Appendix 4

Press Notice issued by the Commission

CONSTITUENCY COMMISSION

A Constituency Commission has been established under section 5 of the Electoral Act 1997 (as amended) to report in relation to the constituencies for (a) the election of members to the Dáil and (b) the election of members of the European Parliament.

1. In relation to Dáil constituencies, the Commission is required, in observing the relevant provisions of the Constitution, and the provisions of the Act of 1997 as amended by the Electoral (Amendment) Act 2011, to have regard to the following:

    (a) the total number of members of the Dáil, subject to Article 16.2.2° of the Constitution, shall be not less than 153 and not more than 160;

    (b) each constituency shall return 3, 4 or 5 members;

    (c) the breaching of county boundaries shall be avoided as far as practicable. The reference to county boundaries shall be deemed not to include a reference to the boundary of a city or any boundary between any 2 of the local government 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; and

    (f) subject to the above matters, the Commission shall endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of constituencies.

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

    (a) in accordance with the provisions of the Nice Treaty, the total number of members to be elected in the State to the European Parliament shall be 12;

    (b) there shall be reasonable equality of representation as between constituencies; and

    (c) the matters specified at (b) to (f) of paragraph 1 above.

The Commission invites written submissions in relation to matters which should be considered in reporting on constituencies. Submissions should be addressed to The Secretary, Constituency Commission, Room 1.65, Custom House, Dublin 1, or by email to constituency.commission@environ.ie.

The closing date for submissions is 10 January 2012.

Submissions received by the Commission will be published on the Commission's website at www.constituency-commission.ie, and may be inspected by prior arrangement with the Commission in the Custom House, Dublin 1 (telephone 01-8882339) during the hours of 10.00am to 4.30pm (Monday

to Friday), until the conclusion of the Commission's work. The Commission is required to report not later than three months after the publication by the Central Statistics Office of the final result of the Census in respect of the total population of the State. The Central Statistics Office expect to publish the relevant report in March 2012.

In accordance with section 10 of the Electoral Act 1997 the Commission has prepared a statement of the constitutional provisions relating to Dáil constituencies and tables showing relevant statistics based on Census 2011 for the existing Dáil and European Parliament constituencies. This statement and tables are available on the Commission's website or on request from the Commission.[1]

[1]This notice was published in the daily newspapers on 2 September 2011 and in the Sunday newspapers on 25 September 2011. The reminder notice was published in the daily newspapers on 2 December 2011 and in the Sunday newspapers on 4 December 2011.

Preas Fhógra an Choimisiúin

COIMISIÚN UM THOGHLAIGH

Bunaíodh Coimisiún um Thoghlaigh faoi alt 5 den Acht Toghcháin, 1997 (arna leasú) chun tuarascáil a thabhairt (a) i ndáil leis na dáilcheantair chun comhaltaí a thoghadh chun na Dála agus (b) i ndáil leis na toghlaigh chun comhaltaí a thoghadh chuig Parlaimint na hEorpa.

1. I ndáil le dáilcheantair Dhála, ceanglaítear ar an gCoimisiún, agus na forálacha iomchuí den Bhunreacht agus forálacha Acht 1997, arna leasú leis an Acht Toghcháin (Leasú), 2011, á n-urramú, aird a thabhairt ar an méid seo a leanas:

   (a) faoi réir Airteagal 16.2.2° den Bhunreacht, ní lú ná 153 agus ní mó ná 160 an líon iomlán comhaltaí den Dáil;

   (b) toghfaidh gach dáilcheantar 3, 4 nó 5 chomhalta;

   (c) a mhéid is indéanta , seachnófar sárú teorainneacha contae. Measfar nach bhfolaíonn an tagairt do theorainneacha contae tagairt do theorainn cathrach ná d'aon teorainn idir dhá cheann de chontaetha rialtais áitiúil Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin, Fhine Gall agus Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas;

   (d) beidh gach dáilcheantar comhdhéanta de limistéir thadhlacha;

   (e) tabharfar aird ar chúinsí geografacha lena n-áirítear sainghnéithe fisiceacha suntasacha agus méid agus dlús an daonra i ngach dáilcheantar; agus

   (f) faoi réir na nithe thuas, féachfaidh an Coimisiún le leanúnachas a chothabháil i ndáil le cóiriú dáilcheantar.

2. I ndáil le toghlaigh Pharlaimint na hEorpa, tabharfaidh an Coimisiún aird ar na nithe seo a leanas:

   (a) de réir fhorálacha Chonradh Nice, is é 12 líon iomlán na gcomhaltaí de Pharlaimint na hEorpa a bheidh le toghadh sa Stát;

   (b) beidh comhionannas réasúnach ionadaíochta ann amhail idir toghlaigh; agus

   (c) na nithe a shonraítear in (b) go (f) de mhír 1 thuas.

Iarrann an Coimisiún aighneachtaí i scríbhinn i ndáil le nithe ar chóir iad a bhreithniú le linn tuarascáil a thabhairt ar dháilcheantair agus ar thoghlaigh. Ba chóir aighneachtaí a dhíriú chuig An Rúnaí, An Coimisiún um Thoghlaigh, Seomra 1.65, Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, nó leis an ríomhphost chuig constituency.commission@environ.ie.

Is é an 10 Eanáir 2012 an dáta deiridh chun aighneachtaí a dhéanamh.

Foilseofar aighneachtaí a fhaigheann an Coimisiún ar shuíomh idirlín an Choimisiúin ag www.constituency-commission.ie, agus féadfar iad a iniúchadh trí shocrú a dhéanamh roimh ré leis an gCoimisiún i dTeach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1 (teileafón 01-8882339) idir 10.00am agus 4.30pm (Luan go hAoine), go dtí go gcríochnófar obair an Choimisiúin. Ceanglaítear ar an gCoimisiún tuarascáil a thabhairt tráth nach déanaí ná trí mhí tar éis don Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh toradh deiridh an

Daonáirimh maidir le daonra iomlán an Stáit a fhoilsiú. Measann an Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh go bhfoilseofar an tuarascáil iomchuí i Márta 2012.

De réir alt 10 den Acht Toghcháin, 1997, d'ullmhaigh an Coimisiún ráiteas maidir leis na forálacha den Bhunreacht a bhaineann le dáilcheantair Dhála agus táblaí ina léirítear staidreamh iomchuí bunaithe ar Dhaonáireamh 2011 le haghaidh na ndáilcheantar Dála reatha agus thoghlaigh reatha Pharlaimint na hEorpa. Tá an ráiteas sin agus na táblaí sin ar fáil ar shuíomh idirlín an Choimisiúin nó, ar iarraidh, ón gCoimisiún.[2]

[2]Foilsíodh an fógra seo i Foinse ar 28 Meán Fómhair 2011 agus foilsíodh fógra meabhrúcháin i Foinse ar 7 Nollaig 2011.