

Portsmouth Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Report:

Seafront Masterplan (Supplementary Planning Document)

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1. Introduction

Purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal and this report

- 1.1.1 The purpose of sustainability appraisal is to promote sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. It is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of a plan, and the extent to which its implementation will achieve the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainable development can be defined. In particular, it focuses on reviewing alternatives to inform decisions on the best way forward.
- 1.1.2 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' (SEA) of plans and programmes, including development plans. In England, the process of undertaking sustainability appraisal (SA) is mandatory under the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. In addition, paragraph 165 of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) states that *'a sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors'*. In this report all references to SA should be understood to mean SA incorporating SEA. This SA has been prepared in accordance with the guidance set out in the CLG Plan Making Manual (2009). In following the guidance, it is deemed that this appraisal meets the requirements of the SEA Directive (referred to above). The table in Appendix 1 sets out how the requirements for the environmental report in that SEA Directive have been met in this SA report.
- 1.1.3 This document is the sustainability appraisal report that sits alongside the final Seafront masterplan, Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The masterplan is intended to guide improvements to the Seafront. It seeks to articulate a clear identity and role for each of the Seafront's six unique character areas and to highlight opportunities for development and public realm improvements. While the 'parent policy' to this SPD, policy PCS9 of the Portsmouth Plan, has already been subject to a sustainability appraisal (see <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/7923.html>), it was considered prudent to appraise the masterplan itself, as it contains more detailed proposals with their own sustainability implications.
- 1.1.4 The sustainability appraisal process investigated the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the masterplan as it was developed, so that changes could be made to improve its sustainability impacts before it is finally adopted. This report sets out how SA of the masterplan has been undertaken and what the results of this process were. This document is the final SA report which sits alongside the final version of the Seafront masterplan, SPD.
- 1.1.5 Readers may also wish to refer back to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 (available at <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/4221.html>) to gain a fuller understanding of the approach to SA that the city council is taking for all of its local planning policy documents. The framework contains much of the background work that has informed the appraisal of the Seafront masterplan.

- 1.1.6 If you have any questions regarding the Seafront masterplan or this report, please call the planning policy team on 023 9268 8633.

Other related assessments

- 1.2.1 A number of other linked, but distinct assessments were also undertaken to consider the various impacts of the Seafront masterplan.

Health Impact Assessment

- 1.2.2 Although the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 (referred to in 1.1.5) includes a specific objective for health and well-being, the city council considered it important to consider a separate Health Impact Assessment (HIA). A HIA looks at the impact of a plan on the determinants of health, which can be grouped under the six headings of lifestyle, personal circumstances, access to services, facilities and amenities, social factors, economic factors and environmental factors. The full list of determinants of health is shown at Appendix 3, with the ones deemed to be most relevant to planning highlighted in bold. In order to determine the overall health impact, each of these determinants was considered in turn. However, as many of them overlap with the criteria in the sustainability appraisal, not all have been discussed in detail in the 'health and wellbeing' row of the assessment tables. Rather, it should be assumed that impacts identified on sustainability criteria that are also determinants of health should be taken to have the same impact on health. Impacts specific to health have then been set out in the health row of the table set out in Appendix 5.

Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 1.2.3 A Full EIA was completed. It found that most equalities groups would not be affected differently by the Seafront masterplan. Potential impacts were, however, noted for the age and disability groups.
- 1.2.4 The EIA found that the masterplan does identify opportunities at the Seafront that may appeal to a range of different interests and age groups. More places to eat and drink, new sports facilities, improvements to the promenade surfacing, more seating and better access to the waterfront for those with mobility problems may all appeal to older people.
- 1.2.5 A number of recent improvements in the area, such as the Splash Pool and additions to the Canoe Lake play area, are aimed at young people. The masterplan also sets out other opportunities that may appeal to this age group, such as the new Sports Hub and further enhancements to sports and play facilities at Canoe Lake.
- 1.2.6 One of the objectives of the masterplan is to ensure that the Seafront is accessible for all users and that it is easy to move around. The proposals in the SPD will clearly impact upon some disability groups, particularly those with mobility problems.
- 1.2.7 Following comments received during the consultation, the SPD was amended to note that care should be taken to ensure that signs and street furniture do not cause an obstruction to people using the Promenade / footpaths, and to remove reference to using 'raised tables' as a method of traffic calming. Further guidance relating to signage has also been added to note that signs should contain clear font and, where

possible, include images / pictures to aid understanding. They should also be at a height which is accessible for different Seafront visitors e.g. young people / those in wheelchairs.

