ballingate, Ballinglen, Ballybeg, Carnew, Coolattin, Coolboy, Cronelea, Kilballyowen, Killinure, Kilpipe, Money, Rath, Shillelagh, Tinahely, in the former <i>Rural District of Shillelagh</i> ; and Arklow No. 1 Urban, Arklow No. 2 Urban.

Appendix 2

STATISTICS RELATING TO RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

Recommended Constituency	Number of TDs	Population 2022	Population per TD	% variance from National Average Population per TD
Carlow-Kilkenny	5	159,697	31,939	7.93
Cavan-Monaghan	5	146,992	29,398	-0.66
Clare	4	127,938	31,985	8.08
Cork East	4	111,458	27,865	-5.84
Cork North-Central	5	142,378	28,476	-3.78
Cork North-West	3	84,312	28,104	-5.03
Cork South-Central	5	153,441	30,688	3.70
Cork South-West	3	92,567	30,856	4.27
Donegal	5	157,700	31,540	6.58
Dublin Bay North	5	149,062	29,812	0.74
Dublin Bay South	4	124,257	31,064	4.97
Dublin Central	4	127,302	31,826	7.54
Dublin Fingal East	3	92,366	30,789	4.04
Dublin Fingal West	3	88,167	29,389	-0.69
Dublin Mid-West	5	142,140	28,428	-3.94
Dublin North-West	3	85,322	28,441	-3.89
Dublin Rathdown	4	113,625	28,406	-4.01
Dublin South-Central	4	119,383	29,846	0.85
Dublin South-West	5	158,935	31,787	7.41
Dublin West	5	137,360	27,472	-7.17
Dún Laoghaire	4	120,235	30,059	1.57
Galway East	4	113,254	28,314	-4.32
Galway West	5	150,015	30,003	1.39
Kerry	5	156,458	31,292	5.74
Kildare North	5	139,031	27,806	-6.04
Kildare South	4	108,743	27,186	-8.13
Laois	3	91,877	30,626	3.49
Limerick City	4	119,041	29,760	0.57
Limerick County	3	90,495	30,165	1.93
Longford-Westmeath	5	142,972	28,594	-3.37
Louth	5	156,106	31,221	5.50
Mayo	5	137,970	27,594	-6.75
Meath East	4	114,631	28,658	-3.16
Meath West	3	89,792	29,931	1.14
Offaly	3	83,150	27,717	-6.34
Roscommon-Galway	3	84,727	28,242	-4.56
Sligo-Leitrim	4	114,781	28,695	-3.03
Tipperary North	3	87,799	29,266	-1.10
Tipperary South	3	86,527	28,842	-2.54
Waterford	4	127,363	31,841	7.60
Wexford	4	114,176	28,544	-3.54
Wicklow	4	120,143	30,036	1.50
Wicklow-Wexford	3	85,451	28,484	-3.75
Total	174	5,149,139	29,593	

Appendix 3

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS RECOMMENDED FOR TRANSFER BETWEEN DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

1. Roscommon – Galway – Mayo	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Roscommon from Sligo-Leitrim to Roscommon-Galway	
<i>Former Boyle No. 1 Rural District:</i>	
Aghafin	142
Altagowlan	50
Ballyfarnan	271
Ballyformoyle	173
Boyle Rural	1,775
Boyle Urban	1,597
Crossna	209
Danesfort	963
Keadew	544
Kilbryan	400
Killukin	282
Lough Allen	250
Oakport	523
Rockingham	339
Rushfield	402
Tivannagh	267
Tumna North	175
Tumna South	207
Total	8,569
Transfer in the county of Galway from Roscommon-Galway to Galway East	
<i>Former Ballinasloe Rural District:</i>	
Aughrim	576
Ballymacward	316
Clontuskert	218
Kilconnell	658
Killaan	572
Killallaghtan	512
Oatfield	446
<i>Former Glennamaddy Rural District:</i>	
Ballinastack	340
Boyouanagh	245
Curraghmore	198
Glennamaddy	925
Kiltullagh	211
Raheen	525

1. Roscommon – Galway – Mayo <i>continued</i>	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Galway from Roscommon-Galway to Galway East <i>continued</i>	
Scregg	247
Shankill	355
Templetogher	419
<i>Former Mount Bellew Rural District:</i>	
Annagh	383
Ballynakill	647
Caltra	380
Castleblakeney	551
Clonbrock	606
Cloonkeen	353
Killian	364
Mount Bellew	1,972
Mounthazel	544
<i>Former Tuam Rural District:</i>	
Addergoole	587
Carrownagur	405
Clonbern	388
Cloonkeen	493
Dunmore North	604
Dunmore South	891
Toberadosh	399
Total	16,330
Transfer in the county of Mayo from Galway West to Mayo	
<i>Former Ballinrobe Rural District:</i>	
Cong	994
Dalgan	1,169
Houndswood	659
Kilmaine	1,014
Neale	879
Shrule	1,211
Total	5,926

