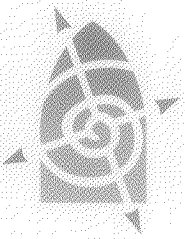


Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh
North Tipperary County Council



Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.

25th November 2011 Oifigí Cathartha, Bóthar Luimnigh, An t-Aonach, Contae Thiobraid Árann.

Mr. Dermot Ahern, TD
Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform
94 St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2

Dear Minister

At a recent meeting of North Tipperary County Council members passed a motion calling for the amalgamation of the four Joint Policing Committees in North Tipperary in order to avoid duplication and to efficiently use scarce resources.

The Guidelines for the establishment of the Joint Policing Committees state as follows:

"It is desirable that demands on the Garda Síochána and the local authorities arising from participation in the JPCs should be kept within manageable proportions. There should be flexibility to adapt to particular local circumstances, such as population, the nature of the area and policing priorities, and there should be proper linkage between the JPCs and their local authorities".

It was the view of members that the progression of work of the JPCs in an effective, efficient and manageable way would best be served by tailoring the number of JPCs in the local authority area to the needs of that area and that, in counties such as North Tipperary, there is not a need to have separate JPCs for the County and Town Authorities. In reaching this conclusion the following points were made:

1. There is a duplication in membership between the Joint Policing Committees - there are Councillors who serve on the County JPC and the JPC for their respective Town Councils, in addition Oireachtas Members may be on all four JPCs. This leads to a requirement to attend an increased number of meetings.
2. Members of the Gardaí are also involved in attending multiple meetings which is not the most effective use of their time particularly as the same type of matters are raised at each of the JPC meetings.
3. Communication and sharing of ideas could be facilitated by having one JPC with a membership extended to incorporate representation from the Town Councils. This would assist in a joint approach to problem solving, promote the concept of shared services and be a more effective use of scarce resources.

Members called for a relaxation of the Guidelines to enable the above proposals to be brought into effect.

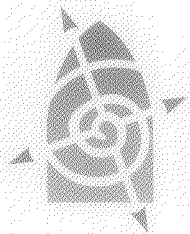
I would be grateful if you would reply to this letter so that I may appraise the members of same.

Yours sincerely

Rosemary Joyce
Senior Executive Officer/Meetings Administrator
Corporate Support Section
Fón: (067) 44563



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Arann Thuaidh
North Tipperary County Council



Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.

25th November 2010 Oifigi Cathartha, Bóthar Luimnigh, An t-Aonach, Contae Thiobraid Arann.

Mr. John Gormley, TD
Minister for Environment, Heritage & Local Government
Custom House
Dublin 1

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