- 1.2.8 The full EIA can be viewed at <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/10787.html>.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.2.9 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is a requirement of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. The HRA reviews the likely significant effects of the Seafront masterplan on European protected nature conservation sites in and around Portsmouth, and seeks to establish whether or not there will be any adverse effects on the ecological integrity of these European sites as a result of the proposals.
- 1.2.10 A 'screening statement', the earliest stage of HRA, was completed on the draft Seafront masterplan and consulted on alongside the draft SPD. The results of that consultation have informed the revised assessment.
- 1.2.11 Each of the proposals in the Seafront masterplan has been assessed to determine whether there could be an adverse effect on a European site if it went ahead. The proposals for Clarence Pier, gateways to Southsea Common, the Avenue de Caen lighting schemes, the Watersports Hub and the beach huts at Eastney could potentially lead to such an impact as a result of disturbance from recreation and / or indirect habitat loss. To deal with these potential impacts, possible avoidance and mitigation measures were explored and incorporated into the Seafront masterplan. The plan has also been amended to stress the importance of early discussions with the city council's ecologist and Natural England as detailed schemes come forward. It is considered that if these measures are implemented, they would remove the potential for adverse effects on the European sites.
- 1.2.12 The revised HRA can be viewed at <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/25964.html>.

2. Appraisal Methodology - When and how the assessment was carried out

- 2.1.1 The appraisal process was devised and led by planning officers, as it was considered important for those responsible for drafting policy documents to be actively involved in the appraisal rather than reviewing the results at the end of the process. It is the purpose of the sustainability appraisal to challenge and improve the quality of the final plan, and it is therefore essential that the authors of the plan should be actively involved in the appraisal process.
- 2.1.2 The now established methodology has been tested a number of times in sustainability appraisals of local planning policy documents, most notably the Portsmouth Plan (our core strategy / local plan), which was adopted in January 2012.

The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators

- 2.2.1 The city council has devised a generic sustainability appraisal framework for all of its local planning policy documents (Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010, as referred to in 1.1.5). The framework document sets out the baseline data in tabular form, along with associated targets grouped together in ten sustainability objectives, assessment criteria and indicators.

Links to other strategies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives

- 2.3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 also contains a comprehensive review of all plans, strategies, guidance and legislation which relate to sustainability and which will influence the preparation of any local development documents in general terms. The documents reviewed in the framework range from international guidance and legislation, through to UK government policies and guidance, and corporate policies and strategies at the local level. They also include targets and objectives of regulatory and advisory organisations (for example the Environment Agency and Natural England). The main sustainability objectives from these documents have been recorded in a database. This database is updated as and when documents are superseded and / or new documents are published. For further details, see Part 2 and Appendix 1 of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 (<http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/4221.html>).

The social, environmental and economic baseline

- 2.4.1 As part of the preparation of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010, a wide variety of information relating to a number of different sustainability issues was collected. Most of this was presented at city-wide or ward level so that it would provide a broad overview of the key sustainability issues affecting the city as a whole, and this therefore relevant to any local planning policy document. For further details, see Part 2 and Appendix 3 of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 (<http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/4221.html>).

Sustainability Appraisal of the Seafront Masterplan SPD

- 2.5.1 A sustainability appraisal (SA) was undertaken as part of the development of the draft Seafront masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and, together with the SPD, the SA report was subject to consultation in the summer of 2012.
- 2.5.2 Comments on the SA were received from Natural England. They were concerned about the lack of clarity in the masterplan regarding the use of local plant species, the protection of Brent geese and the impact of the proposals for the Watersports Hub and the beach huts on the vegetated shingle on Eastney Beach. The city council worked with Natural England to overcome these concerns, and changes were made to the masterplan, as described in the following section and in Appendix 5.
- 2.5.3 This updated report shows what changes were made following the consultations and describes the anticipated sustainability impacts and, where relevant any mitigation measures, and suggested monitoring indicators for the final SPD. The full details of the assessment findings for the Seafront masterplan are described in the following section and in Appendix 5.

3. Sustainability Impacts of the Seafront masterplan

Seafront masterplan - Vision and objectives and their compatibility with sustainability objectives

- 3.1.1 Five objectives were initially set for the Seafront masterplan. A sixth objective regarding the historic environment was added to the final masterplan as a result of a consultation response from English Heritage. These objectives have been checked for their compatibility with the ten sustainability objectives set out in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010. Appendix 4 shows the full results of this assessment. No particular incompatibilities were highlighted through this process.
- 3.1.2 The masterplan objectives were shown to have positive or possible positive effects on the sustainability criteria. Only one was shown to be uncertain – the effect on the biodiversity objective. This was addressed by a clearer recognition of the role of some proposals in enhancing biodiversity (e.g. additional planting) and a need to take biodiversity into account, particularly in sensitive areas such as Eastney Beach. In addition, the final masterplan specifically sets out mitigation measures that will be needed to make the proposals around Eastney Beach acceptable.

