

Version 3 - 25/03/10

## APPENDIX A

Results from Community Charrette

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### 1. Activities (40.2% overall response in this area)

#### **Recreational Opportunities** – More retail, leisure and associated facilities' (20%)

In general the most common request was for more activities along the seafront so that the community and visitors can enjoy their time in this location and do more things.

The activities were about inclusivity and diversity and thus supported all ages and interests, there was a high demand for more quality places to eat along the seafront.

Places of varying scales and various types of restaurants and cafés, places to go where people could sit relax, enjoy a good meal and the seafront.

There was a large request for more leisure and retail activities, in general people wanted things to do or somewhere to go, ranging from specific leisure and sporting facilities and activities to more casual pursuits.

Below are a selection of the predominant community ideas and suggestions:

#### Restaurants & Cafés

*"Would be great to have a world class quality building on the seafront like the East Beach café in Littlehampton, quality architecture something which fits into the natural landscape."*

*"More restaurants to east- Draw people along seafront and to the sea"*

*"More restaurants along seafront"*

*"Attractions for visitors – cafés etc all along the seafront"*

*"The whole seafront area needs to have café bars, restaurants, and places to get snacks and to be able to sit on the seafront and admire the lovely view we have whilst having a meal or just having a coffee or a beer."*

*"Not enough cafés on seafront (nowhere for people to sit inside)"*

*"Small Businesses – Cafés and small shops in contemporary structures"*

*"Keep the pyramids and use as a giant community centre and café"*

*"More places to sit which are sheltered where you can get a drink or snack near the beach"*

*"There could be a council kitchen like in Clapham with ALL day breakfast and Sunday roast!"*

*"More restaurants with sea views"*

*"Be nice to have more cafes and restaurants on the seafront- there's not much happening on the seafront at the moment"*

#### Sports & Recreation

*"World renowned skate park - legendary!"*

*"Swimming Pool (proper for the community on the seafront) Bring back Southsea Pool "*

*"Beach ball court"*

*"Need extra Sports – Kiting/Boarding etc."*

*"Be good to be able to hire out canoes/kayaks, windsurfers and pedalos at the beach- Eastney?"*

*"Shared ownership between skaters and pedestrians!! Skate-scape"*

*"Outdoor gym"*

*"More summer beach huts?"*

*"Build BBQ areas for people to cook and hold gatherings down the seafront legally"*

*"Petting Farm (rabbits, guinea pigs etc) – local kids could adopt them"*

*"Play park facilities for young families "*

*"Build a walkway out into sea where boat defences are at the moment so that people can swim off it – allow for dangerous play and don't be so risk averse"*

#### Retail

*"There are no sea shops, would be good to have traditional seaside shops, like Brighton"*

*"Different type of shopping experience, smaller shops etc. Boutiques"*

*"Lack of shopping along the seafront"*

**Cultural Activities** - More festivals, art, shows performances and cultural activities designed to provide something for everyone in the community.  
**(16%)**

There were many requests for venues and spaces to support more community and cultural based activities and focus less on the heritage aspects of the seafront for it was felt that these dominated the current regeneration practice for the seafront.

'Open Air' Community Hall – area of the common available for use by the community was especially supported – a stronger emphasis on Community facilities and activities generally.

*"Cultural Centre"* – Many participants suggested that the Pyramids could be revamped to accommodate a cultural centre, with music, dance and theatre performance facilities, it could retain the swimming pool for this was considered vital for the local community but its overall facilities could be extended.

The Fun fair was generally considered to be an eyesore and a visual and physical barrier.

Below are a selection of the predominant community ideas and suggestions:

#### Cultural Venue(s)/ Spaces /Activities

*"Art Market ; Artists; Potters etc."*

*"Youth Club"*

*"Bring back Speakers to 'Speakers Corner' "*

*"Gathering point for community "*

*"Keep the pyramids and use as a giant community centre and café"*

*"South Parade pier- Fantastic place for theatre/ concert venue plus high end restaurants."*

*"Cultural Centre – for dance, music, theatrical events and community activities"*

