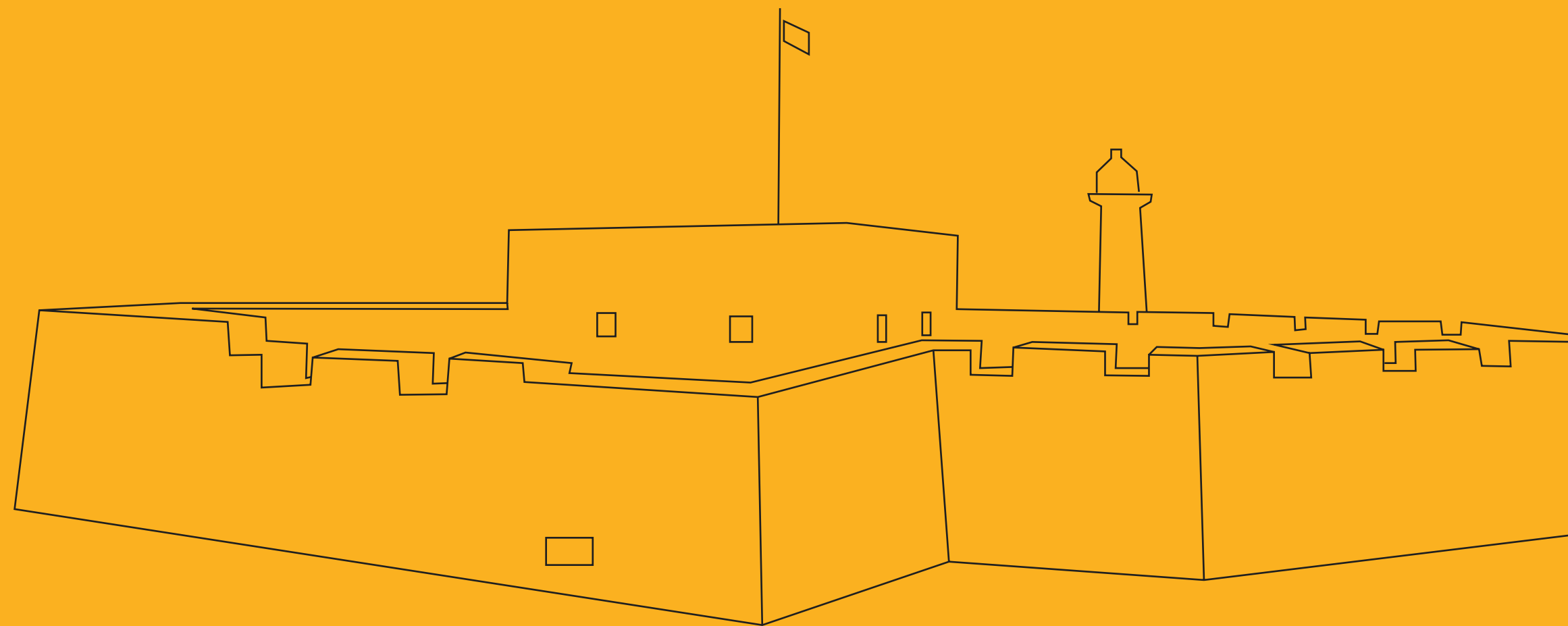


# Collaborative Enhancements Plan

Southsea Public Realm

August 2020



LDĀDESIGN



EASTERN SOLENT | COASTAL PARTNERSHIP



# Contents

1.0 Introduction	4	7.0 Quick Win Projects	46
2.0 Initial Observations	6	7.1 Play and Exercise Hubs	47
3.0 Public Realm Vision	10	7.2 Running, Cycling and Scooting Routes	47
3.1 Distinctive Identities	12	7.3 Bike and Electric Scooter Rental Hubs	48
4.0 Seafront Projects	14	7.4 Pedestrian Priority Environment	48
4.1 Seafront Projects Overview	16	7.5 Seafront Arrival Spaces	49
5.0 Featured Projects	20	7.6 Beach Huts	49
5.1 Serpentine Square	21	7.7 Relocated Lifeguard Hut	50
5.2 Speakers' Corner	26	7.8 Barbecue Areas	50
5.3 South Parade Beach	30	7.9 Vehicular Security Gate	51
5.4 Canoe Lake Seafront	34	7.10 Informal Paths Across Southsea Common	51
5.5 Southsea Common Destination Play	36	8.0 Next Steps	52
6.0 Small Projects	38		
6.1 Seafront Shelters	39		
6.2 Seasonal Kiosks	40		
6.3 Eastney Beach Cafe	41		
6.4 Southsea Wildflowers	42		
6.5 Clarence and South Parade Gardens	43		
6.6 Southsea Common Splashpark and Sports Complex	44		
6.7 Avenue De Caen	45		

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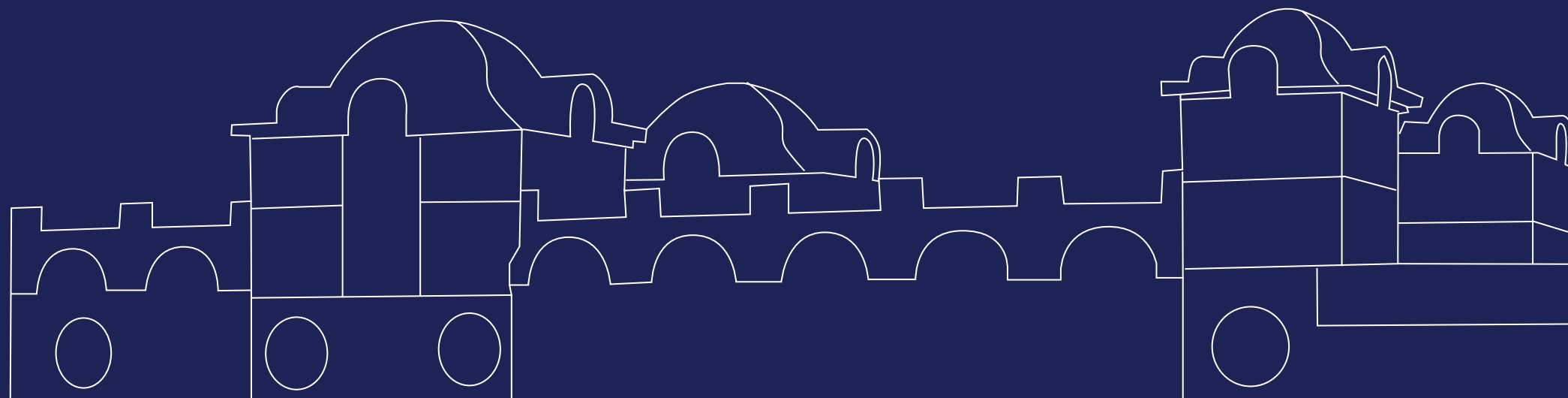
This document has been prepared and checked  
in accordance with ISO 9001:2015

# 1.0

## Introduction

*“If you looked out over the parapet, you saw before you the whole of the most magnificent harbour in the world; and if you looked through the embrasure of the wall, you had a splendid framed picture—water for foreground, old ruined castle in middle distance, blue hill beyond, and above blue sky.”*

Walter Besant - Pompey-born writer who rose to national standing as a historian and novelist in the mid-to-late 1800s. Extract from his Portsmouth-based novel, ‘By Celia’s Arbour’



# Introduction

Portsmouth is arguably one of England's greatest waterfront cities. The seafront at Southsea is special. It boasts numerous monuments and coastal artillery, an elegant esplanade with its historic shelters and lamp standards, rare and valuable habitat at Eastney Beach and panoramic views, not just out to sea and the Isle of Wight, but back across The Common and along the seafront to the Spinnaker Tower.

Coastal cities and waterfronts face different challenges to their urban counterparts inland. Sea level rise and more frequent storm events are the most obvious ones, but seafronts like Southsea have also suffered over the years from a decline in marine and defence based industries and traditional tourism, which often leave an economic and social legacy that results in a lack of investment. This, coupled with a built environment that has typically developed in a piecemeal way, is dominated by private cars and degraded due to weathering the storms of an extreme coastal climate, make the need for positive transformation at Southsea even greater.

It is an exciting time for Southsea. The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership and Portsmouth Council are embarking on an ambitious £120m flood defence scheme for the seafront. The Southsea Coastal Scheme stretches for 4.5km from Old Portsmouth to Eastney, it will help to reduce the risk to over 10,000 homes and 700 businesses from major flood events.

This in turn has created a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to identify and realise enhancements to the existing built environment and public realm – allowing a complete overhaul of an ageing promenade and the use, identity and quality of adjacent buildings and public spaces. The design approach aims to integrate the technical requirements of flood defence with placemaking. The seafront needs to work harder as a destination – to attract large numbers of people throughout the year, not just on hot summer

weekends. The aim must be to ensure that Southsea fulfils its potential and its promise and underpins Portsmouth's position as England's greatest Waterfront city and that it can deliver the economic, environmental and social benefits for the City and its population.

It is in this context that this Collaborative Enhancement Plan for Southsea has been produced. For clarity 'public realm' is defined as the 'space between the buildings' – public spaces, pedestrian/cycle routes and streets that shape both our use and perception of Southsea. Public realm should accommodate the full range of human activity, providing places for movement, socialising, children's play, exercise, shopping, eating, entertainment; places to work and places to relax. Successful public realm comprises streets, spaces and connections that have a clear role and identity, so they can be used comfortably and safely, with well-considered arrangements for paving, lighting, art, signage, planting and furniture, celebrating the identity of the place.

This documents demonstrates through a series of projects and ideas, how the ambition of the Seafront Masterplan SPD could be realised. It is acknowledged that each proposal will need to be subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, legal matters, they aim to demonstrate the 'art of the possible' and one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.

Ultimately, the new waterfront at Southsea will need to be truly remarkable and compete on a world stage. It must respond to the specific needs of the city, such as sustainable neighbourhoods, healthy living, social equality, green infrastructure and economic regeneration.

