

Please find submission to the National Spatial Strategy.

The Beara peninsula is on the periphery of County Cork and must create jobs on the peninsula as we are too far away from Cork City to travel.

We are blessed with the second safest natural harbour in the world Berehaven harbour.

The harbour is located in Castletownbere. The port is under the control of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with a local harbour master. Castletownbere is the biggest fishing port in Ireland. [https://webmail.eir.ie/service/home/~/?auth=co&loc=en\\_GB&id=85405&part=3](https://webmail.eir.ie/service/home/~/?auth=co&loc=en_GB&id=85405&part=3)

The port is due a 20 million new deep water pier in 2018

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/press/pressreleases/2015/july/title,83827,en.html>

The port had 44,000 tons of cargo landed each year.

<http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/spt/statisticsofporttraffic2015/>

The cargo through the port is planned to double over the next three years.

The port is also home to a fleet of tugs and guard's ships. the largest tugs in Ireland is based in the port. At present, some oil and gas ships use the port when working off the south west coast.

Creating extra jobs for the peninsula.

The port can develop an extra deep water quay on the south side of Dinish island in Castletownbere port. This location has depths of 16 meters. We are not aware of any port in Ireland with this depth. <http://www.castletownbereport.com/oilgas.html>

This proposed deep water pier could be used to service the growing oil and gas drilling operation's off the west cork coast. <http://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/natural-resources/topics/Oil-Gas-Exploration-Production/licensing/licences-and-maps/Pages/Licences-and-Maps.aspx>

Castletownbere is well positioned in West Cork to service this industry, with seven miles of a sheltered harbour and many engineering businesses shore based. Creating one hundred or two hundred jobs in this peninsula would be of great assistance in developing the area.

With the pier that is planned to be built in 2018 this will open the port for cruise liners and extra cargo vessels and fishing vessels .

The road network to Castletownbere needs upgrading with up to 16,000 large trucks on the road each year taking fish, and cargo to markets around Europe. When the new pier is built in 2018 the road traffic will increase. Detail study by National Spatial Strategy of Castletownbere port potential would be very welcome and would assist in creating jobs in this rural peninsula.

Regards

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Beara Tourism and Development

Castletownbere

Co Cork