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A Chara

Sinn Fein recently made both written and verbal submissions to the boundary commission. We argued that the Mountainview Estate should be moved from the Forth River Ward into the Ardoyne Ward.

It is our view that the current boundary lines do not reflect the community ties in the area.

Residents living in Mountainview have a natural tie to the Ardoyne ward in terms of the Holy Cross Church; other parish organisations; schools; local GAA; other sporting clubs and close family ties.

In Addition to this, when dealing with contentious and contested parades a dialogue group from Mountainview, Dales and Ardoyne represent the residents from these three parts of North Belfast in their dealings with the Parades Commission and other groups and individuals on this matter. This is an integral part to achieving conflict resolution for this part of North Belfast

Mountainview is, to all intents and purposes, an integral part of the Ardoyne community.

There is a peace wall that forms a boundary between the residents of Mountainview and residents living in the Forth River Ward. From a psychological, physical and interactive standpoint there are no connections.

In your conclusions you give recognition to such logical reasons for change.

However, you decided such a move would oversize the Ardoyne Ward. While we appreciate the effect this might have on reorganising existing wards we would strongly argue that you reconsider your recommendations.

There has been strong support and recommendations from other political parties on how to bring about these logical changes. Indeed they have argued that an oversized Ardoyne Ward could be compensated for by transferring the area around Ardilea Street into the Water Works Ward.. There is no separation barrier between these two wards, in fact, this change would further unite the Marrowbone area which is a very close knit community.

Demonstrating, this change will not have any disproportional affect on any section of this community and would ensure equality of access to representation for everyone.

Is Sinne le Meas

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