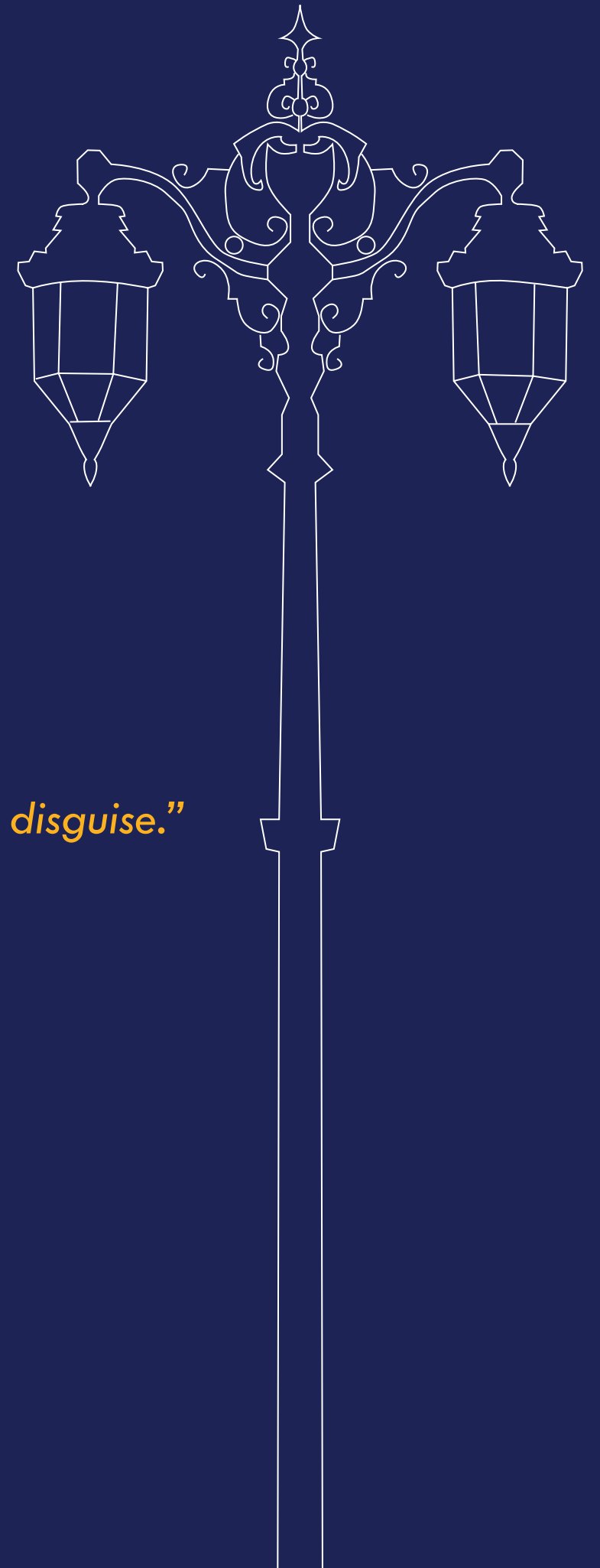


Southsea Castle

## 2.0 Initial Observations

*“Sometimes a problem isn’t really a problem, but the solution in disguise.”*

*Richelle E Goodrich*





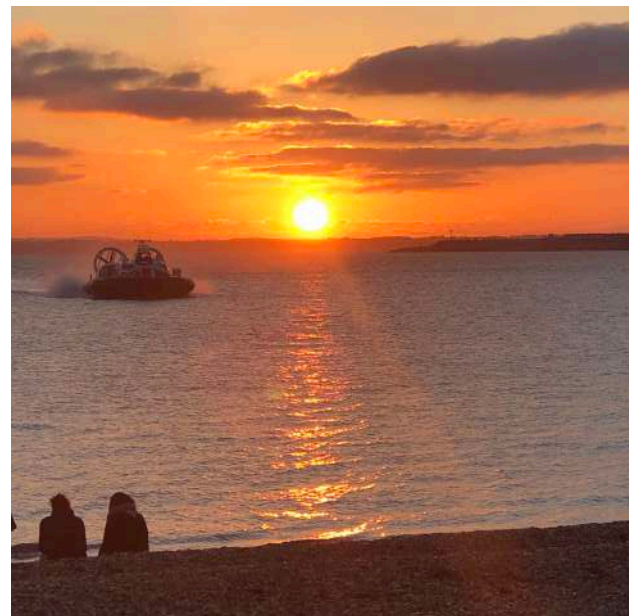
# Initial Observations

Poor linkages & legibility to the seafront and key destinations. No defined thresholds/gateways.



Lack of visual links to the seafront.

Stunning panoramic views.



Views across the Solent to Isle of Wight and Gosport.

Elegant listed lighting columns



Parking dominates (often in prime waterfront locations)



Car parking located in prime waterfront positions.

Play provision is unimaginative and connectivity with the seafront is poor.



Play provision is typically aimed at younger children and of a similar provision.

Lack of opportunities for socialising



Only one type of seating option - doesn't allow for group socialising.

Popular piers at either end of the seafront, creating destinations and opportunities for family fun.



Lots of mown grass - very poor biodiversity (and can feel exposed)



Southsea Common - a vital open space but low biodiversity.

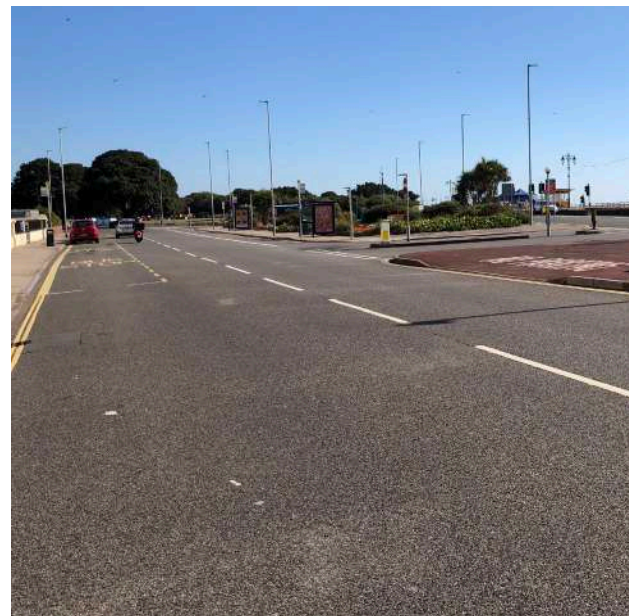


Historic structures and memorials.



A wide range of historic buildings as you move along the seafront. Memorials linking with naval past.

Over-sized roads and junctions create barriers.



Roads are duplicated creating unused central islands.

Only 1 type of artwork along a 5km stretch of seafront.



Beautiful listed shelters



Landmarks along the seafront.

## 3.0 Public Realm Vision

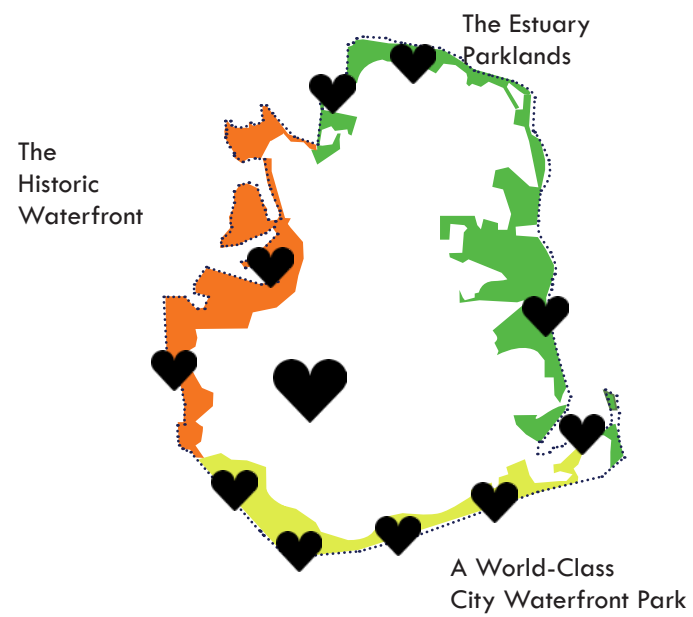
*“The seafront’s natural and historic assets will be protected, conserved, and enhanced. The seafront will be a beautiful, functional, sustainable and resilient place that is healthy, safe, enjoyable, and accessible to all.”*

*Seafront Masterplan SPD (Draft 2020)*

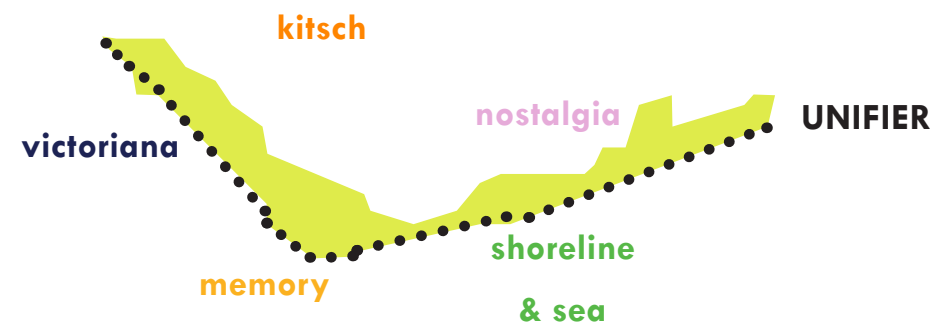


# Public Realm Vision

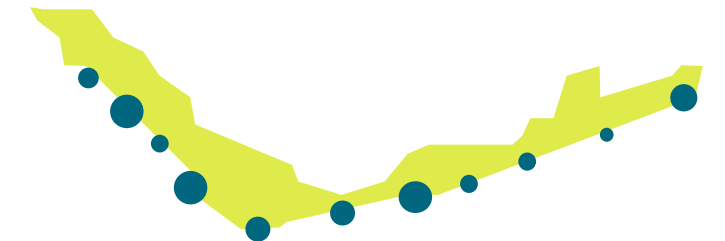
01 A World Class Waterfront Park



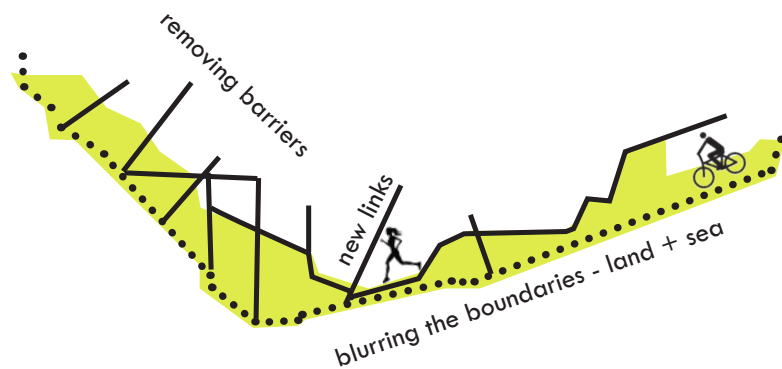
02 Celebrating Identity & Creating A Unifying Public Realm



03 A Network Of Beautiful Waterfront Spaces



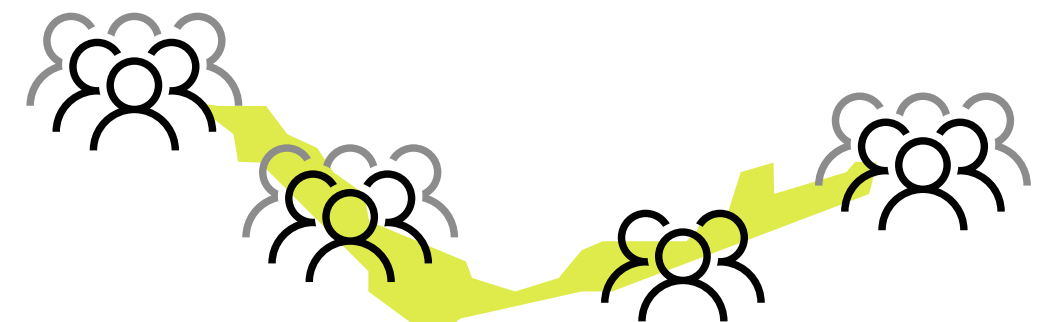
04 Breaking Down The Divide



05 A Healthy & Playable Seafront



06 An Active & Sociable Seafront





# 3.1 Distinctive Identities

Southsea, like most UK seafronts has evolved over a number of centuries and architectural styles. The seafront is something that is frequently altered and reused, a palimpsest that bears the traces of past uses and users. This is what makes Southsea what it is today. An eclectic mix of Victoriana, Maritime, 80's Kitsch, 60's Nostalgia and the natural shoreline and sea.

A one-size-fits-all approach would never work along the seafront. New designs need to celebrate the existing identities to ensure they sit harmoniously next to old; the new 21st century layer should add to what has come before but not completely replace it.