2. Meath – Westmeath	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Meath from Cavan-Monaghan to Meath East	
<i>Former Kells Rural District:</i>	
Ardagh	682
Carrickleck	457
Kilmainham	857
Moybolgue	276
Posseckstown	193
Trohanny	344
<i>Former Ardee No. 2 Rural District:</i>	
Drumcondra	1,376
Total	4,185
Transfer in the county of Meath from Louth to Meath East	
<i>Former Meath Rural District:</i>	
Julianstown	11,501
Total	11,501
Transfer in the county of Westmeath from Meath West to Longford-Westmeath	
<i>Former Delvin Rural District:</i>	
Ballinlough	178
Ballyhealy	339
Ballynaskeagh	306
Bracklin	275
Clonarney	538
Collinstown	610
Copperalley	266
Delvin	1,135
Faughalstown	296
Fore East	422
Fore West	404
Hilltown	276
Kilcumny	225
Killua	1,143
Killulagh	493
Kilpatrick	243
Kinturk	1,508
Riverdale	515
Rosmead	312
Total	9,484

3. Kildare – Offaly – Laois	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Kildare from Kildare South to Kildare North	
<i>Former Naas No. 1 Rural District:</i>	
Carragh	1,854
Donore	860
Killashee	431
Ladytown	990
Total	4,135
Transfer in the county of Laois from Kildare South to proposed Laois	
<i>Former Mountmellick Rural District:</i>	
Ballybrittas	1,520
Jamestown	532
Kilmullen	599
Portarlinton South	7,859
Total	10,510
Transfer in the county of Offaly from Kildare South to proposed Offaly	
<i>Former Tullamore Rural District:</i>	
Portarlinton North	2,591
Total	2,591

4. Kilkenny – Tipperary	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Kilkenny from Carlow-Kilkenny to proposed Tipperary North	
<i>Former Kilkenny Rural District:</i>	
Ballybeagh	327
Freshford	989
Rathealy	211
Tullaroan	322
<i>Former Urlingford Rural District:</i>	
Balleen	517
Baunmore	122
Clomantagh	347
Galmoy	361
Glashare	311
Johnstown	877
Lisdowney	287
Tubbridbrittain	307
Urlingford	1,453
Total	6,431
Transfer in the county of Tipperary from Limerick City to proposed Tipperary North	
<i>Former Nenagh Rural District:</i>	
Birdhill	743
Kilcomenty	743
Newport	3,167
Total	4,653

5. Wicklow – Wexford	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Wicklow from Wicklow to proposed Wicklow-Wexford	
Arklow No. 1 Urban	10,367
Arklow No. 2 urban	3,023
<i>Former Rathdrum Rural District:</i>	
Arklow Rural	1,415
Aughrim	1,973
Ballinaclash	696
Ballinacor	369
Ballinderry	508
Ballyarthur	1,144

5. Wicklow – Wexford <i>continued</i>	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Wicklow from existing Wicklow to proposed Wicklow-Wexford <i>continued</i>	
Cronebane	533
Dunganstown East	925
Dunganstown South	954
Dunganstown West	481
Ennereilly	465
Kilbride	928
Ovoca	728
Rathdrum	3,173
<i>Former Shillelagh Rural District:</i>	
Aghowle	262
Ballingate	415
Ballinglen	234
Ballybeg	217
Carnew	1,873
Coolattin	286
Coolboy	613
Cronelea	181
Kilballyowen	405
Killinure	369
Kilpipe	452
Money	165
Rath	287
Shillelagh	633
Tinahely	1,634
Total	35,708
Transfer in the county of Wexford from Wexford to proposed Wicklow-Wexford	
<i>Former Gorey Rural District:</i>	
Ardamine	4,410
Balloughter	555
Ballybeg	630
Ballycanew	1,227
Ballyellis	432
Ballygarrett	922
Ballylarkin	938
Ballynestragh	1,381
Cahore	509
Coolgreany	1,199
Courtown	3,012
Ford	691
Gorey Rural	8,365

5. Wicklow – Wexford <i>continued</i>	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Wexford from Wexford to proposed Wicklow-Wexford <i>continued</i>	
Gorey Urban	3,786
Huntingtown	365
Kilcomb	1,180
Kilgorman	890
Killenagh	638
Killincooly	664
Kilnahue	488
Limerick	1,056
Monamolin	878
Monaseed	725
Rossminoge	683
Wells	887
Wingfield	1,045
<i>Former Enniscorthy Rural District:</i>	
Ballindaggan	818
Ballycarney	503
Ballymore	516
Castledockrell	502
Ferns	1,598
Kilbora	433
Kilcormick	731
Kilrush	476
Moyacomb	460
Newtownbarry	2,440
Rossard	524
St. Mary's	787
The Harrow	522
Tinnacross	1,037
Tombrack	840
Total	49,743

6. Dublin	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown from Dún Laoghaire to Dublin-Rathdown	
That part of the electoral division of Glencullen which lies to the east of the M50 motorway and to the south of the N31 and the Leopardstown Road	1,552
Stillorgan-Leopardstown	2,973
Foxrock-Torquay	1,558
Foxrock-Carrickmines	6,324
Total	12,407
Transfer in the city of Dublin from Dublin Bay South to Dublin South-Central	
Kimmage C	3,738
Total	3,738
Transfer in the county of South Dublin from Dublin South-Central to Dublin South-West	
Templeogue-Kimmage Manor	4,929
Terenure-Greentrees	2,948
Terenure-Cherryfield	2,229
Clondalkin-Ballymount (Part North of M50)	<600*
Tallaght-Kilnamanagh (Part North of M50)	<100*
Total	10,733
Transfer in the county of South Dublin from Dublin South-West to Dublin Mid-West	
Tallaght-Fettercairn	11,335
Total	11,335
Transfer in the county of South Dublin from Dublin South-Central to Dublin Mid-West	
Clondalkin-Monastery (Part North of M50)	<100*
Total	<100*