Options considered and why rejected

- 3.2.1 A possible location for the Promenade café / restaurant was rejected in favour of a location further away from residential properties that would be less likely to have negative impacts on the health and wellbeing objective in terms of noise and disturbance.
- 3.2.2 The draft masterplan contained three options for the redevelopment of Clarence Pier. It was always the intention to reduce the number of options for Clarence Pier following the initial consultation. The two remaining options in the final masterplan allow for comprehensive redevelopment or redevelopment of smaller parcels of land reflecting ownership boundaries. No uses suggested in the initial three options have been discounted. The masterplan has, however, been amended to strengthen the text to highlight the challenges of delivering any residential uses in this area. This includes the need for noise mitigation measures to protect any new residential uses from noise from the hovercraft and nearby leisure uses, the need for development to be designed and located appropriately in order to adapt to future coastal change, and the need to consider any environmental issues associated with flood defence works. These measures will avoid potential negative impacts on the health & wellbeing and flood risk SA criteria. Also, and as already mentioned, the masterplan has been amended to highlight the importance of earlier discussions with the city council's ecologist and Natural England as detailed proposals are drawn up so as to ensure that, if necessary, effective design solutions can be found which will enable development to go ahead, whilst not impacting on the Brent Geese (an internationally protected species) and their feeding sites (the Common). These measures will help to avoid potential negative impacts on the biodiversity SA criteria
- 3.2.3 The option for the Watersports Hub located at St George's Road was rejected following the consultation and the final masterplan suggests a revised location at Eastney Beach, where the facility can be combined with the proposed 'Eco Café'. This will enable the facilities to share servicing.

- 3.2.4 Finally, the option of moving the bandstand to the Rose Gardens was rejected after the consultation. Many objections were received to this proposal, mainly related concerns that it would disrupt the quiet and tranquil nature of the Rose Gardens. As such, the proposal to move the bandstand could have had a negative impact on the sustainability objectives of health & wellbeing, culture, leisure & recreation and heritage.

Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the Seafront masterplan

- 3.3.1 The proposals in the 'Area Framework' section and the individual character area sections of the masterplan were assessed against the sustainability objectives.
- 3.3.2 The majority of the scores were positive. The aim of the masterplan is to improve the Seafront and to make it more attractive to residents and visitors. Particularly worth highlighting, therefore, are the positive scores for the landscape & townscape and the heritage objectives, as well as for the economy, leisure and health objectives.
- 3.3.3 The SA indicated that the masterplan has no direct relationship to some of the SA objectives, which is largely due to the limited scope of the Seafront masterplan and its focus primarily on environmental improvements, rather than on large scale development.
- 3.3.4 A number of uncertain and negative impacts were highlighted through the sustainability appraisal. Many of these were addressed by making amendments to the document, such as the need for clearer recognition of biodiversity assets. Changes were also made to clarify the need for permeable (flood risk objective) and wheelchair and ambulant friendly surfaces (social inclusion & quality of life objective).
- 3.3.5 For other parts of the masterplan that showed uncertain or negative effects on individual sustainability objectives, no changes were made to the plan as there were other reasons for retaining these proposals in their existing form. For example, while the locations of the two proposed hotels are not very well served by public transport and therefore scored poorly against the natural resources objective, the need for a vibrant mix of uses at the Clarence Pier site and for an alternative use for the listed Royal Marines Museum, meant that these proposals remained in the plan for further consideration. Other matters that are possibly negative or are uncertain have been addressed by including proposed mitigation measures in the masterplan, most notable for biodiversity issues linked to the Eastney Beach proposals, and noise and flood risk issues for any redevelopment at Clarence Pier.
- 3.3.6 Finally, while in many sections of the masterplan the proposals have no sustainability impact (and therefore score as neutral) over and above the impact of sea defences, which are planned through a different project, the issue of flood risk will be relevant to many of the proposals as the details are drawn up.
- 3.3.7 For the full results of the SA process please see Appendix 5.

4. Monitoring

- 4.1.1 The city council already operates an annual monitoring system (Annual Monitoring Report) of its planning documents. It is proposed that monitoring of the sustainability impacts will be part and parcel of the general monitoring of the progress of the plan.
- 4.1.2 The city council is a key landowner at the Seafront and also the Local Planning Authority. As such it will be able to guard against potential negative impacts of new development and to promote positive ones. In sustainability terms it will be particularly important to monitor and seek to avoid any negative effects in relation to flood risk and biodiversity, which have both been highlighted in the SA as the areas most likely to be adversely affected or be uncertain.
- 4.1.3 Monitoring indicators for these and other matters will include:
- Percentage of the Seafront coastline protected to a 1 in 200 year flood event;
 - Number of properties at risk from flooding;
 - Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance;
 - Visitor numbers to Portsmouth (and the Seafront in particular);
 - Percentage of residents that think their health is good;
 - Participation in active recreation;
 - Participation in cultural activities;
 - Percentage of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live.
- 4.1.4 For further information about the Annual Monitoring Report, please see <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/6109.html>.