## Victoriana



Colour



Ornamentation



Gentle



Manicured



## Memory



# Palimpsest

*noun.*

*Something reused or altered  
but still bearing visible traces  
of its earlier form.*

## The Shoreline + Sea



Weathered



Colonised



Wild



## Nostalgia



## Kitsch



Retro



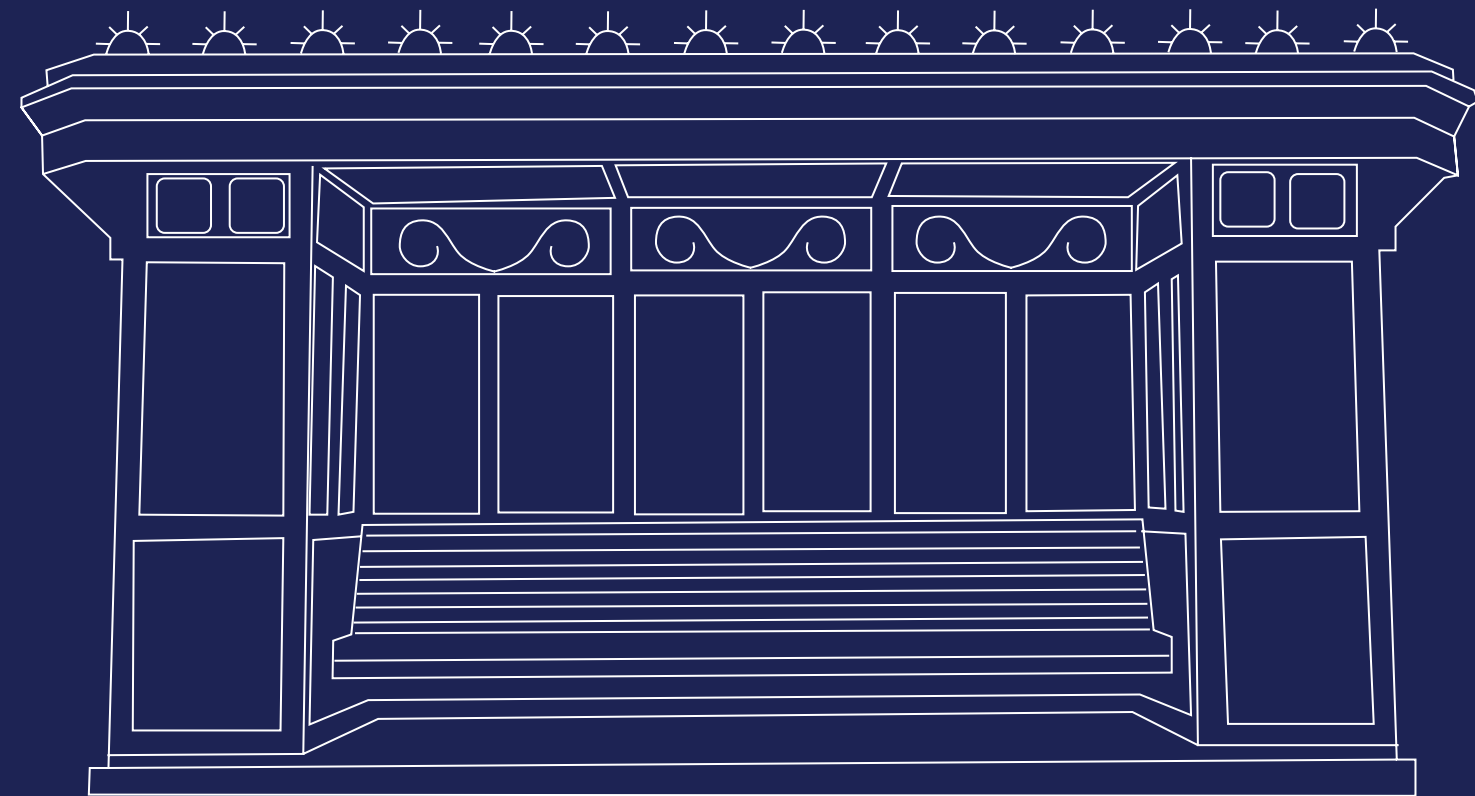
Colourful



## 4.0 Seafront Projects

*“Sat here for an age watching the boats and ferries. Beautiful scenery and calm clear waters, came back later In the evening and had a dip”*

*Davtinbl, Tripadvisor*



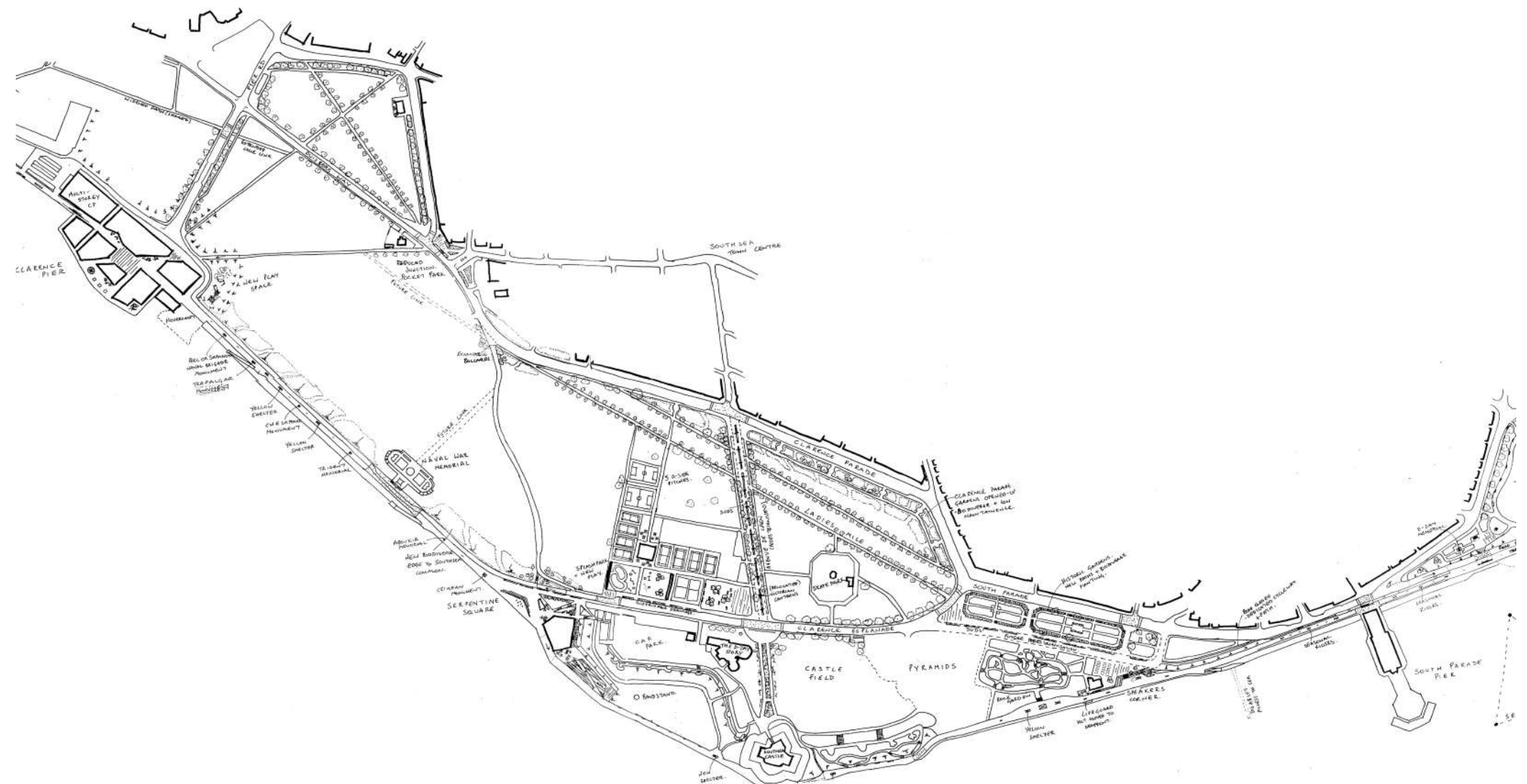
The seafront projects plan has been developed following 4-5 years of public consultations, engagement with members of Portsmouth City Council and meeting with local stakeholders. The plan aims to identify a range of opportunities at varying scales and with varied costs and time-frames.

It is acknowledged that each opportunity will need to be subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, and legal matters. The plans aim to demonstrate the ‘art of the possible’ and only one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.

Aside from the individual opportunities that follow there are also 3 site wide strategies that are required to ensure a cohesive design strategy going forward:

- \* A collaborative public arts strategy is currently being undertaken by United Creatives in partnership with PCC, ESCP and Portsmouth Creates. This is due to reach out to the public in the Autumn of 2020 and will develop a series of ideas which can be incorporated into this overall strategy.
- \* A waterfront lighting strategy will be required to build upon the outline work undertaken by ARUP in November 2018. This will feed into the Coastal Scheme designs and will be vital in ensuring a nighttime economy is created within the key areas of the scheme.
- \* Integral to the Coastal Scheme are the ecological enhancements that will be implemented throughout; focussing on retaining and reinforcing the unique flora and fauna that exists on the seafront.

All of these projects should be read in-conjunction with the Seafront Masterplan SPD.



Sketch opportunities plan used for discussions and brain-storming



## 4.1

# Seafront Projects Overview

The plans have been split loosely into the economic clusters of Clarence Pier, Southsea Castle, South Parade Pier + Canoe Lake Park as outlined within the Seafront Masterplan SPD. Where required they expand into the surrounding public realm to ensure the entirety of the seafront is captured.

Opportunities which could be delivered through the Coastal Flood Defence Scheme have been grouped for clarity. Opportunities which could be delivered by Portsmouth Council (PCC), independent investors or private developers have been split into short-term, medium-term and long-term aspirations to give an indication on expected time-scales. These are open to change however depending on the speed of surrounding development, planning requirements and investment opportunities.

Some projects are identified as being either Featured, Small, or Quick Win and have further information provided later on in this document. These designations mean:

- \* **Featured Projects:** 5 projects which show the opportunities available more fully through either a zoom-in plan and/or a illustrative visualisation.
- \* **Small Projects:** Generally low to medium cost projects which could be realised through the Coastal Scheme or in some cases PCC or private investors.
- \* **Quick Win Projects:** Generally low cost projects which could be realised within the next 5 years

Other ideas are expected to come forward after the publication of this document and will be welcomed by the design team to create a continually evolving seafront plan.







## Clarence Pier Cluster

### Coastal Scheme Delivery 0-5yrs

- 01 - Informal play and exercise hubs along the seafront *\*Quick Win*
- 02 - New running routes and water fountains along the seafront *\*Quick Win*
- 05 - Memorial Walk

### Short-term Delivery 0-5yrs

- 13 - New bicycle rental hubs along the seafront. *\*Quick Win*
- 15 - Southsea wildflowers - Increasing biodiversity and ecology. Reducing future maintenance and rejuvenating cherished spaces. *\*Small Project*
- 16 - Osbourne Road junction - Junction reduced, new pocket park and improved pedestrian connections. *\*Quick Win*
- 17 - Southsea Common gateway space - new wayfinding and interpretation. *\*Quick Win*
- 22 - Land Train re-introduced running from Clarence Pier to Eastney Beach Cafe - encouraging the public to visit the length of the seafront and lessen the reliance on car usage.
- 23 - New pedestrian priority junctions to improve pedestrian movement and links with the town. *\*Quick Win*
- 24 - Vehicular security gate to Serpentine Road removed and replaced with removable bollards improving pedestrian and cyclist access. *\*Quick Win*
- 25 - New informal paths across Southsea Common - either bonded gravel or informal mown grass through wildflower planting. *\*Quick Win*
- 26 - Fixed Barbecue area with associated park benches and litter bins. *\*Quick Win*

### Long-term Delivery 10-20yrs

- 33 - Clarence Pier Re-Development - complete re-development of Clarence Pier to include mixed-uses, hotels, retail, cafes and restaurants and integrated car parking. Interim medium-term solution to relocate/ reduce the bus interchange terminal and redevelop the Northern plots only. Option shown is only an example of a plot layout that could be achieved - design depending on future funding, aspirations, viability assessments and land ownership.
- 34 - Hovercraft viewing platform built in conjunction with Clarence Pier redevelopment.
- 35 - Southsea Common Destination Play Space. Delivered in-conjunction with Clarence Pier re-development. *\*Featured Project*
- 36 - Water Taxi - a new link between South Parade Pier and Clarence Pier (in-conjunction with Clarence Pier re-development).
- 41 - Clarence Esplanade road closure east from Clarence Pier.