6. Dublin <i>continued</i>	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Fingal from Dublin Fingal to proposed Dublin Fingal West	
Airport (<i>Part North of M50</i>)	<1,000*
Balbriggan Rural	19,347
Balbriggan Urban	8,102
Ballyboghil	1,629
Balscadden	743
Clonmethan	933
Dubber (<i>Part North of M50</i>)	<1,000*
Garristown	1,801
Hollywood	1,476
Holmpatrick	4,147
Kilsallaghan	2,406
Lusk	10,774
Rush	11,116
Skerries	8,880
Turnapin (<i>Part North of M50</i>)	<100*
Total	73,152
Transfer in the county of Fingal from Dublin North-West to proposed Dublin Fingal West	
Airport (<i>Part South of M50</i>)	5,344
Dubber (<i>Part South of M50</i>)	<8,000*
Turnapin (<i>Part South of M50</i>)	<1,800*
Total	15,015
Transfer in the county of Fingal from Dublin Fingal to proposed Dublin Fingal East	
Donabate	11,783
Kinsaley	11,470
Malahide East	8,406
Malahide West	6,014
Portmarnock North	4,048
Portmarnock South	4,729
Swords-Forrest	15,926
Swords-Glasmore	7,674
Swords-Lissenhall	12,065
Swords-Seatown	7,465
Swords Village	2,786
Total	92,366

6. Dublin <i>continued</i>	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the city of Dublin from Dublin Bay North to Dublin North-West	
Beaumont B	5,103
Beaumont F	3,893
Kilmore A	3,678
Total	12,674
Transfer in the county of Fingal from Dublin North-West to Dublin West	
Blanchardstown-Abbotstown (<i>Part South of M50</i>)	1,300
The Ward (<i>Part South of M50</i>)	<1,100*
Total	2,313

7. Cork	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Cork from Cork East to Cork North-Central	
Mallow North urban	6,484
Mallow South Urban	2,879
<i>Former Mallow Rural District:</i>	
Mallow Rural	5,045
Total	14,408
Transfer in the county of Cork from Cork East to Cork North-West	
<i>Former Mallow Rural District:</i>	
Ballyclogh	794
Buttevant	1,965
Caherduggan	644
Doneraile	1,555
Kilmaclenine	709
Total	5,667

* Figures omitted due to disclosure control practices in line with CSO data-use.

7. Cork continued	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the county of Cork from Cork North-Central to Cork North-West	
Former Cork Rural District: Dripsey	1,618
Former Macroom Rural District Gowlane	1,326
Total	2,944
Transfer in the city of Cork from Cork North-West to Cork North-Central	
Ballincollig (Part)	19,069
Total	19,069
Transfer in the county of Cork from Cork North-West to Cork North-Central	
Former Cork Rural District: Ballincollig (Part)	1,428
Total	1,428

7. Cork continued	
Electoral Division	2022 Population
Transfer in the city of Cork from Cork North-Central to Cork South-Central	
Bishopstown	421
Bishopstown A	2,292
Bishopstown B	2,016
Bishopstown C	5,074
Centre A	1,260
Centre B	2,441
Gillabbey A	2,568
Gillabbey B	1,173
Gillabbey C	2,116
Glasheen A	795
Glasheen B	843
Mardyke	1,051
Total	22,050



Appendix 4

PUBLIC CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATIONS

A public consultation process opened on the day after our establishment as an independent public body, 10 February 2023, and ran for 12-weeks until 10 May 2023.

During this period a public information and awareness campaign took place encompassing:

- Paid advertising in national print newspapers in English and Irish.
- A schedule of national and regional media interviews and outings.
- The early publication of submissions received on our purpose-built webpage.
- The organic use of our social media accounts.

NATIONAL ADVERTISING

Two phases of national public notice advertising were carried out. The second advert, focusing on the European Parliament Constituency Review, was placed in direct response to EU proposals to raise Ireland's European Parliamentary representation by one or possibly two seats. The Commission allowed a month for people to be able to respond to the proposal from the European Parliament.

- 10-15 February primarily focused on the Dáil Constituency Review.
- 9-16 April primarily focused on the European Parliament Constituency Review.

Two distinctive styled adverts were designed and placed in the following publications.

First phase public notices

Title	Date
Irish Times	10 February
Irish Independent	10 February
Examiner	10 February
Daily Mail	10 February
Sunday Business Post	12 February
Sunday Times	12 February
Sunday Independent	12 February
Mail on Sunday	12 February
Seachtain (Independent)	15 February

Second phase public notices

Title	Date
Sunday Independent	9 April
Mail on Sunday	9 April
Sunday Mirror	9 April
Seachtain (Independent)	12 April
Irish Times	15 April
Sunday Business Post	16 April
Sunday Times	16 April

[illegible]

Media engagement

The Commission undertook a programme of national and regional media engagement starting with an opinion piece written by our Chair, Ms. Justice Marie Baker, in the Independent Newspaper on 27 April.

In the lead up to the submission deadline, we were interviewed by the RTÉ Week in Politics programme, appeared on the RTÉ News and we offered interviews with regional and national radio stations. Commission spokespersons appeared live on 13 individual radio shows across the country, as detailed in the following table.

