

LGD: North West
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Organisation: Derry City Council
Ref to: District, Name

Consideration must be given to an alternative name for the new 'North West' Council, rather than that which is proposed. It is anonymous and bland. Of crucial importance it does not give any recognition to the unique and particular recognition given to the City of Derry and its region in the Regional Strategic Framework. That major Northern Ireland strategic document divided northern Ireland into the Belfast Metropolitan Area, Derry and its regional hinterland and the rest of Northern Ireland. This was deliberately done to recognise the special position of the city of Derry, the second city in Northern Ireland and its importance in a sub-regional context and, further, to promote a counter-balance to Belfast. The new Council will be centred on the city of Derry. The existing Derry City Council has a significant rural hinterland. Accordingly, the name of the new Council should recognise the strategic position of the city of Derry and its regional setting, both existing and proposed (in the new local government context). It would seem logical, therefore, that the name of the existing Council that includes the city of Derry should be incorporated into the name of the new Council which encompasses the city of Derry. If this rationale were to be accepted, an appropriate name might be 'City of Derry Regional Council'

I must emphasise that this representation has yet to be approved by resolution of Derry City Council and, thus, can only be regarded as a provisional representation. However, it will be possible to have this representation affirmed, if that is the case by the date of the public hearing