## Southsea Castle Cluster

### Coastal Scheme Delivery

- 01 - Informal play and exercise hubs along the seafront *\*Quick Win*
- 02 - New running routes and water fountains along the seafront *\*Quick Win*
- 03 - New shelters along the seafront to compliment the existing Victorian shelters and make the seafront usable all year round. *\*Small Project*
- 04 - New seasonal + permanent kiosks along promenade making a vibrant and lively public realm which responds to the time of year. *\*Small Project*
- 06 - Serpentine Square *\*Featured Project*
- 07 - Speakers' Corner *\*Featured Project*
- 11 - Southsea lifeguard hut moved to front of promenade, freeing up space for The Briny to have outdoor seating. *\*Quick Win*

### Short-term Delivery 0-5yrs

- 13 - New bicycle rental hubs along the seafront. *\*Quick Win*
- 15 - Southsea Wildflowers - Increasing biodiversity and ecology. Reducing future maintenance and rejuvenating cherished spaces. *\*Small Project*
- 17 - Southsea Common gateway space - new wayfinding and interpretation. *\*Quick Win*
- 18 - New 5-a-side football pitches instated increasing usage of the Southsea Common leisure area and improving provision in the south of Portsmouth. *\*Quick Win*
- 19 - Avenue de Caen closed to traffic. Servicing/ events access only. *\*Small Project*
- 20 - Historic Gardens along Clarence Parade and South Parade renovated with new low maintenance planting and an improved path network. *\*Small Project*
- 22 - Land Train re-introduced running from Clarence Pier to Eastney Beach Cafe - encouraging the public to visit the length of the seafront and lessen the reliance on car usage.
- 23 - New pedestrian priority junctions to improve pedestrian movement and links with the town. *\*Quick Win*
- 25 - New informal paths across Southsea Common - either bonded gravel or informal mown grass through wildflower planting. *\*Quick Win*
- 26 - Fixed barbecue area with associated park benches and litter bins. *\*Quick Win*
- 27 - Eastern end of Clarence Esplanade pedestrianised or made one-way (from Jack Cockerill Way), reducing traffic impacts and allowing space for dedicated cycling links along the seafront. New SUDs provided and improved entrance experience to the Pyramids development and Speakers Corner. Servicing access retained. *\*Shown in Speaker's Corner featured project*
- 28 - Beach Pier. A new mini beach pier allowing full accessibility above the sand and groynes for all users.

### Medium-term Delivery 5-10yrs

- 29 - Blue Reef Aquarium Re-Development - Site could be re-developed to provide a new high-quality architectural building with culture and leisure uses. Associated cafe uses provide opportunities for roof terrace use. Building could be a key focal point along the seafront and would provide wide views. Integrated flood defence levels to building frontage.
- 30 - Potential for the Bandstand to be moved adjacent to the promenade. Realignment of the promenade to provide a new seafront garden setting for the bandstand.
- 31 - Southsea Common Splashpark - Splashpark retained and improved with additional play features to enable a wider variety of play for all ages. *\*Small Project*
- 32 - New public square to compliment the recently renovated D-Day Storey. New seating, tree planting and seasonal kiosks.
- 43 - The Pyramids - opportunity for new development which could include leisure, hotel, spa, events, art and retail uses. Needs to have a positive relationship on all sides and be of a high-quality architectural design, in-keeping with its proximity to Southsea Castle. For further information on the Pyramids opportunities refer to the Seafront Masterplan Draft SPD 2020.

### Long-term Delivery 10-20yrs

- 42 - Speakers Corner could be re-developed to provide a new permanent building with cafe, restaurant and low-level retail. The building could take advantage of the views and provide additional toilets and changing facilities.

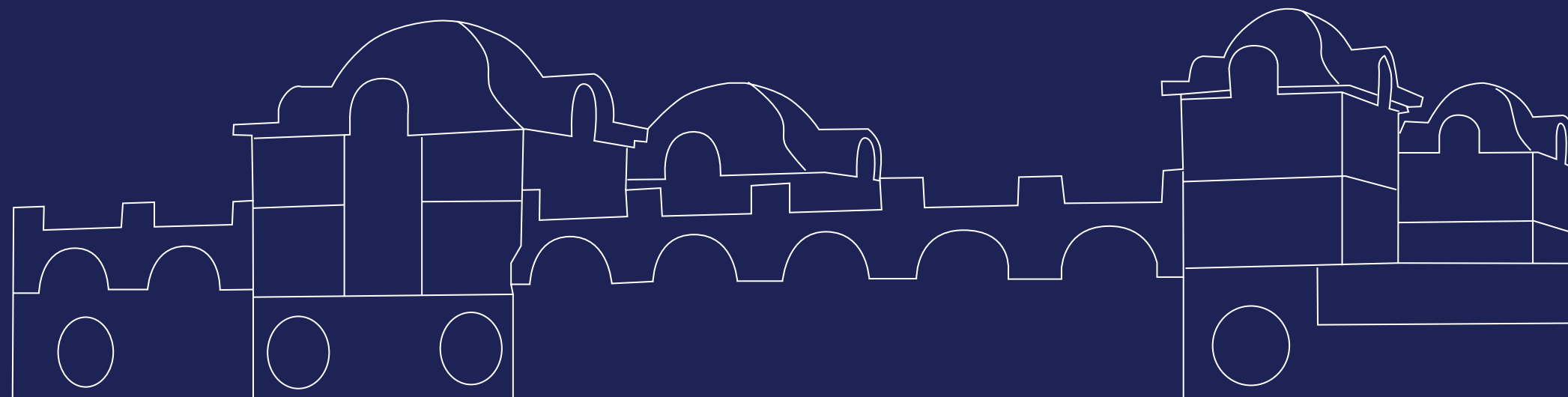




## 5.0 Featured Projects

*“I love Southsea Seafront and beach especially in the early mornings. It’s a lovely pebbled beach with patches of sand as the tide goes out. Great for all ages including those who want to build sea forts, dip their toes in the water or who want to go in for a swim. Lovely!”*

*Masefieldcrew, Tripadvisor*





5.1

Serpentine Square

A celebration of sun, sea, and storms

Existing Public Realm

The large hard space surrounding Blue Reef Aquarium is currently unloved and under-used. Blue Reef Aquarium is situated on the south-eastern corner of the space, the northern boundary is wrapped by Clarence Esplanade and Southsea Common, and the south-western edge is formed by the (soon-to-be replaced) sea wall.

The space and adjacent aquarium sit in a pivotal location at the head of the esplanade. The Crimean Memorial provides the only vertical element within the space, and the Naval War Memorial dominates the skyline to the north-west. Currently a small number of timber benches provide far-reaching views over the Solent from the space.

A small number of temporary vendors occasionally occupy the space during the summer, whilst the Blue Reef Cafe and Deep Blue fish shop are the only permanent food and beverage units.

Proposed Scheme

The new flood defences are set to dramatically change this area of the seafront; levels are set to rise by 2.5m in places. This will bring the promenade above the current level of the Blue Reef ground floor. This major change creates a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to re-imagine the space and create a cherished new public square, to link with a wider network of new waterfront spaces.

The new scheme will need to be flexible to respond to the potential future re-development of Blue Reef Aquarium. The building is identified as an opportunity site for Portsmouth City Council, if this were to go ahead it is suggested that this site could support new culture and leisure uses alongside food and beverage, and retail. The building also has the opportunity to provide a more positive relationship with the esplanade.

The following design provides an example of one solution for the building however this is subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability and legal matters. To provide more permeability through the site the building has been split into three footprints. A topographical roofline ensure that the building has a positive relationship with both the Naval Memorial and Southsea Castle. To make the most of the sunset views, cafe terraces have been located on the rooftop, whilst at the ground-floor a central space is encompassed providing a courtyard feel which could be used for cafe seating, art installations and more events which would link to the future culture and leisure uses.

Role and Function

‘Serpentine Square’, named after the historic Serpentine Road link from Southsea Common will become a key public space and new destination along the waterfront. The area will serve as a significant visual attractor, punctuating the long stretch of promenade between Clarence Pier and Southsea Castle, encouraging people to walk, cycle and spend longer at the seafront. It has the potential to also improve connectivity with Southsea Common, the splash park and tennis courts and the D-Day Visitor experience to the north east.

Suggested new uses include seating and lounging, seafront play and spectacle, outdoor dining and one-off events.

New seafront play made from the same rocks keeping the sea at bay would celebrate the power of the waves and also create new learning opportunities – communicating the importance of safeguarding Portsmouth’s marine environment. Varied seating and lounging opportunities would be combined with sheltered spaces between the buildings, to ensure use of the space all year-round.

Space for future events would be incorporated into the designs, providing multi-functional uses and opening the space up to be used by existing events which occur on the seafront such as the Victorious Festival. This space would seek to relocate existing events such as the Park Run and Triathlon to intensify the active uses of the Southsea Common area.

Identity

With Southsea’s varied history and architecture, the public realm is seen as a unifier. The palette of materials being used are simple and recessive - untreated timber, anodised aluminium, decorative in-situ concrete - all coming together to create a muted base which allows the existing features to shine.

With the proximity of Monument Walk and Southsea Castle, Serpentine Square will need to be respectful of these existing features and complement the existing character of the area, drawn from the Naval history of memory and the seaside Victoriana. Building on this, components such as the lighting scheme and art and interpretation will be key to creating a space with an identity that is special and unique to Southsea.

Components

Some of the key components of the project would be:

- Seating - accessible and sociable
- Sculpted landform or terraces to celebrate level change
- Low maintenance biodiverse planting
- Seafront shelters
- Seafront play
- Art and interpretation focussing on Portsmouth’s marine and beach life (for instance an interactive water spectacle)
- Lighting scheme that is attractive and safe to encourage night-time use

Project Size

Approx. 4,700 m2

Project Delivery Timeframe

Square: Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Buildings: Medium-term Delivery: 5- 10 yrs

Outline Cost

Square: Medium Cost  
Buildings: High Cost

Low Cost: £0 - £50K  
Medium Cost: £50K - £250K  
High Cost: £250K >



1 Park Schinkel Islands

2 St Kilda Beach





Axonometric

- 01 - Seating and sunbathing terraces providing waterfront views and opportunity for use as an outdoor amphitheatre.
- 02 - Serpentine courtyard - new cafe seating, water mist play features, seating, lighting, and trees .
- 03 - Coastal Flood Scheme - exact design TBC. The flood defence could be integrated into any new development.
- 04 - New SUD's gardens - drawing Southsea Common across Clarence Esplanade.
- 05 - A sloped building profile could help minimise the visual impact of the building on the Naval Memorial and Southsea Castle settings.
- 06 - Rooftop boardwalk introduces a sky walk with panoramic views.
- 07 - Arrival square from Southsea Common Sports Complex and D-Day Museum - opportunity for public art.
- 08 - Links with D-Day Museum and parking.
- 09 - Opportunity for rooftop terraces with panoramic views.
- 10 - Building could frame the views at ground levels - connecting with the promenade.





Illustrative Visual

Visual is intended to show potential of place - all proposals are subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, legal matters, they aim to demonstrate the 'art of the possible' and one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.





Existing Blue Reef Aquarium





Illustrative Visual

Visual is intended to show potential of place - all proposals are subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, legal matters, they aim to demonstrate the 'art of the possible' and one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.



# 5.2

# Speakers' Corner

## A space for community activation

### Existing Public Realm

Speakers' Corner is located to the east of Southsea Rock Gardens and is bound on its northern edge by Clarence Esplanade and overlooked by the residential and hotel uses along South Parade. Sitting directly adjacent to the seafront promenade, The Briny restaurant overlooks the space to the west.

The existing public realm in everyday mode is under-utilised. It comprises a large area of red tarmac and the un-listed 60m long shelter that segregates the space to the south, is due to be removed as part of the coastal scheme works, leaving a large free space.

Whilst in every-day mode the space is under-utilised, existing community events are currently hosted here, such as the local triathlon, Park Run and seafront 10K.

### Proposed Scheme

The removal of the existing shelter and raising of the promenade by 1.5m will see the relationship of this space and the seafront change dramatically. Connections into the town centre and with the local neighbourhood, will be even more important, opportunities to prevent through movement for vehicles along Clarence Esplanade and new pedestrian crossings will be vital to stitch this area in to its surroundings and ensuring a successful and vibrant seafront.