Radio Station	Name of Show	Date
Galway Bay FM	Galway Talks with Keith Finnegan	2 May 2023
KFM	Kildare Today with Eoin Beatty	2 May 2023
LMFM	The Michael Reade Show	2 May 2023
WLR FM	Déise Today	2 May 2023
Highland Radio	The 9 till noon show with Greg Hughes	2 May 2023
Ocean FM	North West Today	3 May 2023
Radio Kerry	Kerry Today with Jerry O'Sullivan	3 May 2023
Shannonside	The Joe Finnegan Show	3 May 2023
Newstalk	The Pat Kenny Show	3 May 2023
Midlands 103FM	Midlands Today	3 May 2023
Tipp FM	The 5.45 with Sheila Naughton	3 May 2023
Limerick Live 95	Limerick Today with Joe Nash	4 May 2023
Mid-West Radio	The Tommy Marren Show	5 May 2023

European Parliament & Dáil Constituency Review

An Coimisiún Toghcháin, the Electoral Commission is to make a report and recommendations in relation to the constituencies for the election of members to the European Parliament and the Dáil.

The European Parliament
Ireland will have more MEP seats after the next European Elections in 2024. While not yet confirmed, it is expected that Ireland may have 1 or 2 additional MEPs.

The Dáil
The Commission is required under the provisions of the Constitution and the Electoral Reform Act, to revise the total number of members of the Dáil within the range of 171 to 181 TDs.

We invite your written submissions in relation to matters which should be considered in reporting on the composition and boundaries of constituencies.

Submissions should be sent to:
ConstituencyReview@electoralcommission.ie

They may also be posted to:
An Coimisiún Toghcháin,
The Electoral Commission,
Dublin Castle, Dublin 2.

Closing date for submissions is 10 May 2023.

www.electoralcommission.ie/constituency-reviews/

An Coimisiún Toghcháin
The Electoral Commission



Constituency Review Submissions

Submissions may be redacted where necessary solely to remove personal data.

Constituency	Name of submitter	Submission ID	
All Constituencies	Name of submitter	Submission ID	Search
Name	Date	Constituency	Summary
Bill Ryan Submission ID: 5559	07/05/2023	Longford Westmeath	A Chár, The constituency of Meath West presumably related - created.
Rathcoole Historical Society - Ann Hackett Submission ID: 5558	03/05/2023	Dublin Mid West	The Rathcoole Historical Society write to make a submission to the...
John Joe Fennelly Submission ID: 5129	09/05/2023	Laois-Offaly	By hand-delivery/05/5/2023 Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to make a submission in...
Carol Harte Submission ID: 538	10/05/2023	Laois-Offaly	Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to make a submission to An Coimisiún Toghcháin...
Cathiona Clooney Submission ID: 534	10/05/2023	Laois-Offaly	Dear Commission, I wish to make a submission and I want to focus primarily...
Patrick Murray Submission ID: 5557	10/05/2023	Meath West-Longford-Westmeath	Dear Sir or Madam, I have lived in Cappanard all my life - over...
Liam Campion Submission ID: 5182	10/05/2023	Laois-Offaly, Kildare South	Submission - Liam...
Neil Gillespie Submission ID: 536	10/05/2023	National Issues	Submission - Neil...
John Delany Submission ID: 5344	06/05/2023	Louth, Meath-East	Downhills and East Meath are no longer distinct and separate areas; they...
Aislinn O'Brien Submission ID: 5182	04/05/2023	Carrigrohane, Limerick City	Hello, It has recently come to my attention that there are rumours of...



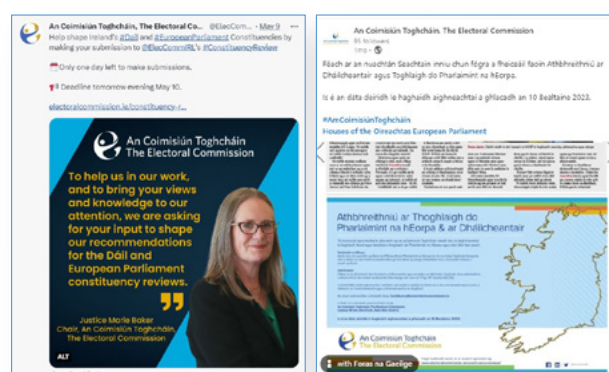
Our website as a platform for the submissions received

The Commission was clear from the outset that submissions received would be published ahead of the closing date in order to stimulate discussion, analysis and media coverage which would boost the profile and reach of the public consultation. From 12 April we started posting submissions onto a purpose-built interactive webpage on www.electoralcommission.ie. All submissions have been published.

This publication stimulated significant national and regional media and public interest, and from the period from 12 April to 10 May this submission page saw 9400 page views, making it by far the most visited page on our website. It has continued post submission deadline to be highly visited and has recorded another 10,000+ views since 10 May to the start of June.

Our social media

Since our establishment the Commission has started building a presence and following across our Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn social media accounts. During the consultation period we consistently raised the detail of the consultation, and encouraged people to make their own submissions.



