

## **GREATER VILLAGE REGENERATION TRUST**

Additional comments to local Government boundaries commission Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

The Trust believe the proposal to create a new ward called CITY HALL should be withdrawn. There is no sense of community ownership for such a ward; there is no particular affinity with those areas that are proposed to make up the new ward. Those areas that are suggested will make up the new ward have an existing physical and social connection to the established wards. We understand this proposal by the trust would create a necessity to make changes to other proposed wards. We have attached a range of maps to indicate the proposed changes.

The Trust have already made a submission in regard to the extension of the Blackstaff-St Georges ward to be extended to take in an area included in the following boundary, the Westlink to the junction of Grosvenor Rd including the railway line and Boyne Bridge following Grosvenor Rd and Howard St to Bedford St following Bedford St to Dublin Rd to Hope St link to Gt Victoria St following a line through Shaftesbury Sq and Bradbury Place along Lisburn Rd to the area at the rear of Dunluce Ave to the railway line, following the line to the junction of Balmoral Rd ? Taking in the lower area of the Boucher Rd to the junction of the Broadway roundabout and the Westlink. Marked in ORANGE on the attached map.

We would also propose the Falls ward be extended to take in that area known as Hamill St to be bounded by Grosvenor Rd Howard St to Donegall Place Divis St Castle st, Royal Ave Junction (marked in GREEN on the attached maps.

The Shankill ward should be extended to take in the area known as Browns Sq to Royal Ave marked in PINK on the attached map.

The University area should be extended to the City Hall to take in the Donegall Pass area marked in BLUE on the attached map. The area known as the Mid Donegall Rd should be transferred from the University area to the proposed BLACKSTAFF/ST GEORGES ward, the area bounded by the Stranmillis Rd and the Botanic Gardens to Eblana St marked in PINK on the attached maps should be transferred to the Stranmillis Ward.

The area known as the Markets should be included in the proposed Ormeau ward shown in pale GREEN on the attached map.

The Trust would also propose the area which includes Stockman's Lane and Weston Drive should be included in the proposed Balmoral ward.

The portion of the proposed Boucher Ward bounded by Donnybrook St to Adelaide Ave should be Transferred to the university ward and the area from Adelaide Ave to Stockmans Land should be transferred to the Malone ward.

These suggestions made by the Trust have been done so with one outcome in mind, that of local accountability and community ownership. We realise that some wards may finish up with slightly more electorate than others however we would hope that this process is much more than a platform for politics.

This should be a robust system for the delivery of all government and statutory services. The wards should reflect ongoing initiatives such as the Arterial routes program, the neighbourhood renewal areas and most importantly the community aspirations to belong to a community and area where there is real and meaningful change to their quality of live, through proper systems and mechanisms being put in place to identify the needs of a particular community and to provide the necessary support to tackle these problems.