Future opportunities for small-scale and sensitive development in this area by Portsmouth City Council could be explored as part of the design process.

### Role and Function

The existing anonymous and under-utilised space should have a clear role and identity. It should function equally well on a wet November mid-week afternoon, as well as a sunny Saturday when a local market might be held. Speakers' Corner should retain the flexibility to be used by a wide spectrum of people within Portsmouth. From local artists, artisans, musicians, sports groups, markets and community groups. The area is a key 'stepping-stone' along the seafront, providing

a rhythm of different destinations and connecting Southsea Castle with South Parade Pier.

With the new level change, forging a connection between promenade and town will be vital, achieved using a sequence of terraces with integrated seating, planting and informal play. A new kiosk to the promenade edge would provide the opportunity for a quick coffee overlooking the sea, whilst also giving much-needed shelter in the winter months.

### Identity

With Southsea's varied history and architecture, the public realm is seen as a unifier. The palette of materials being used are simple and recessive - untreated timber, anodised aluminium, decorative insitu concrete - all coming together to create a muted base which allows the existing features shine.

There is a big opportunity here for community involvement in the art and interpretation of this area – creating a space that Southsea town feels ownership of and one that can be co-curated to host a variety of activities and events.

### Components

Some of the key components of the project would be:

- Terraced seating – accessible, sociable and dual-facing
- Low maintenance biodiverse planting
- Seafront trees to transition from the garden areas and improve identity
- Seafront shelters
- Art and interpretation
- Lighting scheme that is attractive and safe to encourage night-time use
- Seafront kiosk
- Space for pop-up markets + events
- Informal play

### Project Size

2420 m2

### Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs

### Outline Cost

Medium Cost

Low Cost: £0 - £50K  
Medium Cost: £50K - £250K  
High Cost: £250K >



<sup>1</sup> Scarborough Beach

<sup>2</sup> Masonic Amphitheatre





## Plan

- 01 - Existing Briny restaurant
- 02 - Space for seasonal kiosks/ pop-up uses.
- 03 - Movable seating to provide a flexible central space.
- 04 - Steps and Terraced seating to promenade edge overlooking the space.
- 05 - New tree planting appropriate to the seafront character.
- 06 - Climbable edge to terracing makes the topographical landscape playable.
- 07 - New seafront kiosk with cafe seating.
- 08 - Slope to edge of level change - new gravel planting to encourage biodiversity.
- 09 - New SUD's planting to closed section of Clarence Esplanade.
- 10 - Access slope to promenade.

All historic columns in this area will be retained and integrated into the designs. The listed shelter is to be relocated along the promenade.



Existing Speakers' Corner - Visual is taken from within the space where the historic columns aren't visible.





#### Illustrative Visual

Visual is intended to show potential of place - all proposals are subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, legal matters, they aim to demonstrate the 'art of the possible' and one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.



5.3

South Parade Beach

A celebration of beach life.

Existing Public Realm

Sitting directly adjacent to Canoe Lake Seafront, ‘South Parade Beach’ is located within the actual beach to the east of South Parade Pier and south of the esplanade walkway. Currently located here are several food and beverage units including Southsea Beach Café. This area also has a large outdoor seating area with timber benches open for public use.

Proposed Scheme

South Parade Beach would be a celebration of beach life, a new type of destination with a cluster of interesting seafront buildings stitched together by a unified and playful public realm. A new high quality Architect designed cluster of buildings could re-house existing tenants, if appropriate.

There is the potential to relocate Southsea Rowing Club to this location and create an active hub with a wide variety of users. Views over the Solent would be maximised from the building with new terraces on the first floor and a new public realm on the ground floor.

Role and Function

The project would comprise a main ‘pavilion building’ with new uses set within a new type of beachfront recreation area with beach play, loungers, showers and decking. New food and beverage uses and the rowing club could enable multiple occupiers within the new building. Surrounding the larger pavilion, small-scale bespoke kiosks or re-purposed shipping container buildings could comprise coffee and ice-cream outlets and toilet and shower rooms . A restaurant or cafe could be located overlooking a new area of beach-front play. The lighting of the public realm will be key to ensure that the area feels welcoming and attractive to support a night-time economy.

Identity

With Southsea’s varied history and architecture, the public realm is seen as a unifier. The palette of materials being used are simple and recessive - untreated timber, anodised aluminium, decorative insitu concrete - all coming together to create a muted base which allows the existing features shine.

The architecture and character of South Parade Beach area could capture the essence of a fun, modern seaside resort, whilst also complimenting the nearby Georgian and Victorian character of the surrounding area.

Components

Some of the key components of the project would be:

- Seating - accessible + sociable
- Seafront shelters
- Art & interpretation
- Lighting scheme that ensures the areas use after dark
- Seafront kiosks, cafes and restaurants
- Exercise hub
- Showering and changing facilities
- Beach play

Project Size

2000 m2

Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs

Outline Cost

High Cost

Low Cost: £0 - £50K  
Medium Cost: £50K - £250K  
High Cost: £250K >



<sup>1</sup> Glenelg Play Space

<sup>2</sup> Boos Beach Club Restaurant, Metaform



## Plan

- 01 - Potential position for a relocated Rowing Club - integrated into the development with potential for 2-storeys.
- 02 - New/ re-provided cafes, restaurants, hire shops, toilets and showers.
- 03 - New seafront play area for all ages
- 04 - Space for outdoor dining, rowing boats, outdoor showers and seating.
- 05 - New seafront trees to provide some shade during the summer months.
- 06 - The promenade will be designed during the Coastal Scheme design process - to include items such as seating and lighting.
- 07 - Existing beach levels integrated into Coastal Designs.
- 08 - New pedestrian crossing to Canoe Lake Park.





Existing South Parade Beach - Visual is taken from the beach where the historic columns aren't visible.





Illustrative Visual

Visual is intended to show potential of place - all proposals are subject to viability and delivery considerations such as funding and revenue generation, buildability, legal matters, they aim to demonstrate the 'art of the possible' and one scenario for how the SPD could be delivered in the future.



5.4

Canoe Lake Seafront

Rejuvenating the spirit of Canoe Lake

Existing Public Realm

This project comprises several different areas adjacent to Canoe Lake. Stretching from the end of South Parade to the west and along the south-western edge of Canoe Lake to the east.

The area is dominated by highways. The existing pedestrian islands are bound on all sides by roads, with the western-most one providing a large area of red tarmac and the eastern-most island providing an isolated setting to the D-Day Memorial set within some pleasant Victorian gardens. A bus stand is located along The Ocean at the End of the Lane, and this section of road is only open for buses.

The south-western edge of Canoe Lake presents the main entrance to the park from the seafront and associated uses, including the public toilets. Connectivity with the seafront is generally quite poor and a low retaining wall and railings further severs this connection. The entrance is poorly defined and does not mark an important threshold into the park. The Emanuel Drinking Fountain monument sits within a large area of grass next to the entrance.

Proposed Scheme

The coastal scheme will require the raising of the promenade by 1.2-1.5m in this location, compounding the severance of the seafront with Canoe Lake further. To mitigate this, there is an opportunity to raise Eastney Esplanade adjacent to the existing traffic islands, re-assign vehicular space for pedestrians and cyclists and redesign the space to the north. The reconfiguration of The Ocean at the End of the Lane and St Helen's Parade turning would draw Canoe Lake further to the west, creating visual and physical links with the seafront.

The existing retaining wall to the south of Canoe Lake park provides an opportunity for a new species rich grass bank which reduces future maintenance costs and the physical barrier. The old set of toilet blocks would be removed to make way for the bank and relocated to South Parade Beach in an attractive purpose built facility, where they would benefit from increased use and natural surveillance.

Role and Function

This project would dramatically increase the connectivity between the seafront and Canoe Lake, maximising the visibility and use of this much-loved area of Southsea. By removing barriers to movement such as walls and oversized roads, the entrance to Canoe Lake would be transformed and sensitively modernised. The re-configuration of the space will ensure safer pedestrian connections between the seafront and promenade.

The D-Day Memorial would be relocated within the space in a location that people can easily access, providing it with a fitting setting that is not severed by highway.

Space for a small temporary food kiosk could be provided within an attractive pocket square.

Identity

The space will be an extension of Canoe Lake, celebrating its identity and creating a seamless link with the seafront to improve its amenity value and use.

Components

Some of the key components of the project would be:

- Seating - accessible and sociable
- Low maintenance biodiverse planting
- Seafront trees
- Art and interpretation
- Lighting scheme that ensures the areas use after dark
- Space for temporary kiosks
- Integration and interpretation of the D-Day Memorial

Project Size

6370 m2

Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

Outline Cost

Medium-High Cost

Low Cost: £0 - £50K  
Medium Cost: £50K - £250K  
High Cost: £250K >



<sup>1</sup> Freundschaftsinsel Potsdam, Berlin

<sup>2</sup> Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, LDA Design





## Plan

- 01 - Eastney Esplanade raised to reduce severance between the new Coastal Scheme and Canoe Lake Park.
- 02 - New grass bunds remove the existing retaining wall and provide a better setting for Canoe Lake Park. The existing toilets are re-provided within South Parade Beach.
- 03 - New stepped access to Canoe Lake Park
- 04 - Sloped accessible access.
- 05 - D-Day memorial is reinstated within a larger square space.
- 06 - Existing memorial is retained within a new square.
- 07 - New playful running tracks around Canoe Lake
- 08 - Opportunity for a fixed barbecue area and picnic benches
- 09 - Space for seasonal kiosks to compliment the existing offer.
- 10 - Existing natural play area is retained.



5.5

# Southsea Common Destination Play

A new destination for the seafront

Existing Public Realm

The existing area is currently known as Seafront The Esplanade Car Park. The car park currently holds 343 spaces with 7 disabled bay spaces.

Located directly opposite Clarence Pier and the Hovercraft terminal the space is bound on it's eastern and northern edges by the historic Southsea Common. The space falls within the boundary of Registered Parks and Gardens that protects Southsea Common.

Proposed Scheme

The new coastal scheme is currently expected to build new grass bunds around the south-western boundaries of the car park. However this design has the opportunity to be reviewed to ensure the area is future proofed.

There is a long-term opportunity to completely remove the car park from this area and relocate it to a multi-storey location set within the redevelopment of Clarence Pier\*. This would allow the space to be transformed into a new destination play space, drawing visitors to Clarence Pier and providing Southsea's only destination play space that is located with direct views and interaction with the seafront.

With the scheme being a long-term aspiration there are interim options that could be explored which would reduce and consolidate the parking within the northern portion of the car park. This would allow the southern section to begin to be transformed, this added activity to the edge of Clarence Pier would increase the draw for visitors and increase the attractiveness of the area for future potential investors.

Role and Function

One of the key roles of the project would be to enliven Southsea Common, connecting it with the seafront and creating a space for families to enjoy Southsea.

The area is a key space along the seafront and would help connect Clarence Pier with Serpentine Square to the east.

Identity

The new play scheme would form one of the most unique spaces along Southsea Seafront. Creating an invitational and colourful identity set within the historic grassed area of Southsea Common.

