

18.17

Dear Sirs

I refer to review of the Constituencies for the European Elections 2019 and wish to make the following submission.

The Six Munster Counties (Clare, Tipperary, Limerick, Waterford, Kerry and Cork) are currently in the Constituency of Ireland South.

Clare is at the heart of Munster, economically, socially and culturally.

The County is very much part of the sporting life of Munster, especially in the GAA and with Munster Rugby.

Clare is strategically important for Munster to continue to grow in a sustainable and balanced way given that Shannon International Airport is the Gateway and engine for growth for the Mid-West Region (Clare, Limerick and Tipperary).

The County is bordered to the South by the Shannon Estuary and the Local Authorities in Clare and Limerick are currently working to harness its potential through the implementation of the Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Estuary and this will benefit the entire province.

Any decision to detach Clare from Munster in the context of the European Election Boundaries would have a detrimental effect on the future development of Munster and would leave Clare people completely isolated from their natural environment.

Kind regards

***Cllr Gabriel Keating.***