*"Funfair acts as a cultural barrier between Southsea and Old Portsmouth"*

*"Demolish/improve Clarence Pier- Restaurant/theatre"*

*"Art and cultural centre to reuse dysfunctional space."*

*"Bring back the deckchairs"*

*" Do something classy with SS pier, see Southwold"*

*"More events in Southsea Castle, using the moat for activities"*

*"Beauty contest"*

*"Make a place to exhibit art pieces down the seafront. Could run design contests for students and residents to show their work on a quarterly basis - Community Art Gallery"*

*"Cultural Festivals – Food – music"*

*"More facilities at the pier. More broader community focused events."*

*"Improved facilities around South Parade pier. More café's family facilities. Open Gaiety Bar for community events, i.e family fun days, jazz bands, tea dance, etc."*

*"Love the 'drive in movies' would like more of them"*

*"More family orientated redevelopment"*

*"Swimming pool where pyramids is incorporate it with other ideas"*

*"Farmers market, food festival- pedestrianism"*

#### Music

*"More band stands – especially for the youth, we need to support the music"*

*"Band stand social and cultural"*

*" More music at the bandstand, more bandstands!"*

*"Band stand event to start at the beginning of May"*

## 2. Movement & Connectivity – (15.4% overall response in this area)

**Transport;** car or public transport links/issues also includes parking and fees, speed limits and congestion.

**(11%)**

Transport issues, in particular car parking and car parking charges were the main concern of the participants. Overall a reduction in car parking facilities was desired, bringing existing car parking areas into the public domain as good public space which could support activities. To support this better and more a more localised and public transport system was preferred, possibly a community based provision that is provided in Manchester.

Some participants were keen for a sustainable transport system, that put pedestrians and cyclists first, possibly making Portsmouth a 'car free' city, it was suggested that the seafront would be a good place to start.

Below are a selection of the predominant community ideas and suggestions:

*"Better Transport connections to the rest of the city"*

*"Cheaper Parking"*

*"Park and Ride on each entry into Portsmouth: from M27 (Not a money making scheme, a way of getting rid of cars on the road, making Portsmouth a Car Free City! Start with the seafront and make the road into a good public place)"*

*"Car Park Clarence pier is a waste of space."*

*"Free parking at seafront for residents"*

*"Hop on/off bus service at peak summer time along seafront- cheap fares?"*

*"Eliminate parking in summer on common, make it a car free space"*

*"Little train was very popular"*

*"Parking restrictions could push cars up and away from the seafront"*

*"'Transport' – trolley train between attractions"*

*" Public transport – electric bikes"*

There was a strong desire to reinforce the connections between the city and the seafront between its public places and between the potential activities which could occur along the seafront. Pedestrianisation and shared surface environments were expressed as the main way of supporting this. Integrating movement patterns with good urban environments (see the environment section).

**Cycling** – The encouragement of cycling and the provision of extra or improved cycle lanes.  
**(5.7%)**

Cycling along the seafront is an issue that has been subject to a long debate within the city, this is evidence by the percentages. However there is a strong desire for the integration of modal patterns and for the provision of inclusivity and diversity, using cycle routes in conjunction with other movement routes throughout the city to the seafront.

Below are a selection of the predominant community ideas and suggestions:

*“More cycle parking shared cycle paths, Shared surface along seafront : Implement ‘LSP’ priority 2 re. active healthy travel and cycling”*  
*“Cycle Route on seafront – SHARED PATH”*  
*“A cyclists lane down the seafront”*  
*“No cycling on Promenade because hazard to elderly and the young.”*  
*“Cycling Route from E.Hayling to Gosport Ferry”*  
*“Implement PCC Transport strategy re cycling on seafront”*  
*“Cycle Paths (Designed by cyclists!)”*  
*“Cycle path right along the seafront – from Eastney all the way to Clarence pier- Very dangerous along parts of it!”*  
*“Cycle path on the prom please”*  
*“No cycle path on prom dangerous for children and elderly”*  
*“More cycle parking shared cycle paths”*  
*“Cycling is healthy and safe- should be encouraged, shared cycle path is a good thing”*  
*“Cycling on prom should be allowed”*  
*“No cycle lane- would ruin seafront walks”*  
*“Proper cycle lanes on roads (see Bruges)”*

### 3. Environment (23.1% overall response in this area)

**Pedestrianisation** – Create the best possible conditions for pedestrian movement and road safety, has aesthetic and social benefits as well cycling on the seafront  
**(5.3%)**

Pedestrianisation and shared surface environments were expressed as desirable transformations of existing street scapes that would help reinforce the connection between city places and the seafront. Integrating movement patterns with good quality urban environments was of strong interest to many participants.

