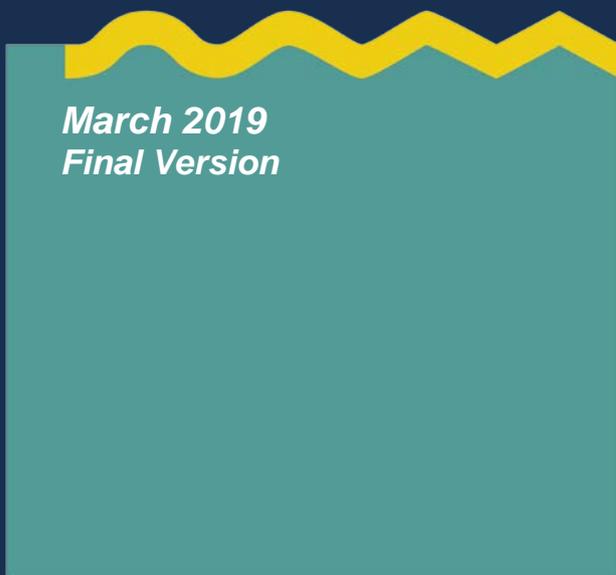





southsea
COASTAL SCHEME

Pre-planning engagement

Consultation report



Project	Southsea Coastal Scheme
Title	Pre-planning engagement: Consultation report
Project Manager	Zane Gunton
Reference	

Document History

Date	Revision	Prepared	Approved	Authorised	Notes
27/02/19	1	RC			
15/02/19	2	RC	RT		

The Southsea Coastal Scheme is being delivered by:



1. Consultation programme

1.1. Introduction

The Southsea Coastal Scheme is a significant investment in the infrastructure of the area in order to reduce the risk of coastal flooding and erosion, being carried out by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) on behalf of Portsmouth City Council (PCC). The scheme covers 4.5km (2.8miles) of coastline from the Royal Garrison Church to the Royal Marines Museum. The scheme is designed to protect over 8,000 properties, 700 businesses, multiple heritage sites and key infrastructure from the risk of flooding. Approximately 4,000 of these properties are at risk of direct inundation from flooding. The seafront, along with Southsea Common, is a focal point for recreation and tourism and is hugely important for the city.

The scheme is covered within a 'Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)', known as the Seafront Masterplan. Adopted in 2013, it seeks to guide redevelopment opportunities in this area and makes specific reference to the need to replace the existing defences. This document is currently under review to ensure opportunities created by the Southsea Coastal Scheme can be fully realised (see section 1.7).

The consultation process aims to ensure that stakeholders and the public have the opportunity to input into the development of the Southsea seafront. The findings of previous engagements have shown that the public's vision for the seafront appears to focus on the need for sensitive redevelopment of the sea defences which provides good access for all, preserving and enhancing its current uses.

The aims of the consultation are to:

- Provide residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to shape the proposals and feel a sense of ownership over the scheme, so that they contribute to protecting and enhancing all that is loved about Southsea
- Be meaningful, purposeful and informative to the widest range of stakeholders potentially interested in or affected by the scheme
- Ensure inclusivity by making the consultation accessible, clearly defined, transparent, building upon and celebrating diverse community identities

To meet these aims, the objectives of the consultation are to:

- Make information available through a number of methods and levels of detail to enable consultees to engage at the level they find appropriate
- Make sure that the benefits and impacts are clearly presented to stakeholders
- Be clear with stakeholders the scope of what is being consulted on and what can change as a result of consultation
- Offer appropriate and convenient methods, both traditional and digital, of providing feedback to help make it easy for consultees to respond to the consultation
- Take reasonable steps to identify, engage and consult with hard-to-reach groups

- Utilise existing stakeholder relations to raise awareness and promote the consultation
- Recognise the positive contribution consultees can make towards the scheme, including the identification of ways the scheme could contribute to the strategic objectives of host communities and authorities, making sure to take on board and consider all the feedback received
- Respect and make maximum use of local expertise, knowledge and experience that may challenge various technical and environmental studies.

