

NPF Submissions,
Forward Planning Section,
Department of Housing, Planning,
Community and Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin D01 W6X0

To whom it may concern,

I currently live in Mooncoin, County Kilkenny and as such, I rely on Waterford City for practically all of my requirements. Many people in the local area may not like to admit this fact but it is true. While it is true that the City provides pretty much all of my requirements it is obvious, in comparison to other cities/regions, it is lacking in some departments and the entire region itself is lacking comparable amenities that other cities have for years.

I believe that the boundary extension will help this in two ways:

1. The immediate increase in population, however small, will make it harder to deny Waterford City (and thus the region) basic services on the grounds of not having the sufficient population to justify a particular service.
2. Better planning north of the River will lead to better infrastructure, better amenities and possibly even more jobs. If taken under control of Waterford City, then I can see a particular emphasis on trying to develop this side of the city which will counter the development south of the river and hopefully in time lead to a city big enough to counter balance some of the influence of Dublin.

In terms of services of what is available in Waterford City (and the Region) then hopefully this increased population/development will help towards the following:

1. A university in Waterford City that will serve the entire region, not just Waterford as some would suggest. This would allow me and my kids, as Kilkenny people, to study at home and not have to travel to Dublin, Cork, Limerick or Galway to study in a University.
2. Increased medical services in the UHW that will serve the region – most notably 24/7 Cardiac facilities that would benefit people in Kilkenny and the entire region.
3. Greater ability to attract FDI and IDA jobs due to larger population. There is scope to even create a North Waterford IDA site using access to the Motorway and Port as benefits to that potential Industrial Estate.
4. Greater justification for investment in the airport allowing more routes to open up.
5. Some decent shopping facilities on the North Side of the River to stop me from crossing the bridge to do some simple food shopping.

I firmly believe that a stronger Waterford City will help with all of the points above which will in turn help the people of Wexford, Kilkenny and Tipperary, providing a benefit to the entire South East Region of Ireland.

Regards,

Trevor Ryan