Appendix 1: Compliance with the requirements for the environmental report under the SEA Directive (European Union Directive 2001/42/EC)

Information referred to in Article 5(1)	Where has this requirement been addressed
a) an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	Sections 1.1.3, 3.1 and Appendix 4 of this report
b) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010
c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 and Appendix 5 of this report
d) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme, including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010
e) the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way in those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010
f) the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above	Section 3 and Appendix 5 of this report
g) the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme	Section 3 and the final column of the table in Appendix 5 of this report
h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information	Section 3 of this report
i) a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10	Section 4 of this report
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Not necessary as the whole report is short and non-technical

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework 2010 can be found at <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/4221.html>

Appendix 2: Sustainability Appraisal – Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Sustainability Appraisal Framework (2010) – Summary of SA Objectives & Assessment Criteria	
ISSUE & SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: “What contribution does the policy make to...”
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change To protect the quality and minimise the consumption of natural resources, and minimise emissions to address the causes of climate change	Minimising the need to travel?
	Reducing the reliance on, and the consumption of, finite fossil fuels in transport and reducing emissions?
	Reducing the reliance on, and the consumption of, finite fossil fuels through energy efficiency in development?
	Improving air quality?
	Reducing final disposal of waste, including avoiding waste, re-using and recycling?
	Reducing the extraction of minerals and increasing the use of recycled aggregate?
	Maintaining and enhancing water quality?
	Conserving water resources?
	Re-using brownfield land, vacant sites and buildings?
	The density of development?
2 Flood Risk To reduce flood risk from all sources of flooding	Avoiding development in flood risk areas?
	Managing flood risk on sites at risk of flooding?
	Minimising the impact of development on the city’s sewer system?
3 Biodiversity To make sure that the city’s most important wildlife species and habitats are protected and enhanced	Maintaining and / or improving the condition of internationally, nationally and locally designated nature conservation sites?
	Safeguarding the role of non-designated sites in supporting wildlife in the city?
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality To preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the city and its surroundings, including its built-up areas and its open spaces	The quality / appearance of the built environment?
	Fostering positive perceptions of the city’s attractiveness?
	To protecting and enhancing the greenness of the city, by improving the quality and quantity of open spaces and trees?
5 Heritage To protect and conserve Portsmouth’s historic, cultural and maritime heritage	Maintaining and protecting conservation areas?
	Maintaining and protecting listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments and their settings?
6 Homes for Everyone To ensure that good quality housing is readily available and attainable to all those who need it	Delivering sufficient housing numbers to satisfy overall housing need within the city?
	Delivering sufficient affordable housing units to satisfy the needs of those on lower incomes?
	Ensuring an appropriate mix and balance of housing types and tenures across the city and at neighbourhood level?
	Promoting good quality homes that will stand the test of time?
7 Education, Employment & Economy To ensure that the city’s economy is buoyant and diverse, and to develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness	Employment levels?
	Supporting new and existing businesses?
	Economic growth?
	Maintaining and enhancing the appeal of Portsmouth’s visitor attractions?
	The provision of adequate education & training facilities?
	Creating opportunities to increase the skills level of the local population?
8 Health & Wellbeing To promote standards of health within the city’s population and to make Portsmouth a city where everyone feels safe and is safe	Improving people’s perception of their own health?
	Improving the health of the city’s population?
	Increasing opportunities for healthy pursuits?
	Ensuring access to adequate healthcare facilities?
	Reducing Health inequalities?
	Reducing danger to all road users and the potential for accidents?
Reducing the fear of crime and levels of crime, in particular violent crime and anti-social behaviour?	

9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation To ensure that there are opportunities for everyone to participate in fulfilling healthy and rewarding leisure activities to suit a full range of needs and interests	Ensuring that everyone has easy access to pleasant, multi-functional green spaces across the city? (NB sports facilities are covered in 'health' objective)
	Ensuring that all the city's children have easy access to a high quality play area?
	Ensuring that the city maintains adequate cultural and entertainment facilities to satisfy residents' expectations
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life To minimise unfair disadvantage or discrimination, so that all people in the city have equal access to facilities & services, feel part of a community and have a sense of pride in Portsmouth	Maintaining the role of the city's town and local centres and ensuring their continued vitality and viability?
	Ensuring that as many people as possible have good access to shops and services?
	Reducing concentrations of social disadvantage in certain areas of the city?