1.2. Previous Consultation

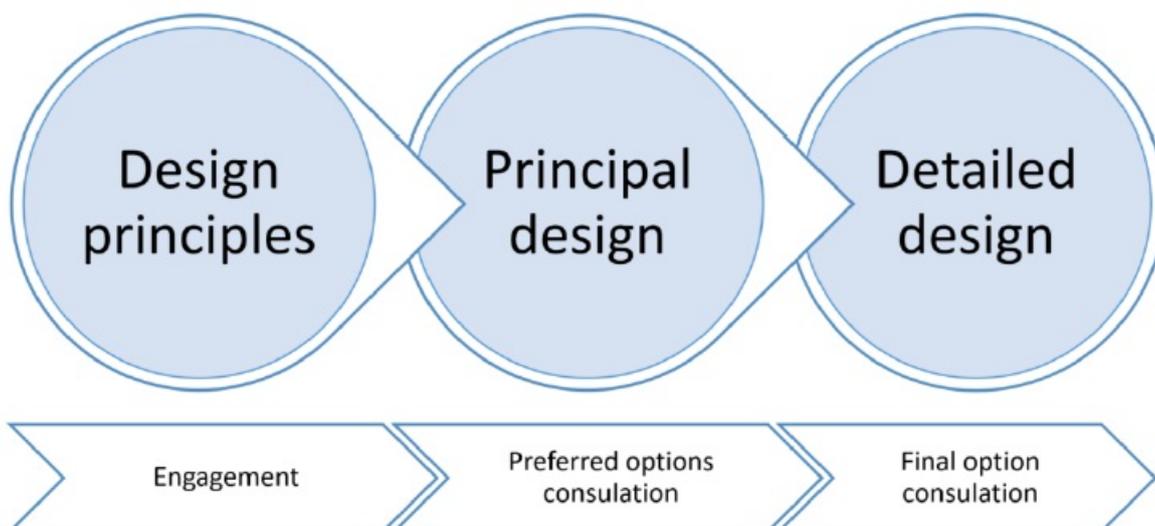
A non-statutory public consultation ran for 8 weeks, from 3rd November 2014 to the 29th December 2014. This provided the public with the opportunity to view and comment on the short list of coastal defence options being proposed for Southsea. A total of 471 people attended the exhibition events, showing a strong interest in the scheme from the local community. 378 questionnaire responses were received throughout the consultation, via the exhibition events, online and by post.

Posters were displayed detailing the 3 short-listed options in each area of the seafront and highlighted which of these was currently the leading option. There was an overall average of 85.8% support for the leading coastal defence option in each area. 92.2% said they believe there is a need to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion to Southsea, with 89.3% saying there is a need for new coastal defences.

1.3. Current Consultation Process

The purpose of the consultation programme is to ensure that the process is carried out at a time which responds to the design progression of the scheme. This is in order to ensure the consultation is able to influence the scheme. Delivery of stakeholder engagement and consultation has been undertaken as shown in Figure 1:

Figure 1: Stakeholder engagement and consultation process



- Round 1: Design principles engagement (October/November 2018)
- Round 2: Preferred option consultation (Summer 2018)
- Round 3: Detailed design / final option consultation (Winter 2018/19)

Round 1, **design principles engagement**; was undertaken from the 25th October until 22nd November 2017, following initial consultation in 2014. The aim was to re-introduce the scheme to residents and understand their aspirations for the area.

Round 2, **preferred options consultation**; was undertaken in July & August 2018. This was postponed from February this year. It was a 'preferred option consultation' which gauged the public's appetite for the emerging designs and provided an explanation for the discounting of other options.

Round 3, **pre-planning engagement**; is the phase of consultation that this report relates to, and was undertaken in February 2019, to gauge the public's response to the final option before the submission of the planning application.

1.4. Pre-planning engagement: what we consulted on

The consultation provided details on the final option and how public opinion from round 2 has been listened to and incorporated into the final design. For planning reasons, the consultation had to focus on the sea defence itself and not any enhancements that cannot be paid for from FDGiA (Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid).

The overall support for options in each area was measured, along with opinions and further comments on what the designs.

Design factors that were fixed:

- Majority of parking retained
- Revised the design to reduce use of walls and bury any rocks under shingle
- Defences will be built to ensure equal access to all seafront users

1.5. Who we consulted

The consultation was conducted as a full public consultation. This included three tiers of consultees:

- Tier 1, which included: Statutory consultees
- Tier 2, which included: Businesses, landowners & key organisations
- Tier 3, which included: Local community, interest groups and local community groups

1.6. How we consulted

Each of these tiers were engaged using different methods. The methods for each tier included:

Tier 1: Continued engagement through pre-app processes with statutory consultees including the Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, Portsmouth City Council, Queen's Harbourmaster, and the Marine Management Organisation.

Tier 2: Stakeholders within this tier were invited to re-engage with us, following initial meetings in autumn 2017. These will either be in the form of meetings with the design team in the IDT offices, or site meetings.