Below are a selection of the predominant community ideas and suggestions:

*"Pedestrianisation of Palmerston Road and Avenue De Caen would be great and would strengthen the connection between Southsea Centre & the seafront"*

*"Shared ownership between skaters and pedestrians!! Skate-scape"*

*"Walking, cycling and running for the seafront. Lots of room to share"*

*"Strengthen links between seafront and Southsea shops"*

*"Chicane Osborne Road"*

*"Pedestrianise Clarence Parade in front of Rock Gardens"*

*"Cycling Route from E.Hayling to Gosport Ferry"*

*"Better links between Southsea shops and sea front"*

*"Shared surface along seafront"*

*"Creation of a narrated spine with well presented notice boards full of colour from the centre to the water's edge"*

*"Dry canals from seafront to Mountbatten Centre for pedestrians and cyclists would be great. "*

*"Part pedestrianise Osborne Road/ Palmerston Road"*

*"Hire a bike centre - renting bikes throughout the city, like Paris and Copenhagen"*

*" Provide a bike park next to restaurant or café to provide self policing"*

*"Difficult to see what is happening where and when- Lack of connection between different areas"*

### **Quality and enhancement of the environment (10%)**

#### **Urban environment**

There was an overall desire to raise the standard of the quality of the built and natural environment.

There was a high demand for the refurbishing existing buildings and a desire that new buildings should be more contemporary and of a high design quality that they should respond to sustainable issues in a creative way.

Public lighting was a common theme, and it was generally thought that this should be contemporary and artistic and could perhaps harness the environmental conditions of the seafront ie: wind or solar powered.

More innovative street furniture and of a quality to ensure that it will last.

Improved signage was critical although it was considered that if the streetscape and urban landscape deployment of materials reinforced the connectivity of spaces, including the lighting, then one could reduce the provision of signage overload. There was a desire for these to be of their time and place, contemporary with historical references.

*"Continuity in design to create seafront identity! Unity!"*

*"More places to sit which are sheltered where you can get a drink or snack near the beach"*

*"Lighting along the seafront"*

*"Iconic! Artistic lighting needed"*

*"Good quality street furniture, which fits with the natural environment"*

*"More inventive use of light- 24hr activity"*

*Sculpture wind farm next to Royal Marines Museum"*

*"Place table and chairs down the seafront"*

*"More Bins"*

*"The new flats at the Pompey centre look like something from Romania- Yuk!"*

*"Resurface the seafront – last done 40 years ago."*

*"Open shelters for resting away from elements"*  
*"Continuity in design to create seafront identity! Unity!"*  
*"Landscape- It is space e.g. at edges people live here"*  
*"Make this Southsea Square"*  
*"Signage- busy! Lots of signage"*  
*"Better signage throughout but not more"*  
*"Dry canals from seafront to Mountbatten Centre for pedestrians and cyclists would be great."*  
*"Create gateway structure to introduce to Palmerston Road- South Side like Carnaby street in London"*  
*"Implement a graffiti wall for residents to express their views"*  
*"Lighting up along the seafront to rival Blackpool – from Eastney to Old Portsmouth."*

**Natural environment** – recognising the distinctiveness of Southsea and Portsmouth's edge conditions.

The natural environment was very precious to many of the participants who attended these events.

Lots of input was received on how the natural environment could and should be enhanced. Overall it was felt that the Eastney coast condition could be celebrated and encapsulated into a more educational based and dynamic ecology coast which could incorporate novel sustainable solutions, even small sustainable buildings.

There was a desire for some form of farming on the common, a city farm was suggested, this was a recurring theme, to help sustain the city and reconnect children with where food comes from.

Further enhancements of the natural environment were sort after, it was felt that the landscape is maintained but it could be ore diverse and more inspiring.