Components

Some of the key components of the project would be:

- Colourful + unique play scheme tailored to Southsea
- Seating - accessible + sociable
- Low maintenance biodiverse planting
- Seafront trees
- Lighting scheme that ensures the areas safety after dark

Project Size

10,700 m2

Project Delivery Timeframe

Long-term Delivery: 10 - 20 yrs

Outline Cost

Medium Cost

Low Cost: £0 - £50K  
Medium Cost: £50K - £250K  
High Cost: £250K >

\* Future aspiration to redevelop Clarence Pier identified within the 2013 adopted Seafront Masterplan + Draft 2020 Seafront Masterplan



<sup>1</sup> Gathering Place, Tulsa, MONSTRUM

<sup>2</sup> Burgess Park, LDA Design





## Plan

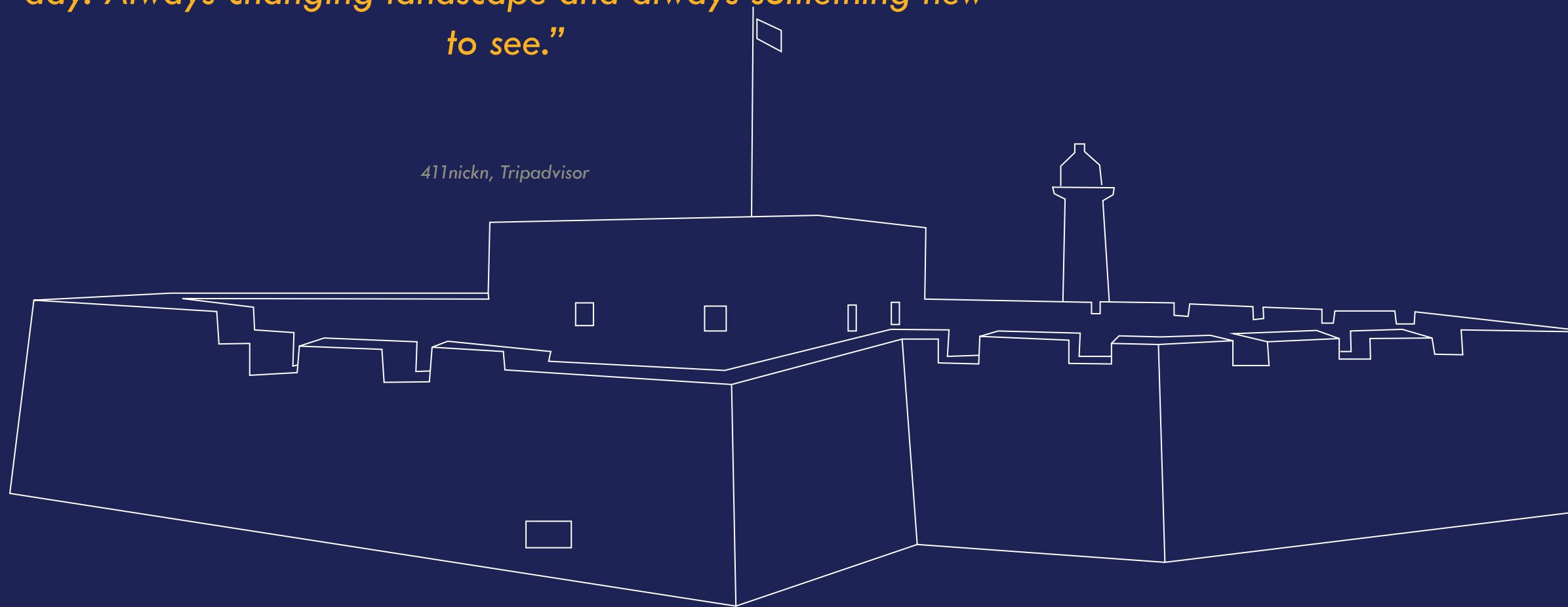
- 01 - New destination play area - wide range of equipment for all age play.
- 02 - Grass bund to edge of Southsea Common to tie-in the Coastal Scheme levels.
- 03 - New links to the seafront through the play area
- 04 - Reduced width and realigned road (as part of Clarence Pier development)
- 05 - New wildflower planting to edge of Southsea Common
- 06 - Clarence Pier development - potential option for a long-term redevelopment.
- 07 - Hovercraft terminal
- 08 - New public square



## 6.0 Small Projects

*“Love to walk along the beach at all different times of the day. Always changing landscape and always something new to see.”*

*411nickn, Tripadvisor*



## 6.1

## Seafront Shelters

Complimenting the existing historic shelter provision, new shelters could be provided to ensure the entirety of the seafront is usable and comfortable year-round. There is potential for the shelters to be designed within a competition process, getting local artists, architecture students and small practises involved in the design of the seafront.

Where the shelters are located in proximity to historic structures and buildings, their design will need to respond carefully to their surroundings.

3 new shelters are indicated on the plan. 2 are located near to Southsea Castle to make the most of the panoramic views. 1 is located near to the Rose Garden to provide an intermediate rest spot between South Parade Beach and Eastney Beach cafe.



### Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

### Outline Cost

Low-Medium Cost



<sup>1</sup> Existing listed shelters

<sup>2</sup> Bexhill-on-Sea Shelters

<sup>3</sup> Biotope Shelter

<sup>4</sup> Acoustic Shells - Flanagan Lawrence



6.2

Seasonal Kiosks

Portsmouth City Council currently run the Pop-Up Portsmouth campaign which offers retailers pop-up locations to showcase the distinctive products and creative styles that are emerging across the city. The existing seafront spaces are currently available throughout July-October, for both short and long term contracts from 1-3 months.

The seasonal kiosks project would seek to build on this campaign, providing small businesses with larger units for cafes, retail opportunities, and galleries. It is viewed that upon testing the waters in the pop-up units, the seasonal units would be the next stepping stone - providing low cost, low risk space for start up entrepreneurs and co-working.

The kiosks have been identified within Speakers Corner and adjacent to South Parade Pier, however if they proved popular could be expanded with another grouping east of South Parade Beach.



**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Low Cost



- <sup>1</sup> Shipping container pop-ups - 2.4 x 2.4m
- <sup>2</sup> Shipping container pop-ups - 2.4 x 2.4m
- <sup>3</sup> Timber clad dual height container space.
- <sup>4</sup> Movable cafe/ retail space



## 6.3

## Eastney Beach Cafe

Eastney Beach cafe provides a vital stop on the promenade route leading eastwards to Eastney Beach. With a small play area currently in place the scheme would look to increase the play offer within this space, making it usable for a wider age group.

The existing cafe could be replaced with a slightly larger building which provides the area with a high-quality architectural draw when walking or cycling along the promenade. Small pop-up uses such as other concessions, events infrastructure and seating, could be located adjacent to the main building during the summer months to increase the offer and surrounding activity.

**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Short-term Delivery: 0-5 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Medium Cost



<sup>1</sup> Existing Eastney Beach flora

<sup>2</sup> West Beach Cafe Littlehampton

<sup>3</sup> Garden City Park - Space2Place

<sup>4</sup> Exmouth Seafront - Meanwhile use space



6.4

Southsea Wildflowers

The population of Portsmouth will experience nature predominantly through their interaction with green infrastructure (GI). The need for urban GI to foster physical and psychological well-being is now one important focus of urban planning policy in the UK and elsewhere. Such policy also recognises the need for resilience of ecosystem services in the face of accelerating urbanisation and climate change. Throughout the UK the urban GI is managed predominantly by local authorities, but many of these are facing major budget reductions – for example, one third of urban park managers in the UK have had budget cuts of over 20% in just two years, with 90% facing some funding cuts. Local authorities are thus looking for alternative management options and are increasingly drawn towards ‘nature based’ solutions that harness ecological processes, are cost effective and also deliver environmental and social benefits.

The areas of mown grassland within Southsea currently cover an area of approximately 37.5 hectares, this is the equivalent to 52.5 football pitches. Even where the species composition of mown grassland communities is relatively diverse, frequent mowing restricts plant structural diversity, and in turn limits invertebrate diversity and abundance. Mown grassland also generates high maintenance costs associated with frequent mowing.

One alternative to this intensive management regime is the introduction of wildflower meadows. These consist of managed grassland vegetation that contains perennial forbs and grasses and is cut once or twice a year. Potential benefits of introducing wildflower meadows include a reduction in mowing frequency, an increase in habitat provision, nectar and pollen for invertebrates and aesthetic value for site users.

Despite their floral and faunal diversity, and the aesthetic benefits that wildflower meadows offer, they are occasionally misunderstood by the local communities for whom the urban greenspace is intended. This may be because of their untidiness in autumn and their physical height (in comparison with mown grassland), which may be seen to impede access for humans, and can lead to perceptions of wilderness or waste-ground and abandonment. This is especially the case in more formal greenspace settings such as Southsea Common, where

fears or negative perceptions are expressed, they can be managed at the local level through community engagement and education events, and signage.

It is acknowledged that some areas within Southsea Common are required to be kept mown to ensure the open ‘common’ feeling it has been listed for is not lost. Any planting would also need to take into account the annual events situated on the Common and it’s surrounding fields. There is however opportunity to plant paths edges, hard-to-manage historic gardens, new grass slopes required to grade in the Coastal Scheme level change and areas within Canoe Lake park.

Essential to a successful wildflower meadow is the management regime. Whilst they require less management it would be important to develop a regime that works with the event requirements.

Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

Outline Cost

Low-Medium Cost



<sup>1</sup> Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park - LDA Design

<sup>2</sup> Wildflower meadow planting

<sup>3</sup> Illustrative Plan Zoom-In

<sup>4</sup> Mown paths



## 6.5

# Clarence and South Parade Gardens

The Gardens to the rear of Southsea Common and Speaker's Corner are an attractive and historic component of Southsea seafront and are popular with locals and visitors. The following proposals are low-impact and are aimed to improve biodiversity, increase use, and ensure longevity of the spaces.

The Gardens currently require a lot of management from the Council. By regenerating them with new pathways, central seating areas, low maintenance planting palette and increased use of wildflowers, the gardens could have a new lease of life.

We'd propose that the existing walls, mature trees, and basic path structure is retained, ensuring that their historic character is retained and reducing the initial associated costs. Annual bedding plants could be replaced with self seeding annuals which require a less intensive maintenance regime but retain that seaside town feel that so often comes from this character of planting.

The Clarence Parade Gardens currently feel like a barrier to pedestrian movement and have an opportunity to be opened up by the removal of the low metal fencing adjacent to Southsea Common.

The gardens adjacent to South Parade could have new routes included across the lawns to improve permeability and usability.



<sup>1</sup> Illustrative Plan Zoom-In: Clarence Parade Gardens

<sup>2</sup> Illustrative Plan Zoom-In: South Parade Gardens

<sup>3</sup> Burgess Park, LDA Design

<sup>4</sup> Trentham Gardens

<sup>5</sup> Trentham Gardens



6.6

# Southsea Common Splashpark and Sports Complex

The Southsea Common Splashpark is currently well used by families who visit and live on the seafront. There is opportunity however to put more investment into the facilities and surrounding play offer to create a combined play for all ages and splashpark.

The existing tennis courts could be supplemented by 3 new 5 a-side pitches which fit within the old mini-golf plot. These would set Southsea Common apart from the sports offer at Canoe Lake, and provide facilities which are lacking in this area of Portsmouth - the nearest public pitches are almost 5km north.

New basketball and netball pitches could be installed within the green plot adjacent to the splashpark which is currently lying vacant and used to store event huts. Having courts here would allow the space to still be used during events.

To accompany the existing food and beverage provision within the tennis pavilion a new square could be located on the corner of Avenue De Caen. Providing space for cafe seating, pop-up markets, or art installations. This would seek to compliment the space in-front of the D-Day museum and encourage exploration of Southsea Common north of Clarence Esplanade.



**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Medium-term Delivery: 5- 10 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Medium Cost



- <sup>1</sup> Illustrative Plan Zoom-In
- <sup>2</sup> Southport Broadwater Parklands
- <sup>3</sup> The Commonground - Land Collective
- <sup>4</sup> King's Cross Cafe Seating



## 6.7

# Avenue De Caen

Avenue De Caen is a historic link from Southsea Town Centre to Southsea Castle. Running north-south between Clarence Esplanade and Clarence Parade the roadway is lined with a high amount of parking and mature pine tree cover. To the east of Avenue De Caen the skatepark is located within the greenspace, whilst on the western edge there is a local garden centre, tennis courts and volleyball court.

With the changing seafront enhancing pedestrian and where possible cyclist movement, there is opportunity for the Avenue De Caen to provide a much-needed pedestrianised link with the town centre.

New shared cycleways, informal play and wildflower planting would transform the route from an oversized roadway and parking lot to green link into the heart of Southsea. The northern end of the Avenue would be a new gateway to the seafront, whilst the southern end would include a new pocket plaza space which compliments the D-Day museum space opposite (also mentioned within the Southsea Common Splashpark and Sports Complex).