Tier 3: The principal method of consultation with the local community, interest groups and local community groups was through the following methods:

- *Consultation events*

Events were held in the following locations:

Drop-in exhibition events at Coastguard Studio:

- Thursday 14th February, 2pm – 7pm
- Friday 15th February, 11am – 5pm
- Saturday 16th Feb, 11am – 5pm

At these events, a series of exhibition boards explained how the designs have developed since the previous consultation in summer 2018. There was also a video visualisation, which allowed visitors to see what the designs could look like at ground level, and technical drawings.

Members of staff were on hand to answer questions, and there was an extensive questionnaire to answer at the end of the exhibition.

Library information events:

- Cosham Library: Monday 18th February, 1-4pm
- North End Library: Tuesday 19th February, 1-4pm
- Beddow (Milton) library: Wednesday 20th February, 1-4pm

At these information events, team members were present to answer any questions, and scheme booklets and questionnaires were available to take away.

- *Workshop event*

A technical design workshop was held, which allowed interest groups and local residents to interrogate the designs. The focus of this workshop was to discuss the key themes that came out of the exhibition and information events such as cycling provisions, construction materials and street furniture.

- *Online consultation*

All consultation materials were available online to ensure that interested parties were able to view the emerging designs and give us their feedback, even if they were unable to attend the consultation events themselves.

The consultation materials are available to view on the Southsea Coastal Scheme website at <https://southseacoastalscheme.org.uk/our-plans/>

The following channels were used promote the consultation period:

- Direct mail (A4 newsletter) to 20,000 Southsea households
- Direct mail (A5 leaflet) to 67,000 households in the remaining PCC area
- Press release
- Press preview event

- Posts on all social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Out-of-home advertising
- Project website
- Email bulletin
- Other PCC channels (social media, Flagship etc)

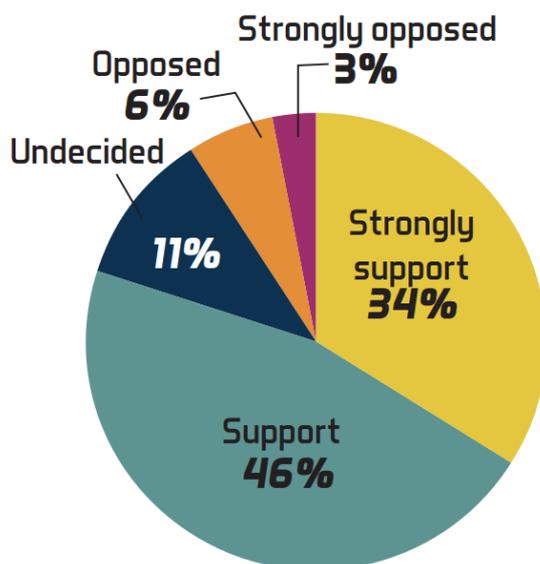
The promotional and communication approach used the following consultation materials:

- Full consultation booklet (available online & reference copies at events)
- Summary booklet to take away
- Questionnaire
- Environmental information report (draft ES, containing baseline information)
- Exhibition boards
- Map of scheme of whole frontage (A0x4)
- 3D visualisation
- Technical drawings and plans to be submitted within the planning application

1.7. Key consultation Statistics

- 505 attendees at the coastguard studio exhibitions
- 85 attendees at the library information events
- 232 questionnaire responses
- 86% support or strongly support the proposal at Long Curtain Moat
- 84% support or strongly support the proposal at South Parade Pier
- 71% support or strongly support the proposal at Southsea Common
- 85% support or strongly support the proposal at Southsea Castle
- 83% support or strongly support the proposal at the Pyramid Centre
- 81% support or strongly support the proposal at South Parade Pier
- 79% support or strongly support the proposal at Canoe Lake
- 75% support or strongly support the proposal at Eastney Esplanade

The below infographic shows the overall support for the scheme based on an average of the indications of support across all the frontages.



1.8. Business Engagement

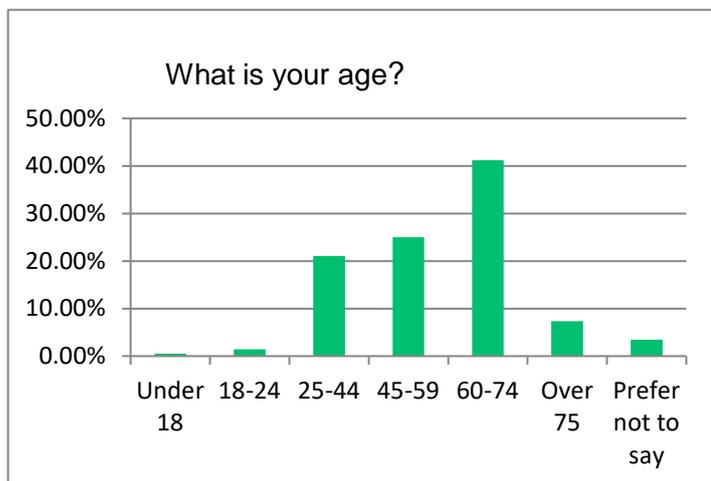
Seafront businesses falling within the scheme boundaries, and also bordering it, have been engaged throughout the consultation period (falling under 'Tier 2' of the consultation classification). Meetings have been held to discuss potential issues and opportunities that the scheme will bring, and for them to highlight the specific issues that affect them. The team continued to engage with businesses as the pre-construction phase of the scheme progressed, however, there is a wider piece of work being carried out to decide the council's approach to commercial development along the seafront. This will feed into our planning application and the Seafront Masterplan SPD review.