*"Petting Farm (rabbits, guinea pigs etc) – local kids could adopt them, they could understand about food production"*

*"Urban City Park"*

*"Good quality street furniture, which fits with the natural environment"*

*"Japanese garden with water feature and seating"*

*"Love the Flower Gardens"*

*"Ideal vision of the seafront"*

*Cows on the Common – As street furniture*

*"Great! .....or sheep!"*

*"SAND - Bring sand to the seafront, bring sand to Hilsea lines, create a seafront in Hilsea! (like Brisbane)"*

*"Sandy beach like Rio de Janeiro"*

*"Re-plant new trees to replaced lost Huntingdon Elms"*

*"The flowers and gardens look fantastic!"*

*"More lighting for Malvern Road Park."*

*"Play park facilities for young families"*

*"Lamp posts designed to define important axis to Southsea"*

*"Seafront signage Unity of furniture and lights"*

*"Landscape- It is space e.g. at edges people live here"*

*"Consult Hampshire Sculpture Trust before any landscaping is agreed"*

*"Adopt a tree"*

*"Urban agriculture and city farm"*

*"Rock gardens- good"*

*"More consultation when trees are cut down"*

*"The common needs to have specified food areas for BBQ facilities"*

*"Animal adoption"*

*"Like Southsea Common"*

*"Re- planting of trees and plants as wind breaks"*

*"Keep Eastney beach end undeveloped"*

*"Like the idea of Eden Project"*

*"Keep open spaces"*

*"Sculpture wind farm next to Royal Marines Museum"*

*"No BBQ's on Southsea Common – smoke is choking and leaves black holes in grass"*

*"Love the farm – City Farm"*

*"Maze and question quiz based on Portsmouth"*

*"Outside exercise gym with balancing boards"*

*"Re- planting of trees and plants as wind breaks"*

**Access for All** – Freedom in shared spaces, working towards versatility by improving access.

**(8%)**

There was a strong understanding from the participants that the seafront space was a public place and as indicated within the activities section, the desire to have more facilities to support activities would support community inclusion, diversity and perhaps a sense of ownership.

There was a clear desire for inclusivity but it was felt that this needed to be organised and designed carefully so that all could be accommodated in an appropriate way.

Flexible space was in high demand as well as the need to create a sense of unity and identity.

*"Like flexibility of spaces"*

*"Have photographs which show the attractions of the seafront displayed in the City Centre e.g. Civic Offices"*

*"There are lots of signs that NO to ball games- would be good to encourage kids to play for obesity"*

*"Cycle path on seafront – plenty of room for pedestrians AND cyclists"*

*"Continuity in design to create seafront identity! Unity!"*

*"Shared ownership between skaters and pedestrians!! Skate-scape"*

*"More of a family friendly pier with better facilities for all- of a better standard as well."*

*"More facilities at the pier. More broader community focused events.*

*More family orientated redevelopment"*

*"The seafront could be more user-friendly – can we rope off safe areas for swimming, canoeing – occasional staffed periods in the summer?"*

*"Should be able to cycle along the seafront- shared ownership"*

**Maintenance** - Design improvements of existing materials within the urban realm.

There was an overall desire to raise the standard of the materials used and the design quality in order to improve the appearance and feel of the environment.

The use of 'Black top' everywhere was considered inappropriate and that good quality paving materials should be used for both public places and residential environments.



More bins should be provided, well designed and aesthetically pleasing. Along with the seating and lighting, these too should be of a high design quality and durable.

*"Impose proper fines for dog fouling"*

*"More Bin"*

*"Maintain Southsea Centre regularly-neglecting ancient monument is not a good example to other property owners."*

*"More lighting for Malvern Road Park."*

*"Fines for dog litterers put into practice. Community workers can clear up."*

*"Lights at night"*

*"Get rid of black top instead of paving stones- don't just keep them for the tourist and expensive housing areas"*

*"Take South Parade pier back with the council's ownership and management"*

*"Keep Eastney beach end undeveloped"*

*"Restore the 1950's building next to hovercraft- fine tower for coffee club"*

*"Buildings opposite South Parade Pier need refurbishing- look poor now"*

*"No BBQ's on Southsea Common – smoke is choking and leaves black holes in grass"*

*"Revamp the pier, at the moment its very bleak"*

*"Smooth surfaces walking route tidy up!"*

#### 4. Culture & Identity (17.8 % overall response in this area)

**Branding** – Local distinction and character, uniqueness, diversity and quality.  
**& Signage**

There was a desire to reinforce the culture and identity of the city through its buildings, lighting, signage.

There was a wish for further buildings as catalysts for change that reinforce identity and that perhaps the city should not be identified only by Gunwharf.