Appendix 3: Determinants of health (Bold denotes those most relevant to local planning policy documents); Ison, E. (2002) Rapid appraisal tool for Health Impact Assessment

Lifestyle	Personal circumstances	Access to services, facilities and amenities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diet • Exercise and physical activity • Smoking habit • Exposure to passive smoking • Alcohol intake • Dependency on prescription drugs • Illicit drug and substance use • Sexual behaviour • Other health-related behaviours, such as tooth-brushing, bathing, and food preparation • Travel choices • Where you work in relation to where you live 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure and cohesion of family unit • Parenting • Childhood development • Life skills • Personal safety • Employment status • Working conditions • Level of income, including benefits • Level of disposable income • Housing tenure • Housing conditions • Educational attainment • Skills levels including literacy and numeracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to Employment Opportunities and Workplaces • to Housing • to Shops (to supply basic needs) • to Amenities (e.g. bank, Post Office) • to Community facilities • to Public transport • to education, training and skills development • to Healthcare • to Social Services • to Childcare • to Respite Care • to Leisure and recreation services and facilities, including open space

Social Factors	Economic Factors	Environmental Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social contact • Social support • Social cohesion • Neighbourliness • Participation in the community • Membership of community groups • Reputation of community/area • Participation in public affairs • Level of crime and disorder • Fear of crime and disorder • Level of antisocial behaviour • Fear of antisocial behaviour • Discrimination • Fear of discrimination • Public safety measures • Road safety measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of wealth • Distribution of wealth • Retention of wealth in local area/economy • Distribution of income • Business activity • Job creation • Availability of employment opportunities • Quality of employment opportunities • Availability of education opportunities • Quality of education opportunities • Availability of training and skills development opportunities • Quality of training and skills development opportunities • Technological development • Amount of traffic congestion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Water quality • Soil quality/Level of contamination • Noise, odour, vibration levels • Hazards • Land use • Natural habitats and Biodiversity • Landscape, including green and open spaces • Townscape, including civic areas and public realm • Use/consumption of natural resources • Energy use: CO2/other greenhouse gas emissions • Solid waste management • Public transport infrastructure • Active travel infrastructure • Flood Risk

Appendix 4: Sustainability Appraisal of the Seafront masterplan objectives

Masterplan Objectives			
Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	✓	The objective to strengthen routes from one end to the Seafront to another is likely to encourage walking and cycling as leisure pursuits as well as modes of transport. The objective to integrate the sea defences with improvements to the Seafront has the potential to save resources.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	✓	One of the masterplan objectives is 'ensuring the new sea defences integrate sensitively with the local environment and provide opportunities to improve the Seafront'. There is not an objective to reduce flood risk as such. This is largely due to the fact that the main focus of the masterplan is on environmental improvements. Nevertheless, the mention of sea defences is relevant to this objective, as it shows recognition of their importance on the seafront.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	?	One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'strengthening routes between Old Portsmouth and Eastney Beach, and to other parts of the city.' Eastney Beach is of local nature conservation value. It is currently a very quiet stretch of beach – this objective could lead to an increase in use. However, the nature conservation value of this area is recognised in another masterplan objective: 'protecting the open nature of Southsea Common and other public spaces, and the valuable wildlife habitat at Eastney Beach'.	Biodiversity issues and additional mitigation measures (particularly relevant to Eastney Beach) have been made clearer in the masterplan.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓✓	Landscape and Townscape quality are very much the focus of the masterplan. Some of the masterplan objectives include 'protecting the open nature of Southsea Common and other public spaces', 'ensuring that the design of new attractions and public spaces is distinctive and of a high quality, and that it is sensitive to, and enhances the historic character of the area', and 'ensuring the new sea defences integrate sensitively with the local environment and provide opportunities to improve the Seafront'.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'ensuring that the design of new attractions and public spaces is distinctive and of a high quality, and that it is sensitive to, and enhances the historic character of the area'. Following the consultation on the draft masterplan, an additional specific heritage objective was added: 'conserving and enhancing the Seafront's historic environment and heritage assets'.	A specific heritage objective was added to the masterplan.

6 Homes for Everyone	∅	There are no masterplan objectives relevant to this SA objective.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'introducing a vibrant mix of leisure and tourism uses into the area, including small scale cafes and restaurants that will attract people to the Seafront all year round'. This will have a positive effect on the local economy. Another objective of the masterplan is 'strengthening routes between Old Portsmouth and Eastney Beach and to other parts of the city', which could benefit nearby town centres.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓	One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'strengthening routes between Old Portsmouth and Eastney Beach, and to other parts of the city.' This will make it easier or more pleasant to walk from one end of the Seafront to the other, with obvious health benefits.	No change.
9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓✓	The masterplan seeks to increase the attractiveness and usability of this key leisure resource in the city, which provides free opportunities for leisure activities all year round. One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'introducing a vibrant mix of leisure and tourism uses into the area, including small scale cafes and restaurants that will attract people to the seafront all year round'.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	✓	One of the objectives of the masterplan is 'introducing a vibrant mix of leisure and tourism uses into the area, including small scale cafes and restaurants that will attract people to the seafront all year round'. The aim is to make the seafront a place that everyone can enjoy.	No change.