2. Demographics and Location

2.1. Demographic

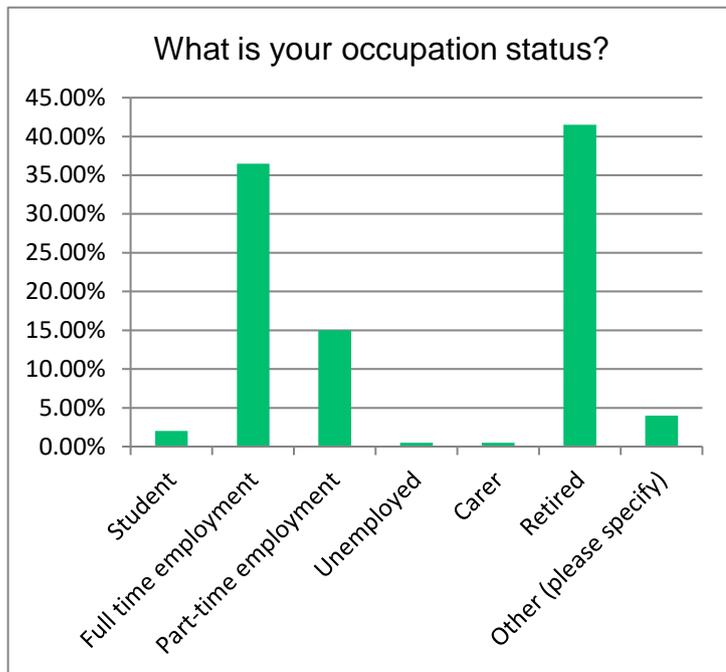
We were pleased to get a broad demographic response to the questionnaire, which was one of our main objectives for the consultation period.

Age



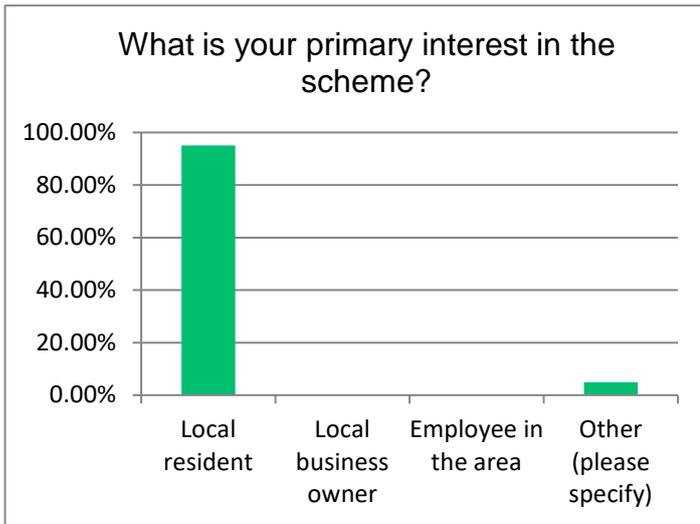
Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 18	0.49%	1
18-24	1.47%	3
25-44	21.08%	43
45-59	25.00%	51
60-74	41.18%	84
Over 75	7.35%	15
Prefer not to say	3.43%	7
Answered		204
Skipped		28