Appendix 5

LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

All submissions are available for viewing on the Commission web site www.electoralcommission.ie

Political Parties (national)

Fianna Fáil
Fine Gael
People Before Profit
Sinn Féin
Green Party
The Labour Party

Political Parties (local)

Fianna Fáil Athlone
Fianna Fáil Donegal
Fianna Fáil Dublin-Rathdown
Fianna Fáil Dublin South West
Fianna Fáil Dún Laoghaire
Fianna Fáil Galway East
Fianna Fáil Galway West
Fianna Fáil Kildare South
Fianna Fáil Meath East
Fianna Fáil Uíbh Fhailí
Fine Gael Cork North West
Fine Gael Dublin Mid-West and
Dublin South West
Fine Gael Enniscorthy
Fine Gael Mayo
Fine Gael Wicklow
Roundwood Branch
Green Party Dublin-Rathdown
The Labour Party Dublin Bay South
The Labour Party Cork North Central
The Labour Party Dublin South Central
The Labour Party Dublin South West
The Labour Party Galway West
The Labour Party Laois-Offaly
The Labour Party Louth
The Labour Party Wexford

Public Representatives

TDs

Peter Burke TD, Minister of State
Michael Collins TD
Patrick Costello TD
Alan Dillon TD
Minister Stephen Donnelly TD
Francis Noel Duffy TD
Alan Farrell TD
Frank Feighan TD
Charles Flanagan TD
Noel Grealish TD
Marian Harkin TD

Neasa Hourigan TD
Paul Kehoe TD
James Lawless TD
Brian Leddin TD
Marc MacSharry TD
Steven Matthews TD
Mattie McGrath TD
Joe McHugh TD
Cian O'Callaghan TD
Patrick O'Donovan TD,
Minister of State
Fergus O'Dowd TD
Minister Roderic O'Gorman TD
Maurice Quinlivan TD
Anne Rabbitte TD, Minister of State
Michael Ring TD
Brendan Smith TD
Ossian Smyth TD, Minister of State

Senators

Senator Garret Ahearn
Senator Jerry Buttimer
Senator Malcolm Byrne
Senator Maria Byrne
Senator Pat Casey
Senator Lorraine Clifford-Lee
Senator Regina Doherty
Senator Robbie Gallagher
Senator Annie Hoey
Senator Eugene Murphy
Senator Fiona O'Loughlin
Senator Marie Sherlock

Councillors

Councillor Daryl Barron
Councillor Darragh Butler
Councillor Cathal Byrne
Councillor Ian Carey
Councillor Michael Connolly
Councillor Ben Dalton O'Sullivan
Councillor Fidelis Doherty
Councillor Gail Dunne
Councillor Angela Feeney
Councillor Patsy Glennon
Councillor Paul Gogarty
Councillor Michelle Hall
Councillor Adrian Henchy
Councillor Joe Kelly
Councillor Joe Killeen

Councillor Paul McCabe
Councillor Frank McDermott
Councillor Pádraig McEvoy
Councillor Enda McGloin
Councillor Paddy McQuillan
Councillor Shane Moynihan
Councillor John Mullen
Councillor Barbara-Anne Murphy
Councillor Gearóid Murphy
Councillor Paul Murphy
Councillor Brian O'Donoghue
Councillor Tom O'Leary
Councillor Colm O'Rourke
Councillor Rob Power
Councillor Mary Roche
Councillor P. J. Ryan
Councillor Joe Sheridan
Councillor John Sheridan
Councillor Stephen Stokes
Councillor Alan Tobin
Councillor Aoibhinn Tormey

Organisations

Association of Irish Local Government
(AILG)
Bettystown Tidy Towns
Carlow Chamber of Commerce
Drogheda and District Chamber
of Commerce
Drogheda City Status Group
Drogheda Implementation Board
Enniscorthy and District Chamber
of Commerce
Just Transition Greens
Killarney Chamber of Tourism
and Commerce
Love Drogheda Business
Improvement District
McTigue Sculptors Ltd
Navan Road Community Council
Rathcoole Historical Society
Rathcoole Tidy Towns
St Colmcille's GAA Club
St Finian's GAA Club
Theoretical Physics Student
Association (TPSA), Trinity
College Dublin

