From:
To: post2040
Cc:

Subject: Re: Hard copies of dialogue papers on post 2040 strategy development

Date: 23 March 2021 22:25:45

Dear Sirs

I'd be obliged if you would send me the hard copies of these documents as soon as possible. It would be useful, too, to know who are the main proponents of the idea to inflict a new port monstrosity on "Bremore", in particular. This particular canard originated with Mary Harney's Progressive Democrats some years ago, when they ran a one day conference in Dublin Castle under the banner of "A New Heart for Dublin"...... the "New Heart" being a Manhattan-style skyline to rise over the Dublin Port area. The incidental fact that a new Port Access Tunnel had just been completed at huge public expense was conveniently ignored. The Port would remain in use of course, but mainly as a location to welcome cruise ships..... the commercial, i.e., less salubrious, traffic would move to a new "Deep Water" location at "Bremore, north of Dublin". They even arranged for a photo-op at their envisaged location, a field at a heritage site opposite the Cardy Rock, with flag poles raised and flags fluttering. Fortunately, nothing further has been seen to happen on this front until lately, when a local FG Councillor has had space given over in a couple of papers to a reawakening of the idea. Clearly, he had foreknowledge of what Dublin Port is now beginning to put into the public domain on this front. Two things to mention at this point, not insignificant points either... there is NO DEEP WATER at this location and there has been no attempt to consult with the local population. Finally, as the Covid-19 pandemic has raged, local exercise régimes have brought residents out in their droves to walk and explore their coastline. The population of the Balbriggan area has grown greatly since the PDs tried their "DEEP WATER PORT FOR BREMORE" scam (they tended not to mention Balbriggan in the context!). A lot of new voters live here now who are most unlikely to welcome the habitat destruction implicit in dredging and construction of a mega port. One gathers that Dublin Port Company, for its part, understands this very well, but it would be good for them too to be chary of using Drogheda Port Company as its "proxy" for pursuing a new port anywhere on this coastline; there have been hints of just that happening. The beaches of Balbriggan, Gormanston, and Laytown/Bettystown do not need "development" depredations visited upon them. Their hinterlands all now have large voting populations that are too appreciative of their coastal amenities and general environment to be supportive of a spurious port development largely aimed at benefitting the City of Dublin. The rapacious mentality that drives East Coast expansion ought not be allowed to profit unfettered at the expense of societal well-being. Besides, in a national development context post-Brexit, it does not seem unreasonable to conjecture that port access development on our south eastern and southern shores would serve Ireland better in terms of quicker transit to our fellow EU members.

Thank you.

My address details are as follows:-

Damien White