Occupation status



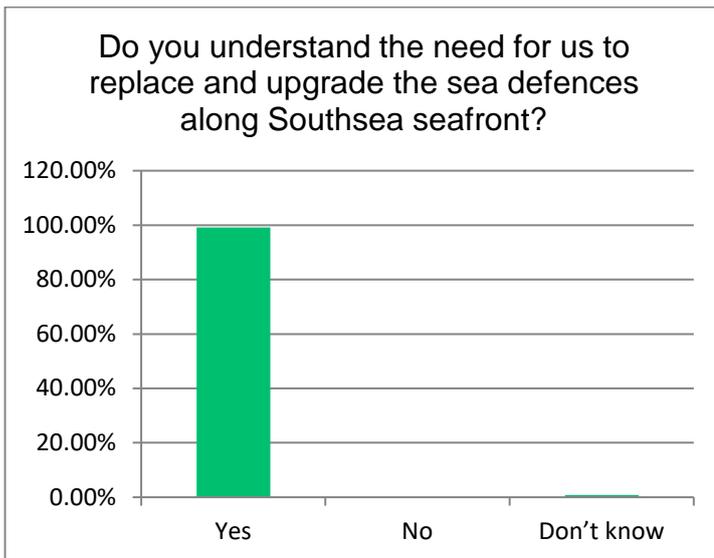
Answer Choices	Responses	
Student	2.00%	4
Full time employment	36.50%	73
Part-time employment	15.00%	30
Unemployed	0.50%	1
Carer	0.50%	1
Retired	41.50%	83
Other (please specify)	4.00%	8
Answered		200
Skipped		32

Interest in the scheme



Answer Choices	Responses	
Local resident	95.10%	194
Local business owner	0.00%	0
Employee in the area	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	4.90%	10
Answered		204
Skipped		28

Understanding of the need for the scheme

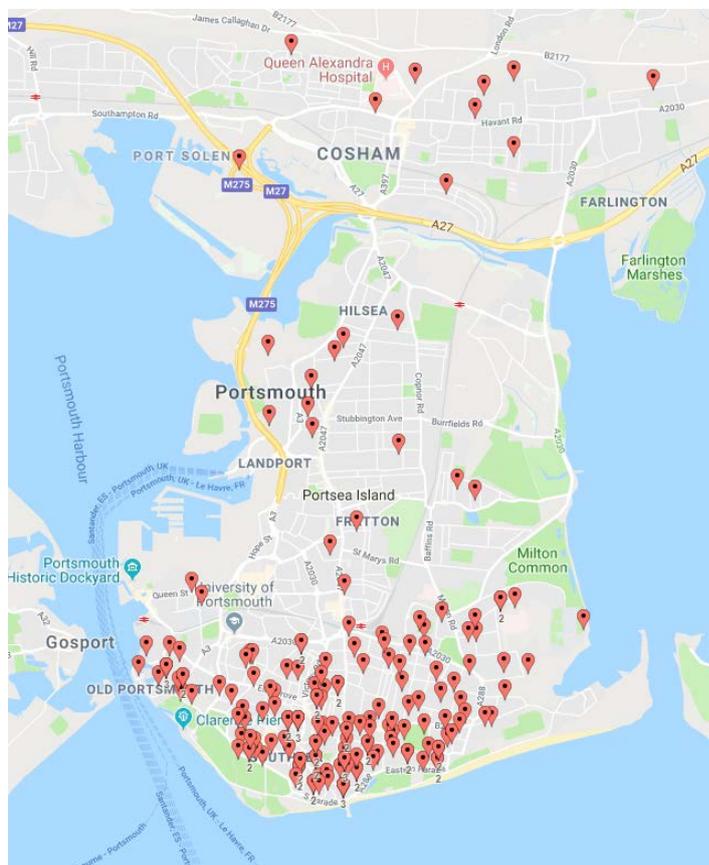
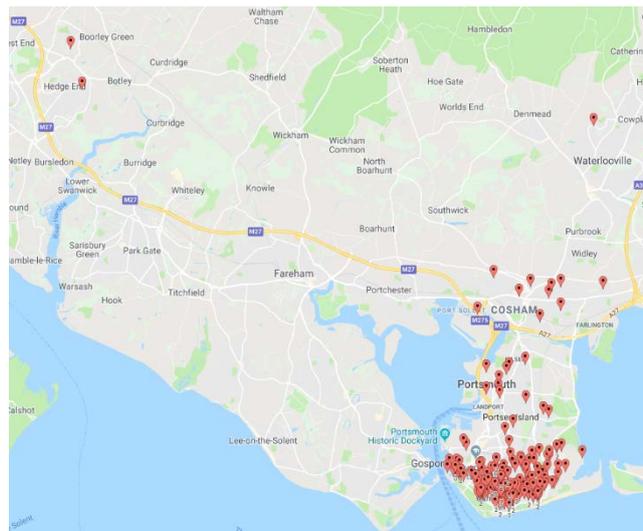
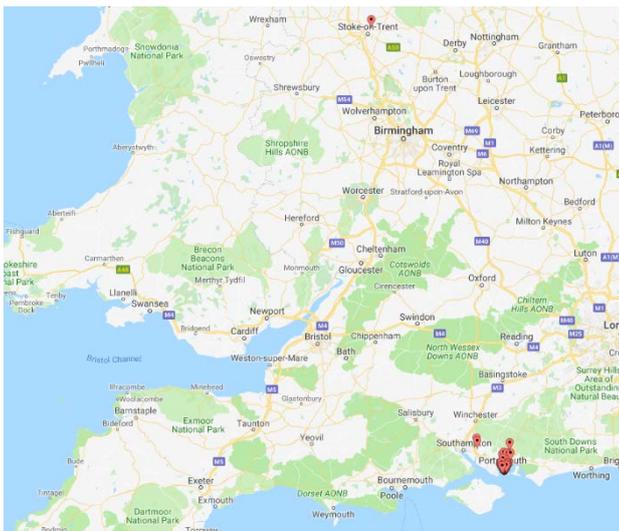