Individuals

Liam Ahern	Cormac Corr	Geraldine Edwards
Pat Allison	Anne Corry	Eamonn Egginton
James Barry	Tom Corry	Ciaran Fallon
Paul Barry	Lionel Costello	Margot Ferry
Cormac Bohan	Ronan Costello	Kelly Fincham
Eamonn Bolton	Tom Coughlan	Pat and Breeda Finnegan
Paul Brannigan	Seán Counihan	Martin Finnerty
David Breen	Pat Craig	John Fitzgerald
Annette Brennan	Siobhán Craig	Niall Fitzgerald
Colm Brennan	Johnny Crawford	Jason Fitzharris
Derek Brennan	Mary Crawford	Anthony Fitzpatrick
Michael Brennan	Sandra Creamer	Breda Fitzpatrick
Alex Brigdale	Ian Croft	Geoff Fitzpatrick
Linda Browne	Hugh Cronin	Paul Fitzpatrick
John Buckley	Mary Cummins	Dermot Flaherty
Pauline Burke	Ray Cunningham	Michael Flaherty
John Butler	Jack Dalk	Bryan Flanagan
Donald Byrne	Aidan Dalton	Frank Flanagan
Eimear Byrne	Ciara Dalton	Tierna Flanagan
John Byrne	Deirdre Dalton	John Joe Fennelly
Shane Byrne	Eoin Dalton	Barry Fleming
Pamela Byrne and Jodie Nolan	Niall Dalton	Brendan Fleming
Damien Cahill	Joseph Daly	Justin Fleming
Joseph Cahill	Louise Daly	Alan Flood
Christopher Callan	Tony and Christine Daly	Catherine B. Flynn
James Campbell	Jack Deacon	Gerry Flynn
Liam Campion	John Delaney	Marie Flynn
Elaine Cantillon	John Diamond	Donal Foley
Anna Carr	Gillian Dillon	Richard Foran
Aoife Carroll	Michael Dillon	Pat Foy
David Carroll	Shane Dillon	Ann Garrehy
Desmond Carroll	Peter H. Dollard	Martin Garry
Mary Casey	John Donegan	Karl Gibbons
Larry Cassidy	Anne Donnellan	Neil Gillespie
Claire Chambers	Ian Donoghue	Patrick Gilna
Eileen Chawke	Máire Doody	Maurice Glynn
Conall Clarke	Emmett Doran	Mike Goode
Michael Clarke	Liam Doran	Brian Gould
Cathriona Clooney	Thomas Doran	Dom Gradwell
Áine Coakley	Sarah Douglas	Dermot Graham
Pauline Coakley	Ian Doyle	Des Grant
Nicholi Cody	James Doyle	Peter Greene
Derry Collins	Margaret Doyle	Daragh Gregan
Sinead Collins	Marie Doyle	John Guerin
Tomás Collins	John Duggan	Utan Guilfoyle
Declan Condren	Paschal Duggan	Stephen Hall
Paraic Conlon	Sinéad Duggan	Niamh Hamill
Phil Connolly	Ciarán Dunleavy	Jonathon Hanley
David Conway	Colm Dunleavy	Frank Hanlon
Breda Cooney	Patricia Dunleavy	Gerard and Catherine Hannan
Gavan Cooper	Gerry Dunne	Brian Hanratty
Ann Corcoran	Noreen Dunne	Alan Harrington
	Patrick Dunphy	Carol Harte

Individuals continued

Kitty Hastings
 Liam Hayes
 Margaret Teresa Healy
 Martha Healy
 Patricia Healy
 Thomas Healy
 Jennifer Heelan
 Ann Heffernan
 Siobhan Hehir
 Brendan Heneghan
 Bill Hickey
 Brian Hickey
 Carmel Hickey
 David Hickey
 Evelyn Hickey
 Gavin Hickey
 John Hickey
 John and Jean Hickey
 Margaret Hickey
 Seaghán Hickey
 Sharon Hickey Deegan
 David Higgins
 Conor Hoey
 Patrick Hogan
 Rory Hogan
 Con Horan
 Fiona Holland
 Brian Hughes
 Brian Hughes
 Peter Hughes and family
 Adam Hunt
 John Hurley
 David Jones
 Adrian Kavanagh
 Iris Kavanagh
 Mary Kavanagh
 Claire Keane
 Marie Keane
 Catherine Kearney
 Christy Kelleher
 Darina Kelly
 Edward Kelly
 Gerry Kelly
 John Kelly
 Joseph Kelly
 Lorraine Kelly
 Patrick Kelly
 William Kelly
 Clodagh Kerrigan
 Mark Khan
 Niall Kierans
 John and Síle Killeen

Tony Killeen
 Mike King
 John Kirwan
 Walter Lacey
 Paul Mahon
 Killian Mangan
 Iulen Tazueco Manrique
 Pdraig Masterson
 Patrick Matthews
 Pauleen McAllister
 Mary Teresa McBride
 Cathal McCann
 Gary McCann
 Georgia McCann
 Sylvia McCann
 Bernard McCarthy
 Margaret McCarthy
 Anne McCaw
 Matthew McConnell
 Jody McDermott
 John McDermott
 Caroline McDonagh
 Anthony McDonnell
 Christy McDonnell
 Fiona McDonnell
 Peter McDonnell
 John McEnery
 Annie McGinley
 Hugh McGinley
 Kelly McGonagle
 Michael McGuire
 Patrick McHugh
 Eoin McInerney
 Bernard McKenna
 Anna McKenna
 Margaret McKenna
 Eugene McKenna
 Ray McLoughlin
 Jack McNamara
 Breda McNamara
 Michael and Maureen McNamara
 Kieran McNulty
 Mary and Patrick Meaney
 Cathal Melinn
 Marie Millane
 Marion Moloney
 Joseph Moonan
 D. J. Moore
 Peter Moore
 Zeb and Sylvia Moore
 Bríd Moran
 Diarmuid Moran
 Brid Morgan

David Moroney
 Peter O. Moylan
 Jim Mulroy
 Ann Murphy
 Anthony Murphy
 Hubert Murphy
 John Murphy
 Steven Murphy
 Eileen Murray
 Patrick Murray
 Timothy Myers
 Mark Mylotte
 Éilís Ní Dheá
 Aisling Ní Flaithbheartaigh
 Stephen Nolan
 Fiona Noonan
 Joseph Nugent
 Cormac Ó Bric
 Donal Ó Brolcáin
 Aidan O'Brien
 Anthony O'Brien
 Aoife O'Brien
 Aoife O'Brien
 Darragh O'Brien
 Gordon O'Brien
 Michael Leahy
 Barry Lee
 Fabian Lee
 Katie Leydon
 Ann Liddy
 Jack Liddy
 Sonia Lowe
 Tony Lowe
 Anne Lucey
 Peter Ludlow
 Jackie Lynch
 Julie Lynch
 Mary Lynch
 Pat Lynch
 Robert Lynch
 Thomas Lyons
 Ciara MacCormac
 Marc MacEodhasa
 Frances MacMahon
 Tracy Hilary Madden
 Jimmy Maher
 John O'Brien
 Liam O'Brien
 Martin O'Brien
 Daniel O'Callaghan
 Rhoda and Fergal O'Callaghan
 Geraldine O'Connell
 Kate O'Connell