*"Continuity in design to create seafront identity! Unity!"*

*"Cultural Centre"*

*"Band Stand for young people – youth identity"*

*"Signage- busy! Lots of signage"*

*"Gunwharf should take a back seat in the back in the branding of the city"*

*"Signs! Applicable to activities"*

*"Cultural festivals, food, music! – identity"*

*"World renowned skate park- legendary!"*

#### **Social advantages and problems**

Many of the participants' comments focused on anti-social behaviour with a desire to enforce control, and untidy and unkempt buildings, there was a strong wish to tidy these up, make them more useful in the regeneration of the seafront.

*"Too many alcoholics and drug addicts, people with social problems in strand area. Alter 'eloquence' to what? I don't know "*

*"This club is an eyesore and a 'blight' on this area"*

*"Problem is culture NOT alcohol availability"*

*"Bullying advice for children"*

*"Enforcement of 'No Alcohol Zones' with fines"*

*"Activities are the anti social connection not pedestrian"*  
*"Better control of BBQ'S on the common (scorching of grass and rubbish)"*  
*"Great that people use the common for BBQ's but more big bins on the common might encourage folks to clean up their rubbish"*  
*"Strand redevelopment – no shops of variety left – too many young drug addicts and alcoholics discussing night club!"*

## **Heritage**

Many participants considered that past history (in particular the naval heritage was supported and that there was a need to think of the future heritage of the city.

There were a lot of responses wishing to bring back the piers into a more modern and contemporary use, especially for the community.

*"I like the Castle- more use of it"*  
*"South Parade pier- Fantastic place for theatre/ concert venue plus high end restaurants. Also nightclubs (now derelict) should be developed for residential purposes."*  
*"Improved facilities around South Parade pier. More café's family facilities. Open Gaiety Bar for community events, i.e family fun days, jazz bands, tea dance, etc."*  
*"Historic building- known the world over"*  
*"Historic buildings always come first and are always supported, what about other community orientated historical and cultural buildings?"*  
*"Flood defences could be pulled into the project – in a fun way!"*  
*"Regenerate both piers but retain historical piers"*  
*"Revamp the pier, at the moment its very bleak "*  
*"Funfair is naff"*  
*"Stop celebrating the past history and concentrate on making future history"*  
*"Clarence Pier needs to be completely smartened up- how about good old traditional 1950's? With the old slot machines etc. and lovely seaside shops like Southwold in Suffolk."*  
*"Historic- memories past and present- lets look to the future"*  
*"Do up South Parade Pier. Re do horrid boarded building. This is a prime site"*

## **5. Economics (3.5% overall response in this area)**

**Regeneration Opportunities** – Encouraging economic development in struggling areas of the city & connecting these with the Seafront.

Many participants' responses indicated the need for activities and restaurants these were seen as potential new businesses increase economic spend in this area. In addition the regeneration of the old and dilapidated building structures ie: the piers were considered an advantage by participants. Improving the quality of the environment and in particular pedestrianising streets were considered advantages in encouraging economic regeneration. A city farm was seen as an opportunity to develop 'green collar' workers too, new skill set.

*"Lost 'holiday' trade"*  
*"Do up South Parade Pier. Re do horrid boarded building. This is a prime site"*  
*"'Open Air' Community Hall – area of the common available for use by the community."*  
*"Park and Ride on each entry into Portsmouth: from M27 (Not a money making scheme, a way of getting rid of cars on the road!)"*

*"Attractions for visitors – cafés etc all along the seafront."*

*"Pyramids – PCC should hurry up and agree to lease it to Southsea xxxxx? "*

*"Small Businesses – Cafés and small shops in contemporary structures"*

*"Cultural festivals, food, music!"*

*" City farm – promote green collar workers"*

*" Activities and restaurants will bring money into the city, and if the environment is nice, more will want to come"*

*" Pedestrianisation will bring more activity onto the streets, thus more revenue, just like in Copenhagen"*

*"High quality contemporary design. A café like East/West? Beach Café Littlehampton"*

*"Concentration of pubs and clubs in one street (Palmerston Road/ Osbourne Road) creates nuisance for residents (vandalism/ noise/ broken glass/ litter). Encourage vacant properties to be used for purposes that bring economic benefits (eg jobs) rather than pure leisure- offices etc."*

*"Take South Parade pier back with the council's ownership and management"*

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