Sustainable urban drainage would bring more biodiversity to the area, whilst the opportunity to relocate the historic lighting columns to the centre of the roadway would ensure an arrival experience appropriate to the historic significance of Southsea Castle.

Emergency vehicular access would be required along with servicing and events access for the existing uses that sit on the Avenue.



### Project Delivery Timeframe

Medium-term Delivery: 5- 10 yrs

### Outline Cost

Medium-High Cost



<sup>1</sup> Illustrative Plan Zoom-In

<sup>2</sup> Sheffield Grey to Green, Nigel Dunnet

<sup>3</sup> Passeig De St Joan Boulevard

<sup>4</sup> Olympic Park - LDA Design

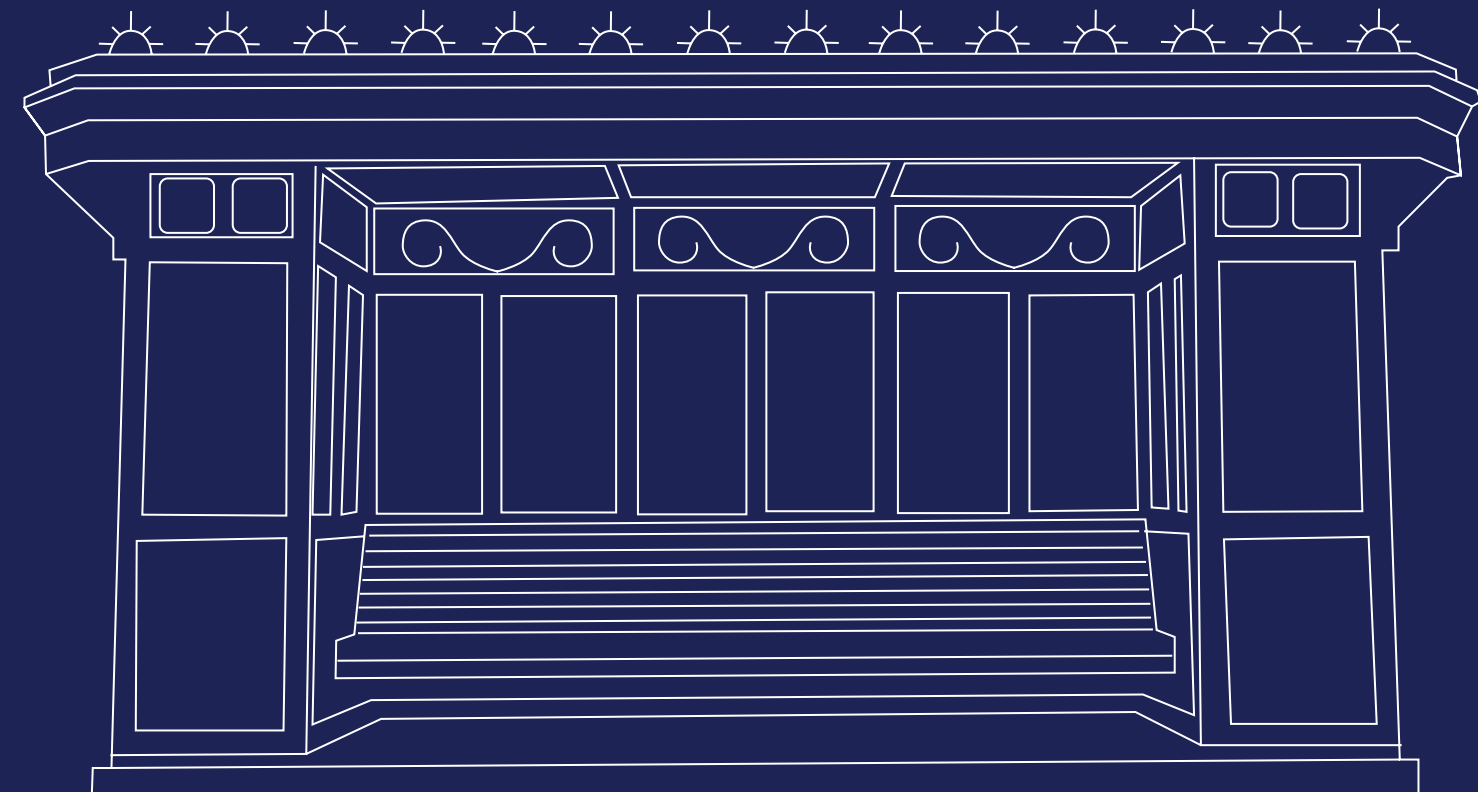


# 7.0

## Quick Win Projects

*“Sat on the pebble beach and watched the world go by for an hour, which included boats, hovercraft and gulls!”*

*Kevin L, Tripadvisor*



7.1 Play and Exercise Hubs

It is through play that children experience and discover the world around them. So that their imagination and need for exercise can be given free rein, children need space for play. Sadly, free areas that can be explored during play are often lacking in the modern urban environment. It has thus become even more essential to supply the necessary recreational and free spaces. When it comes to the design of incidental play, it is expedient to employ a concept that will appeal to all age groups.

New incidental play areas are to be designed throughout the coastal scheme whilst Southsea Common and Canoe Lake could also provide areas for jumping, climbing, socialising and balancing.

To accompany this new exercise hubs could be located along the seafront to compliment the current provision in Canoe Lake and Southsea Common.

Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

Outline Cost

Low Cost



Outer Lock Crossing - LDA Design



Circling the Avenue - BO

7.2 Running, Cycling and Scooting Routes

Simple routes that walkers, runners, cyclists and scooters can follow along the seafront. Routes could be formed using plaques, or simply etched or painted onto the surfacing. 1km markers could be located along the seafront to provide a bearing to users whilst in Canoe Lake a running track for children and adults alike could be painted around the lake.

Water fountains are due to be installed along the seafront as part of the Coastal Scheme.

Project Delivery Timeframe

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

Outline Cost

Low Cost



Paris Wayfinding



Bikeway Belém - Atelier



7.3 Bike and Electric Scooter Rental Hubs

The importance of cycling has never been greater. With the average ride being 5km it would seem perfectly suited to Southsea’s 5km long seafront. With wide roads that are soon to be made cycle friendly through the Coastal Scheme, the only thing missing at present are the bike rental hubs.

Electric Scooters are becoming an ever-more popular way to travel. With Portsmouth identified as an area to trial the scooters now that they are legal to use on UK roads space for their hire should be identified along the seafront.

These hubs could be formed either by Council owned rental stations or by providing pop-up space for local bike hire/ electric scooter hire shops on the seafront. Key areas that could accommodate the hubs would be Clarence Pier, Serpentine Square, Speakers’ Corner, South Parade Beach and Eastney Cafe.

**Project Delivery Timeframe**  
(Dependant on location - to be rolled out as development allows)

Delivered as part of Coastal Scheme: 0-5 yrs  
Short to Long-term Delivery: 0- 15 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Low Cost



Bike Rental Container



Hire Bikes

7.4 Pedestrian Priority Environment

The last century saw a widespread adoption of policies and working practices that placed the private car at the top of the decision making hierarchy. The result was and continues to be considerable harm to our health and our environment. Southsea reflects many of the ills caused by this approach through a vehicle dominated seafront.

Pedestrian-priority roads and junctions could play a prominent role in shaping a walkable, accessible, and enjoyable seafront. These spaces encourage people to move at their own pace, activate underutilized spaces, and boost local businesses.

Where roads are proposed to be closed businesses access could be allowed for loading and deliveries at limited times. Roads that are oversized could reduced in width to encourage slower vehicular speeds, whilst crossings could be installed that promote pedestrian use - with smaller distances, different surfacing and raised tables.

**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Medium Cost



Poynton Shared Space



Brunswick Square - LDA Design



## 7.5 Seafront Arrival Spaces

The entrance points along Southsea Common's northern edge are poorly identified and often don't feel like welcoming gateways at all. These areas lack a strong sense of place and do little to let you know of the joyful views and seafront that lie just a few hundred metres south.

Each entrance should be an arrival space for both Southsea Common and the seafront. New seating, wayfinding, lighting and even art could create a mini-space that welcomes locals and visitors alike. At the larger entrances small pop-up uses, such as kiosks, could be located during the summer months to promote access into the town centre.

### Project Delivery Timeframe

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

### Outline Cost

Low-Medium Cost



Hull Gateway - LDA Design



Burgess Park Gateway - LDA Design

## 7.6 Beach Huts

Southsea currently has two beach hut locations along the seafront, located at Lumps Fort and the junction of St George's Road & Eastney Esplanade. The beach huts are available for annual and weekly hire and have an extensive waiting list.

The popularity of the beach huts epitomises UK seafront culture, and as human beings our desire to be close to nature with basic amenities. To supplement the current provision, the seafront could install new beach huts in two potential locations - adjacent to South Parade Pier and on Eastney Beach (ensuring they don't have any negative effects on the protected Site of Importance for Nature Conservation).

### Project Delivery Timeframe

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

Medium-term Delivery: 5- 10 yrs

### Outline Cost

Low Cost



Existing George's Road Beach Huts



Existing Lumps Fort Beach Huts



### 7.7 Relocated Lifeguard Hut

Founded in 1933 the Portsmouth and Southsea Voluntary Lifeguards provide weekend lifeguard cover for Southsea beach. Their current hut is located directly behind the new defences which will be +1.2m above the current promenade level.

A new hut could be located on the landward side of the promenade, allowing them easy access to the beach and retaining a prominent position on the seafront.

**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Low- Medium Cost



Existing PSLV lifeguard hut

### 7.8 Barbecue Areas

Southsea Common and Canoe Lake currently have dedicated barbecue zones which can be found via the Councils website or via signage on site. To supplement these zones, new small scale public barbecue's and picnic tables could be installed. These areas would promote appropriate use of the barbecue zones and would provide space for larger families and a wider range of users. Litter bins and water points could be provided alongside each barbecue to reduce additional waste and promote cleaning after use.

**Project Delivery Timeframe**

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

**Outline Cost**

Low Cost



Public coal barbecue



Public gas barbecue and picnic table



## 7.9 Vehicular Security Gate Removed

To promote cyclist and pedestrian access along Serpentine Road the existing oversized vehicle barrier could be replaced with removable bollards. The existing barrier provides a small pedestrian and cyclist access to the side which is difficult to navigate and which doesn't promote people to access the common from this point.

Smaller scale bollards would open up the views, make the space more permeable and still allow vehicular access for servicing and events.

### Project Delivery Timeframe

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

### Outline Cost

Low Cost



Existing security gate



Timber bollards

## 7.10 Informal Paths Across Southsea Common

To improve the permeability of the seafront and the usability of Southsea Common, there are a number of locations where new informal paths could be installed. Two of the key areas would include, northwards from the Naval Memorial, and surrounding the skatepark.