Individuals *continued*

Pádraig Ó Cuinneagáin
 Tomas O Dalaigh
 Ann O'Doherty Michael O'Doherty
 Niall O'Doherty
 Con O'Donnell
 Susan O'Donoghue
 Margaret O'Donovan
 Michael O'Dowd
 Eileen O'Driscoll
 Aidan O'Dwyer
 Ben O'Gorman
 Janet O'Leary
 Martin O'Loughlen
 Edward O'Mahony
 Tony O'Mahony
 Mary O'Malley and Robby Bogan
 Robert O'Malley
 Dara Ó Maoildhia
 Yvonne O'Meara
 Anne and Des O'Neill
 Martin O'Neill
 Melissa O'Neill
 Ciara O'Regan
 Christopher O'Rourke
 Fergus O'Rourke
 Monica and Pat O'Rourke
 Donal O'Shea
 Kieran O'Shea
 Seán Ó'Súilleabhain
 Denis O'Sullivan
 John O'Sullivan
 Margaret O'Sullivan
 Seamus O'Sullivan
 Declan O'Reilly
 Daragh Owens
 Thomas Pakenham
 Eddie Phelan
 Brian Porter
 Tanya Power
 Tom Power
 Niamh Purcell
 William Quill
 Frank Quilter
 Sharon Redmond
 John Reilly
 Alan Richardson
 Amy Riordan
 Aileen Roche
 Noel Rock
 Elizabeth Rodgers
 Bernhard Rohrer
 Bernard Ross

Paul Russell
 Bernie Ryan
 Bill Ryan
 Hazel Ryan
 Hugo Ryan
 John and Aileen Ryan
 Seán Ryan
 Ray Ryan
 Kevin Savage
 Deirdre Sexton
 Pat Shannon
 Ed Shiven
 Liam Shortall
 Martina Skehan
 Mary Skehan
 Colin Smyth
 Shane Smyth
 Tessa Stewart
 Brian Sugrue
 Emmanuel Sweeney
 Pat Sweeney
 Daniel K Sullivan
 Richard Talbot
 Billy Timmins
 Colette Timmons
 Cillian Tobin
 Thomas Tobin
 Margaret Tuohy
 Matthew Twyford
 Catherine Twomey
 Susanne Ui Dhaligh
 Elaine Vaughey
 Thomas Veale
 Tony Wade
 Áine Walsh
 Anne Walsh
 Declan Walsh
 Marie Walsh
 Mena Walsh
 John Watson
 Francis Watters
 Arthur and Mary White
 David White
 Sandra White
 Rachel Whittle
 Craig Williamson
 Michael Wilson
 Sonya Wood

Petitions

Alan Kelly TD and Councillor Fiona
 Bonfield, Tipperary, circa 290
 signatures

**Submissions on European
Parliament Constituencies**

See Chapter 6 for full detail of the
 Commission's recommendation.

Political Parties (national)

Fine Gael
 Sinn Féin
 Green Party
 The Labour Party

Political Parties (local)

Fianna Fáil, Dún Laoghaire
 Fianna Fáil, Kildare South
 Fianna Fáil, Uibh Fhailí
 The Labour Party, Cork North
 Central

Elected Representatives

Barry Andrews MEP
 Seán Kelly MEP
 Charles Flanagan TD
 Senator Malcolm Byrne
 Councillor Paul Murphy
 Councillor Rob Power
 Councillor Stephen Stokes

Organisations

Drogheda City Status Group
 Just Transition Greens

Individuals

Maurice Basquille
 Edmond Byrne
 Thomas Cassidy
 John Colgan
 James Doyle
 Ciaran Fallon
 Jason Fitzharris
 Anthony Fitzpatrick
 Michael Flaherty
 John Kelly
 Mark Khan
 Vanessa Liston
 Keith Mills
 Conor Sheehan
 Richard Talbot
 Craig Williamson

Appendix 6

2022 POPULATION OF EACH COUNTY

The results of Census 2022 show that every county recorded population growth between 2016 and 2022.

County	2022 population	Growth since 2016 %	Growth since 2016 population
Carlow	61,968	8.8	5,036
Cavan	81,704	7.3	5,528
Clare	127,938	7.7	9,121
Cork	584,156	7.6	41,288
Donegal	167,084	5	7,892
Dublin	1,458,154	7.6	110,795
Galway	277,737	7.8	19,679
Kerry	156,458	5.9	8,751
Kildare	247,774	11.4	25,270
Kilkenny	104,160	5	4,928
Laois	91,877	8.5	7,180
Leitrim	35,199	9.8	3,155
Limerick	209,536	7.5	14,637
Longford	46,751	14.4	5,878
Louth	139,703	8.4	10,819
Mayo	137,970	5.7	7,463
Meath	220,826	13.2	25,782
Monaghan	65,288	6.4	3,902
Offaly	83,150	6.7	5,189
Roscommon	70,259	8.9	5,715
Sligo	70,198	7.1	4,663
Tipperary	167,895	5.2	8,342
Waterford	127,363	9.6	11,187
Westmeath	96,221	8.4	7,451
Wexford	163,919	9.5	14,197
Wicklow	155,851	9.4	13,426

Source: CSO Census 2022 County Press Statements, published 30 May 2023.