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	99.13%	227
No	0.00%	0
Don't know	0.87%	2
Answered		229
Skipped		3

2.2. Location

The below figures show the distribution of people who responded to the questionnaire. We were pleased to see a good spread of responses from across the city and other parts of Hampshire.

As expected, there was a dense cluster of responses in the PO1/PO4/PO5 area, which indicates our targeted marketing campaign was successful in reaching local people and raising awareness.

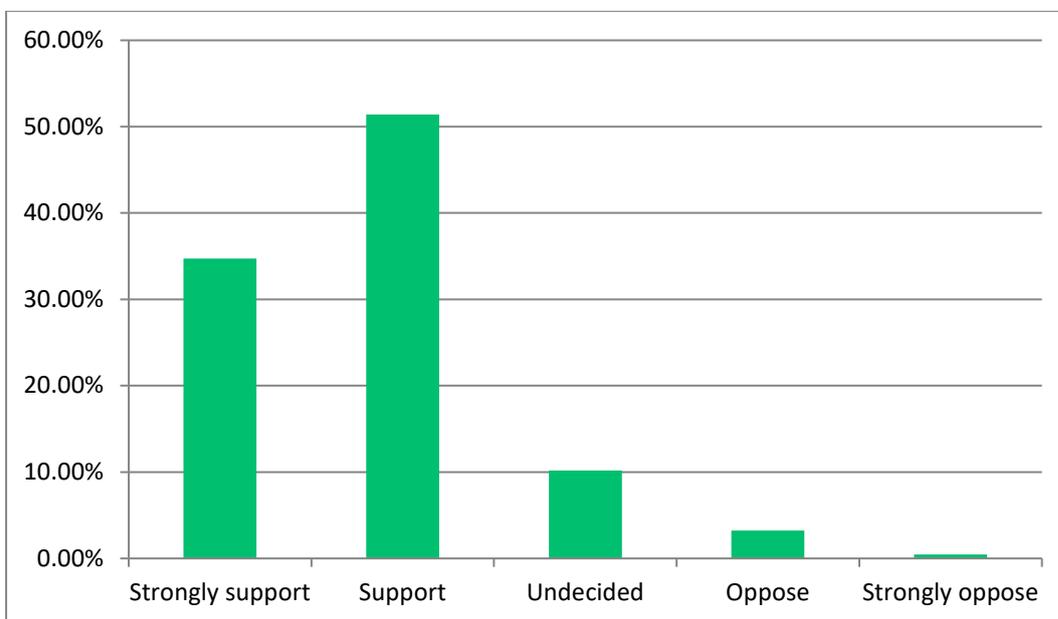


3. Consultation Results

3.1. Frontage 1 – Long Curtain Moat

Q2. To what extent do you support the design being proposed at Long Curtain Moat?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	34.72%	75
Support	51.39%	111
Undecided	10.19%	22
Oppose	3.24%	7
Strongly oppose	0.46%	1
Answered	216	
Skipped	16	



Long Curtain Moat Summary

Over half the respondents supported the proposal at Long Curtain Moat, with an additional 34% showing strong support.