### Project Delivery Timeframe

Short-term Delivery: 0- 5 yrs

### Outline Cost

Low Cost



Naval Memorial - new path link



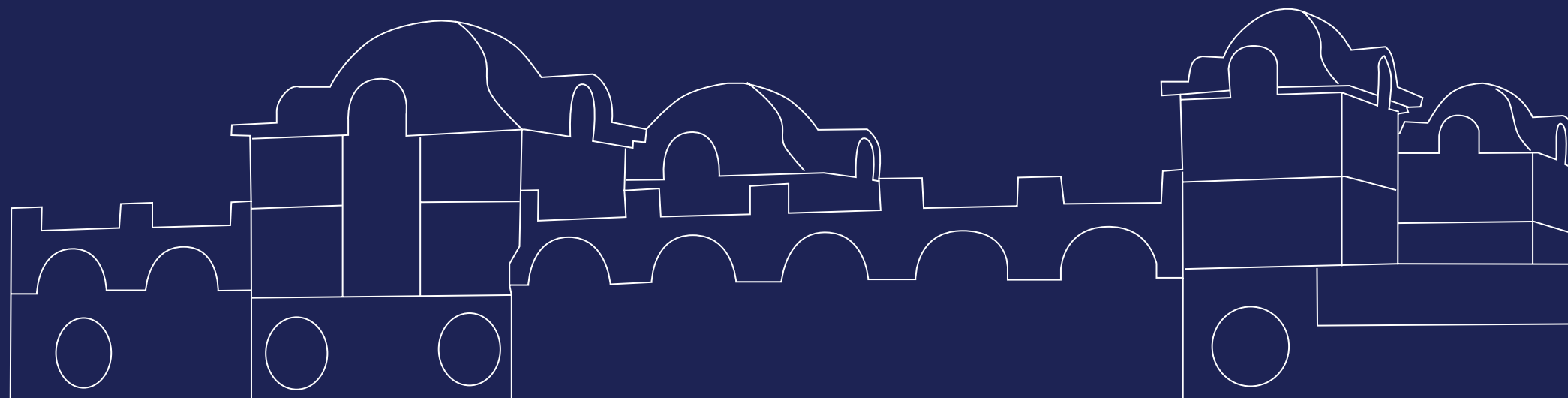
Hoggin/ self binding pathway



## 8.0 Next Steps

*“Felt like a child again...Mr.Whippy, scampi in fish restaurant on pier and spent a few pennies in the slot machines!!!”*

*BenJPuss,m Tripadvisor*





# Next Steps

## Context

The role of seafronts is changing. To continue to thrive they must offer a year-round unique experience, the right mix of uses and good reasons to spend time and money. There is now a remarkable degree of consensus that well-designed and well-managed public realm and a collection of different types of public spaces is essential to the health of a city and seafront in every sense. High quality public realm is widely accepted as being an essential component in achieving a range of benefits such as:

### Economic:

- \* Stimulates inward investment (case studies in places as diverse as Blackpool, Littlehampton and Bexhill-on-Sea demonstrate how flood defence has been used as a catalyst for the improvement of public realm and buildings;
- \* Increases visitor, worker and resident spending (case study evidence suggests that well-planned improvements to public spaces can boost footfall and trading by up to 40%);
- \* Improves perceptions and by doing so increases both first and repeat visits;
- \* Increases opportunities for and revenue from events and promotions;
- \* Creates jobs (In Dublin, the redevelopment of the Temple Bar District led to a 300% increase in employment before the economic boom).

### Environmental:

- \* Improves air quality and reduces pollution;
- \* Encourages walking and cycling;
- \* Cools urban heat islands;
- \* Increases biodiversity;
- \* Relieves pressure on at-capacity drainage systems through sustainable urban drainage;
- \* Reduces energy consumption.

### Social and cultural:

- \* Improves community cohesion through a stronger sense of pride in place;
- \* Improves health and well-being;
- \* Reduces crime;
- \* Supports active travel and healthy lifestyles, in turn helping tackle obesity;
- \* Increases safety and reduces accidents.

## Delivery and Funding

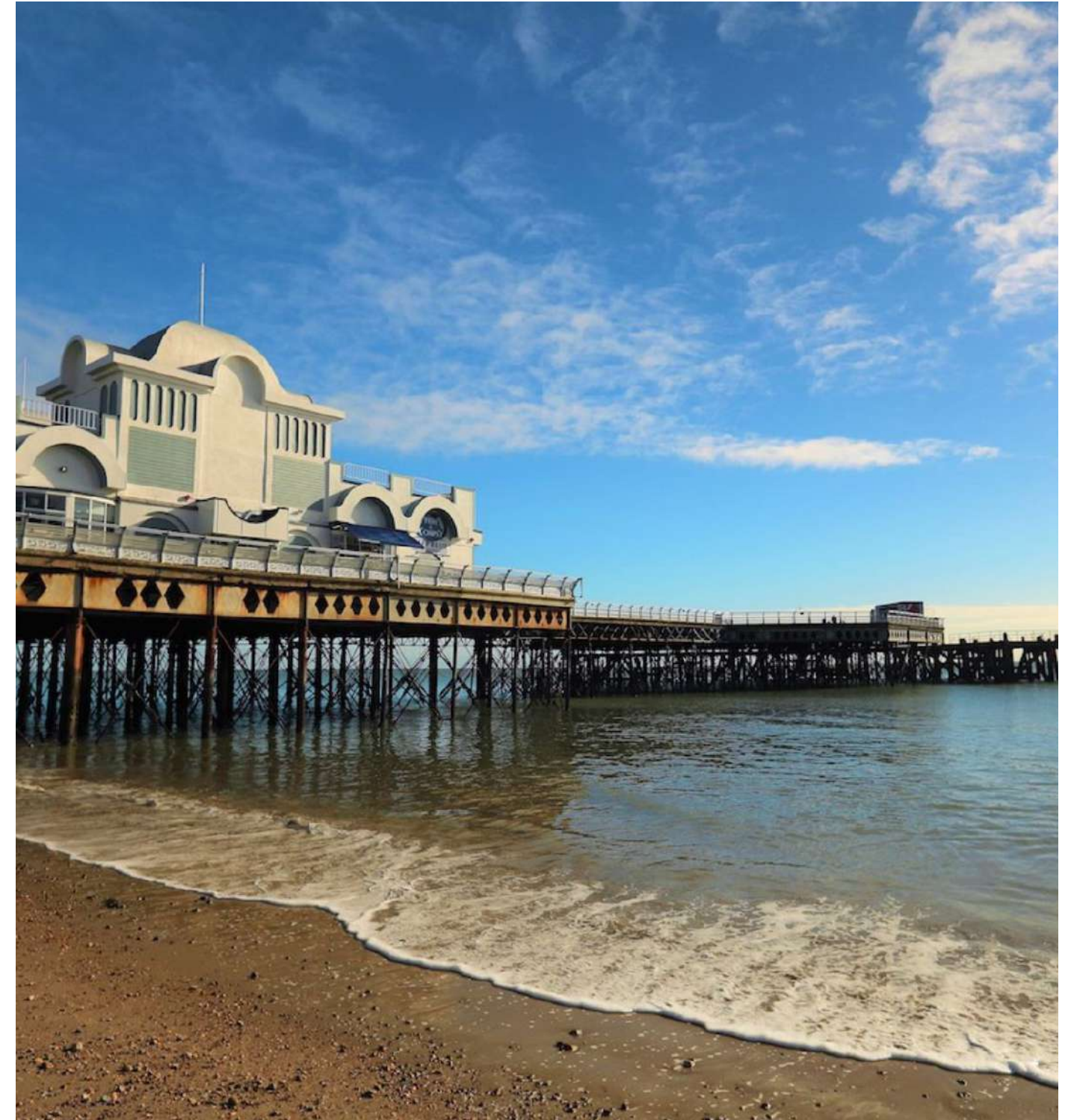
The Southsea Masterplan SPD and Collaborative Enhancement Plan reflects an ambitious vision to deliver long term transformational change at Southsea. It aims to protect and enhance what makes Southsea special and celebrate its rich character and personality, whilst repairing and improving areas that aren't currently working or have become degraded over time.

Delivering the level of transformation proposed requires intense collaboration, creativity, technical rigour and multi-layered public and private funding. Whilst an integrated approach to public realm and flood defence has been adopted for the Southsea Coastal scheme, and where possible enhancements sought, the flood defence grant in aid funding will only go so far and additional monies will need to be sought.

A project of this nature will likely require partnerships with private sector parties and partnering agreements either by way of a joint venture or development agreements that could be secured with a developer/investor/occupier to work alongside the City Council. It is also acknowledged that a number of the areas are in private ownership or subject to existing lease agreements and collaboration for mutual benefit will be required.

The Covid-19 pandemic has placed greater pressure on both public and private funding, and there is much uncertainty across the country right now, however, there are also potentially new opportunities that we may be able to capitalise on. During this period, people have valued public space, nature and the quality of the built environment much more and active travel has increased. The government has already pledged funding for Walking and Cycling and it is likely as we move forwards additional grant monies will be available for projects of this nature.

Prior to the pandemic, an initial funding appraisal was carried out to ascertain opportunities for funding for enhancements alongside the flood defence scheme. The potential funding sources are outlined below (this list is not exhaustive).



South Parade Pier



**Section 106**

Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), commonly known as S106 agreements, are a mechanism which make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms, that would not otherwise be acceptable. They are focused on site specific mitigation of the impact of development. S106 agreements are often referred to as 'developer contributions' along with highway contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy. It is anticipated that S106 agreements will provide a contribution to the programme from appropriate developments citywide.

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge that the City Council can apply to planning applications to raise funds to support growth and development in the City. The levy is set locally and most new development which creates additional floor space of 100 square metres or more, or creates a new dwelling, is potentially liable for the levy. The Council's intentions for spending CIL receipts are set out in what is known as its 'CIL Regulation 123 List'.

**Heritage Action Zones**

Ten Heritage Action Zones (HAZ) were announced in March 2017. There may be the case through this project, for an application given that Heritage Action Zone status funding is available for areas that may want to form a HAZ and also Registered Parks and Gardens Common falls under this category (applicable to Southsea Common).

**Heritage Lottery Fund – Parks for the People**

The HLF Parks for People fund helps to conserve the heritage that makes both historic parks and cemeteries special and gives local people a say in how they are managed in the future. Grants of between £100,000 and £5,000,000 are made based upon the capacity of a project to deliver outcomes for heritage, people and communities. By public park the HLF means an existing designed urban or rural park, the main purpose of which is providing free access to informal recreation and enjoyment. Their definition includes urban parks, country parks, gardens, squares and seaside promenade gardens. It is likely that all areas designated as Registered Historic Gardens would be considered for the grant, particularly where the emphasis is on restoration

(Southsea Common, The Rock Garden and The Rose Garden may be applicable).

**Coastal Communities Fund**

The Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) encourages the economic development of UK coastal communities by giving funding to create sustainable economic growth and jobs. Since the start of the CCF in 2012, the Big Lottery Fund has awarded grants to 277 organisations across the UK to the value of £170 million. The Big Lottery Fund has delivered the CCF on behalf of UK Government and the Devolved Administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The UK Government announced in 2015 that the CCF will be extended to 2021 with at least £90m of new funding available for the period 2017/18 to 2020/21. The next funding round is uncertain and is currently being monitored.

**Arts Council**

The Arts Council 'Let's Create' strategy outlines the types of projects in the future that would be applicable and an overarching Arts Strategy is currently being developed for the seafront.

**Sustrans**

Sustrans provides funding for projects to create safe, attractive, healthier places by increasing the number of trips made by walking, cycling and wheeling for everyday journeys.

**Sport England**

Each year Sport England invest more than £250 million of National Lottery and public money to help people play sport and take part in physical activity. There are a range of funding streams available for capital projects that Southsea might be able to access.

**The National Lottery Communities Fund**

The National Lottery Community Fund distributes over £600m a year to communities across the UK. In order to access this money, partnerships need to be set up and include:

- \* a voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisation
- \* a local authority, and
- \* an NHS organisation (including Clinical Commissioning Groups, NHS Trusts and primary care bodies).

**Other Organisations**

There are a number of other local and national organisations that could potential provide opportunities for funding -

- \* Wolfson Foundation
- \* Garfield Weston
- \* Arcardia Fund
- \* Worshipful Companies
- \* Bernard Sunley
- \* Southern Co-operative
- \* Lloyds TSB Foundation
- \* Lush
- \* Brittany Ferries
- \* B&Q / Homebase
- \* Covers
- \* Stannah
- \* Wiggle
- \* Sailing BAR, INEOS Team UK
- \* Portsmouth Museums
- \* Associated dockyard businesses
- \* Edge Funds website
- \* Charity Commission
- \* Victorious



**Next Steps**

Following a period of further consultation and engagement, it is envisaged that the Collaborative Enhancement Plan, in association with the Masterplan SPD, will be used to aid initial discussions with both public bodies and private developers.

Importantly, the projects identified and showcased aim to capture imagination and demonstrate the potential of place - 'the art of the possible'. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to deliver transformational change to secure a long term sustainable future for Southsea and the people of Portsmouth.



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