<https://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2022/census2022countypresstatements/>



Large Scale Maps

MAP A
AN COIMISIÚN TOGHCHÁIN - CONSTITUENCY REVIEW 2023
IRELAND – RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ———
 COUNTY BOUNDARIES - - - - -



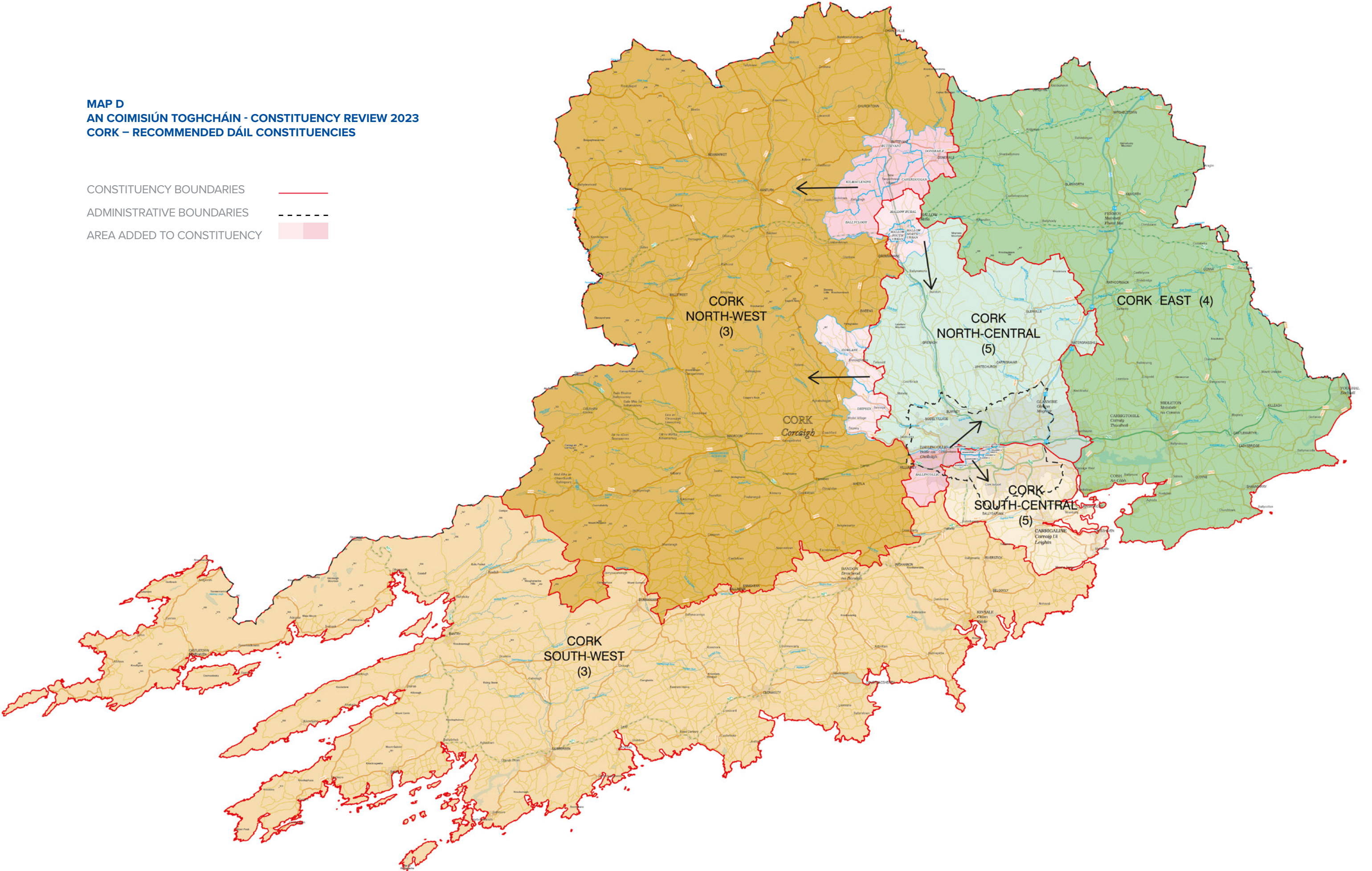
MAP C
AN COIMISIÚN TOGHCHÁIN -
CONSTITUENCY REVIEW 2023
DUBLIN – RECOMMENDED
DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

CONSTITUENCY
 BOUNDARIES
 ADMINISTRATIVE
 BOUNDARIES
 AREA ADDED TO
 CONSTITUENCY



MAP D
AN COIMISIÚN TOGHCHÁIN - CONSTITUENCY REVIEW 2023
CORK – RECOMMENDED DÁIL CONSTITUENCIES

CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES ————
ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES - - - - -
AREA ADDED TO CONSTITUENCY ■ ■ ■



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**An Coimisiún Toghcháin,
The Electoral Commission,
Dublin Castle, Dublin 2,
D02 X8X8.**

    @ElecCommIRL