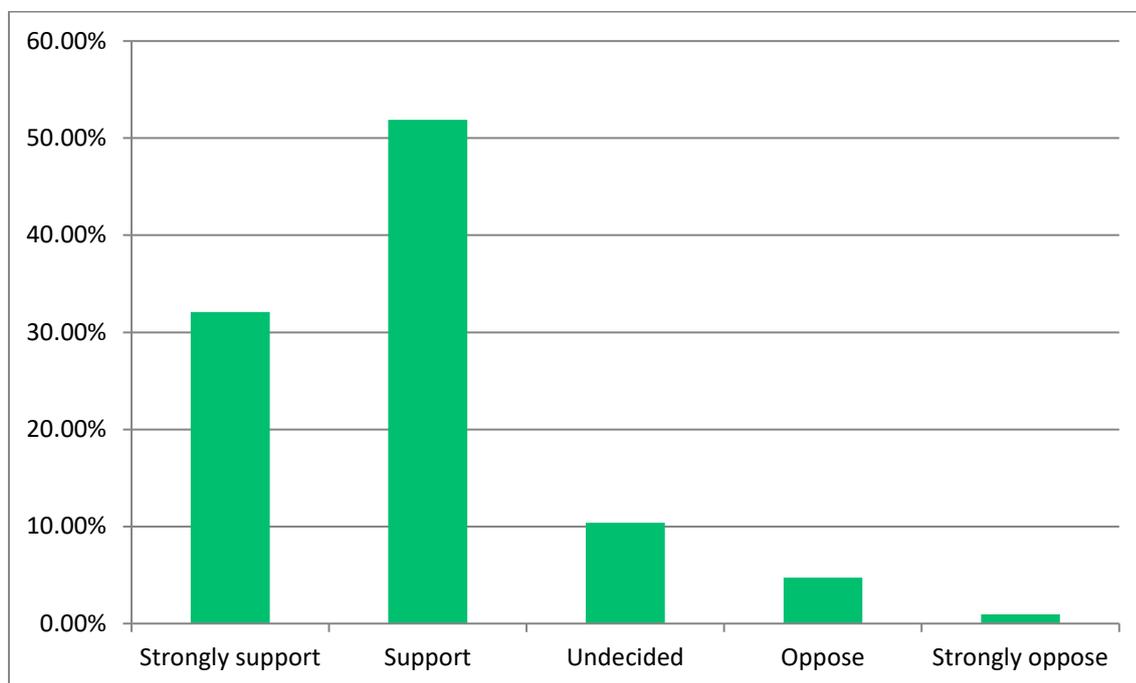
Less than 5% opposed the scheme, with 1 individual respondent being strongly opposed to the scheme. Slightly over 10% of the respondents were undecided about their support for the proposal.

Within the comments left later within the questionnaire, specific comments regarding Long Curtain Moat included concern over the loss of beach at the frontage. Others referred to lack of cycling provision in the design within this area.

3.2. Frontage 2 – Clarence Pier

Q3. To what extent do you support the design being proposed at Clarence Pier?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	32.08%	68
Support	51.89%	110
Undecided	10.38%	22
Oppose	4.72%	10
Strongly oppose	0.94%	2
Answered	212	
Skipped	20	



Clarence Pier Summary

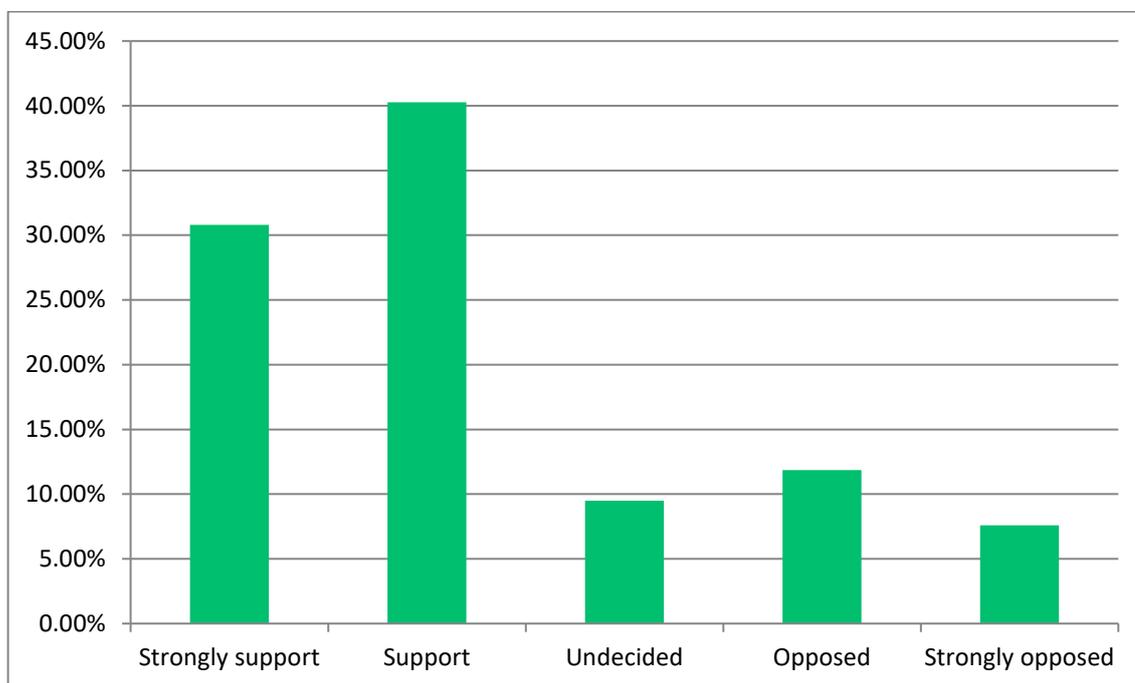
Over half the respondents support the proposal at Clarence pier with an additional 32% showing strong support. Less than 6% opposed the proposal, with 2 individuals indicating they strongly opposed the design. Less than 10% were undecided on whether they supported the proposal or not.