✓✓ Positive effect	Where the document / policy / option is certain to have a positive impact on the sustainability objectives
✓ Possible positive effect	Where the document / policy / option is likely to have a positive impact, but where there is some uncertainty
? Uncertain overall effect	Where the effect of the document / policy / option on the sustainability criterion is uncertain, or where there are both positive and negative effects, thereby making the overall effect uncertain
* Possible negative effect	Where the document / policy / option is likely to have a negative impact, but where there is some uncertainty
** Negative effect	Where the document / policy / option is certain to have a negative impact on the sustainability criterion
∅ No direct relationship or no impact	Where there is no direct relationship between the document / policy / option and the criterion or the document / policy / option has only a very minor impact on the criterion

Appendix 5: SA of the Seafront masterplan

Area Framework, Design Principles and Access			
Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	✓	This section includes a number of provisions with positive sustainability impacts, such as recycling facilities in public bins, the encouragement of recycled materials and access to the Seafront by non-car modes.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	✓	The links between coastal defence development and improvements to the Seafront are well recognised in this section. These are mainly on the level of making sea defences multifunctional, for example by integrating seating or using them as landscape features. The section on materials also refers to all surfaces should be made of permeable / porous materials.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	?	The section highlights biodiversity designations, the need to consider impacts on them and suggests using native species in planting schemes.	The initial SA highlighted that changes needed to be made to the document to highlight biodiversity issues more clearly. The final masterplan was amended further to include references to the need to seek ecological advice on the best species to use in planting and lighting schemes to reduce any ecological impact.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓✓	The focus of the masterplan is the landscape & townscape quality at the Seafront and public art is encouraged.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	The heritage designations are set out in this section. Design principles recognise the sensitivity of historic assets to the proposals and guard against their loss. Interpretation boards are encouraged that will help visitors and residents understand the value of these assets.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	The purpose of the document is to increase the draw of the Seafront and improve its attractiveness to visitors, which will help the local economy. There are provisions for more concessions and other businesses in the area.	No change.

8 Health & Wellbeing	✓✓	The improvements to the Seafront will make it a more attractive place to visit, to walk and to take in the sea air. The design principles recognise to need to design out crime.	No change.
9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓✓	The masterplan seeks to increase the attractiveness and usability of this key leisure resource in the city, which provides free opportunities for leisure activities all year round. Additional beach huts, concession and kiosks will add to the offer, and the importance of events is recognised.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	✓	The plan seeks to provide a broader range of attractions on the Seafront and better ease of movement for all.	The masterplan was amended to note that care should be taken to ensure that signs and street furniture do not cause an obstruction to people using the Promenade / footpaths, and to remove reference to using 'raised tables' as a method of traffic calming. Further guidance relating to signage has also been added to note that signs should contain clear font and, where possible, include images / pictures to aid understanding. They should also be at a height which is accessible for different Seafront visitors e.g. young people / those in wheelchairs.

Opportunity Area 4.1 Old Portsmouth

Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	✓	Reuse of brownfield land, in the form of the use of the Arches in the historic defence walls contributes to this objective, as does the suggested cycle hire scheme.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓✓	The focus of the masterplan is the landscape & townscape quality at the Seafront and public art is encouraged in this section of the Seafront in particular. Reuse of the currently vacant Arches will add visual interest to the area which is currently underused.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓	The proposals reuse of the Arches. The effect on this on the heritage objective will depend on the details of the scheme, but this part of the document recognises the historic sensitivity of the Arches and suggests bringing them into use.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	The purpose of the document is to increase the draw of the Seafront and improve its attractiveness to visitors, which will help the local economy. Improvements to this part of the Seafront set out in the masterplan form part of this. In addition, the proposed use of the Arches for small art & crafts units will provide opportunities for small businesses.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓	The proposed use of the Arches will provide additional leisure or culture uses (e.g. art exhibitions), although it should be noted that the end users of any converted Arches are not yet determined.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.

Opportunity Area 4.2 Long Curtain Moat to Clarence Pier

Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	*	Better bus / hovercraft interchange facilities are proposed. However, additional parking is also proposed in the area, which may encourage people to drive. A hotel forms part of the redevelopment proposals, but is not very accessible by public transport. The residential element does not have easy access to shops and services, which could encourage residents to drive.	No change – these potential impacts are recognised, but there are other sustainability reasons, such as the need to revitalise this area, that are also relevant to these proposals. However, the masterplan does highlight the difficulty of achieving residential development on this site.
2 Flood Risk	**	Sea defences are considered in this section. However, more intensive use of an area at risk of flooding, in the form of a hotel and / or residential use is proposed, which has a negative impact on this SA objective.	The potential impacts are recognised, but there are other sustainability reasons, such as the need to revitalise this area, that are also relevant to these proposals. The masterplan includes text highlighting the need for new development to provide sea defences.
3 Biodiversity	?	During the consultation, Natural England raised concerns about the potential impact of any new buildings on Brent geese accessing the parks along the Seafront, including overshadowing and impacts on sight lines. Therefore the height and design of any new buildings will have to be carefully considered at the detailed development stage.	The masterplan has been amended to highlight this issue and to stress to developers the importance of early discussions with the city council's ecologist and Natural England, to ensure that, if necessary, effective design solutions can be found which will enable development to go ahead, whilst not impacting on this internationally protected species.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	?	The focus of the masterplan is the landscape & townscape quality at the Seafront. This section includes a new promenade, visually attractive and well integrated sea defences, planting schemes and the design of key buildings. However, this section also includes a proposal for a landmark building outside of the areas identified in the council's tall buildings policy. The height and design of this building will therefore have to be carefully considered at the development stage.	No change - the height and design of any building will have to be carefully considered at the detailed design / planning application stage.

5 Heritage	✓	The masterplan proposes the improvement of the route along this stretch of historic town defences. The detailed proposals will have to be very sensitive to the historic environment.	No change is needed to this section of the masterplan as the importance of heritage assets and issues are already addressed at the beginning of the document (including the new heritage objective - see above).
6 Homes for Everyone	?	This section includes proposals for residential development at the pier, which will contribute to housing delivery in the city. It is uncertain at this stage, however, what types of accommodation this would include, and the masterplan does recognise that residential uses may be difficult to achieve here.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	The purpose of the document is to increase the draw of the Seafront and improve its attractiveness to visitors, which will help the local economy. Improvements to this part of the Seafront set out in the masterplan form part of this, in particular rejuvenating Clarence Pier as a visitor destination. The possible hotel and conference centre would also add to the local economy.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓	This section of the masterplan includes provisions for safer interchange facilities and safe and easy access, which will reduce danger to road users.	The masterplan includes text highlighting the need for noise mitigation measures to protect any residential uses from noise from the hovercraft and nearby leisure uses.
9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	?	The masterplan encourages the redevelopment of an existing leisure attraction. Whether this has a positive or negative impact on this SA objective is very much a matter of subjective judgement depending on whether individuals like the existing funfair and arcades, or whether they prefer a different mix of uses including cafes, restaurants and a hotel.	No change to range of uses proposed at Clarence Pier.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	?	Car parking capacity is retained in the proposals, allowing easy access for those dependent on their cars. Residents of any residential element would not have easy access to shops and services. Residential and hotel uses on the site could exclude people from areas that are currently publicly accessible, but the document does recognise the need for a public route through the site. In addition, depending on the nature of the proposed uses, they could exclude those on low incomes.	No change.

Opportunity Area 4.3 Southsea Common

Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	✓	This part of the masterplan promotes improved walking routes.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	✓	The links between coastal defence development and improvements to the Seafront are well recognised in this section. These are mainly on the level of making sea defences multifunctional, for example by integrating seating or using them as landscape features. This section does not however make any direct contribution (positive or negative) to avoiding flood risk, although as mentioned above, the area framework section does refer to use of permeable / porous materials to reduce flood risk.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	✓✓	Whilst there are no specific references in this section of the masterplan. The masterplan does recognise the importance of Southsea Common as an asset and highlights the need to protect it as it is a Brent goose feeding site.	Additional text has been added to strengthen protection in both the 'Area Framework' section and to highlight the potential impact from any development at Clarence Pier (see table above).
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓✓	The focus of the masterplan is the landscape & townscape quality at the Seafront and this section includes design guidelines for buildings, improvements to routes through the common and practical and well integrated sea defences.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	This section of the document specifically highlights the need to protect a historic shelter and improves the setting of the Royal Naval War Memorial, as well as improving Southsea Common, which is protected through English Heritage's register of parks and gardens.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	This section includes a number of opportunities for the expansion of existing businesses and for the location of new concessions / kiosks on the Seafront.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓	There are provisions for better routes through the area which is likely to promote healthy walks and proposals for improved crossing facilities, which will reduce danger to road users.	No change.

9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓	This part of the Seafront already provides opportunities for enjoying views of the sea and fresh air, but proposals will improve this experience.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.

Opportunity Area 4.4 Southsea Castle and Surrounds

Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	✓	This section does not have a significant impact on this objective, but there is a proposal to reuse buildings in this area.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	✓	The masterplan recognises that proposals for the Castle amphitheatre would form part of the sea defences for this area.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓	Proposals include the significant remodelling of the area around Speakers Corner & Roxby's. This is currently an area of little townscape interest, and the proposals are likely to improve the area, though much will depend on the detailed design.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	This section of the document seeks to improve the setting of the historic Southsea Castle.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	This section includes a number of opportunities for the expansion of existing businesses and for the location of new concessions / kiosks on the Seafront. The proposed Sports Hub does affect an existing business, but the need for reprovision is recognised in the masterplan.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓✓	There are provisions for improved crossing facilities, which will reduce danger to road users. The proposed Sports Hub also contributes to this objective.	No change.

9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓	Proposals include a new Sports Hub and will improve Southsea Castle as a visitor attraction and make the most of this important cultural asset.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
Opportunity Area 4.5 South Parade Pier to Canoe Lake			
Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	∅	This section does not have a significant impact on this objective, but there is a proposal to reuse buildings in this area.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	✓	Whilst the draft masterplan showed proposals for a wildlife garden, the final version has been amended to reflect planning permission which has been granted for a community garden for the cultivation of fruit, vegetables and other plants, and for a small structure to provide storage / a shop to sell produce grown on the site.	Changes have been made to reflect the planning permission which has been granted but this does not alter the overall score as the new community garden will still have a positive impact on biodiversity.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	✓	The focus of the masterplan is the landscape & townscape quality at the Seafront and this section includes proposals for the improvement of the open spaces in this area.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	This section of the document seeks to improve this conservation area, and more specifically the historic structures of South Parade Pier, Lumps Fort, and Cumberland House.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓✓	This section includes a number of opportunities for the location of new businesses / cafes on the Seafront. Improving the pier will enhance its potential to attract visitors and generate wealth in the local economy.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓	This section seeks to improve opportunities for informal sport and play on the Seafront.	No change.

9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓✓	Proposals include the improvement of the pier as an events venue and the area around Canoe Lake for informal leisure activities.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
Opportunity Area 4.6 Eastney Beach			
Sustainability Objectives	Contribution to SA objective	Reason for Score	Changes made to masterplan / mitigation measures included
1 Natural Resources & Climate Change	?	The proposal for a hotel in the Royal Marines Museum would make good use of an existing building, but the location is poorly accessible by public transport.	No change.
2 Flood Risk	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.
3 Biodiversity	**	Eastney Beach is a local wildlife site, designated for its plant species. The proposed beach huts and Watersports Hub are likely to result in the loss of some of this vegetation through the building footprint and possible disturbance through increased use of the area.	The final masterplan specifically sets out mitigation measures that will be needed to make the proposals in this area acceptable.
4 Landscape & Townscape Quality	?	The proposals will significantly alter the nature of the Eastney end of the beach. This end of the Seafront is currently characterised by natural planted shingle and an absence of formal leisure activities. More beach huts, a Watersports Hub and a café will visually change the area and are likely to increase activity here.	No change.
5 Heritage	✓✓	Proposals in this section of the document will improve the setting of Fort Cumberland and make it more accessible. Reuse of the Royal Marines Museum would keep it in active use.	No change.
6 Homes for Everyone	∅	This section of the document has no relevant provision.	No change.
7 Education, Employment & Economy	✓	This section does not include any significant provisions that contribute to this objective, but there is a suggestion of an additional café which will make a small contribution, and more beach huts could encourage their owners to stay on the Seafront for longer and use the facilities.	No change.
8 Health & Wellbeing	✓✓	Proposals include a Watersports Hub and informal play areas at the proposed café, and more beach huts will encourage their users to stay enjoy the outdoors for longer.	No change.

9 Culture, Leisure & Recreation	✓✓	Proposals include a Watersports Hub and informal play areas at the proposed café.	No change.
10 Social Inclusion & Quality of Life	∅	This section of the masterplan has no provisions relevant to this objective.	No change.

✓✓ Positive effect	Where the document / policy / option is certain to have a positive impact on the sustainability objectives
✓ Possible positive effect	Where the document / policy / option is likely to have a positive impact, but where there is some uncertainty
? Uncertain overall effect	Where the effect of the document / policy / option on the sustainability criterion is uncertain, or where there are both positive and negative effects, thereby making the overall effect uncertain
* Possible negative effect	Where the document / policy / option is likely to have a negative impact, but where there is some uncertainty
** Negative effect	Where the document / policy / option is certain to have a negative impact on the sustainability criterion
∅ No direct relationship or no impact	Where there is no direct relationship between the document / policy / option and the criterion or the document / policy / option has only a very minor impact on the criterion