Within the comments section of the questionnaire, specific concerns around Clarence Pier included reduction in parking where there is an attraction for tourism, and one-way cycle provisions. It was suggested that this may encourage cyclists to use the promenade to cycle in the opposite direction.

3.3. Frontage 3 – Southsea Common

Q4. To what extent do you support the design being proposed at Southsea Common?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	30.81%	65
Support	40.28%	85
Undecided	9.48%	20
Opposed	11.85%	25
Strongly opposed	7.58%	16
Answered	211	
Skipped	21	



Southsea Common Summary

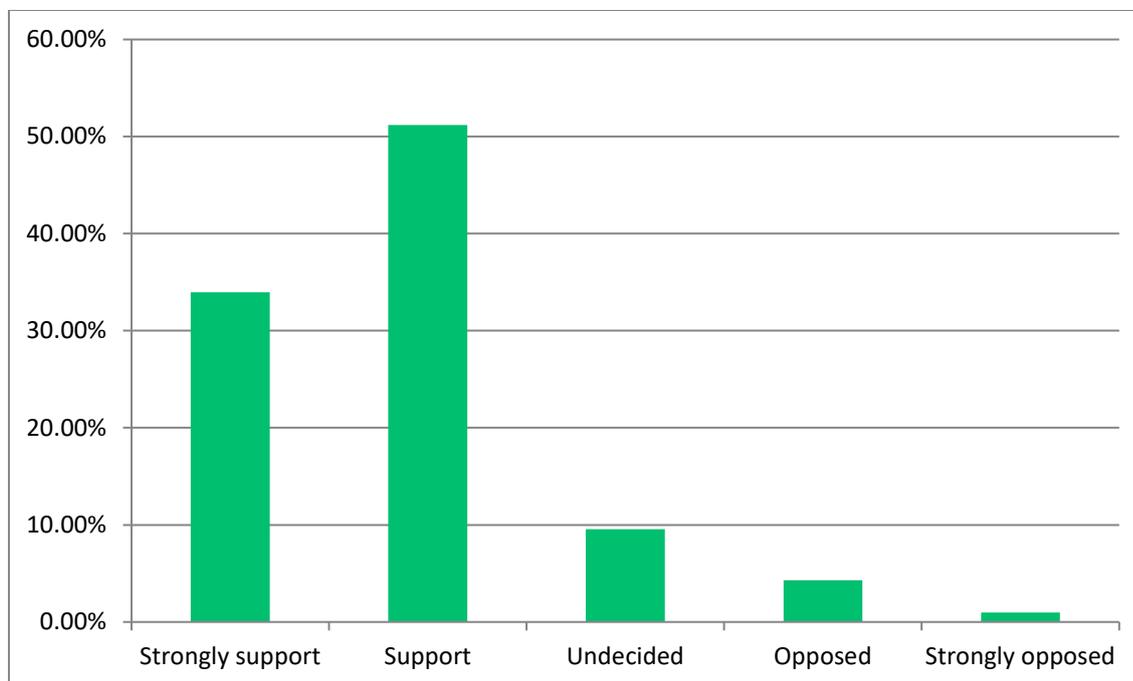
Over 40% of respondents support the proposal at Southsea common with an additional 30% indicating they strongly support the proposal. Less than 20% opposed the scheme, which includes less than 8% of total respondents being strongly opposed. Less than 10% of respondents were undecided about whether they were in support or opposed the proposal.

General comments that were specific to Southsea Common included mixed views over the reduction in parking. Also a recommendation was received for designing the grass bund so that there is a very gentle slope down onto the common from the top of the bund.

3.4. Frontage 4 – Southsea Castle

To what extent do you support the design being proposed at Southsea Castle?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	33.97%	71
Support	51.20%	107
Undecided	9.57%	20
Opposed	4.31%	9
Strongly opposed	0.96%	2
	Answered	209
	Skipped	23



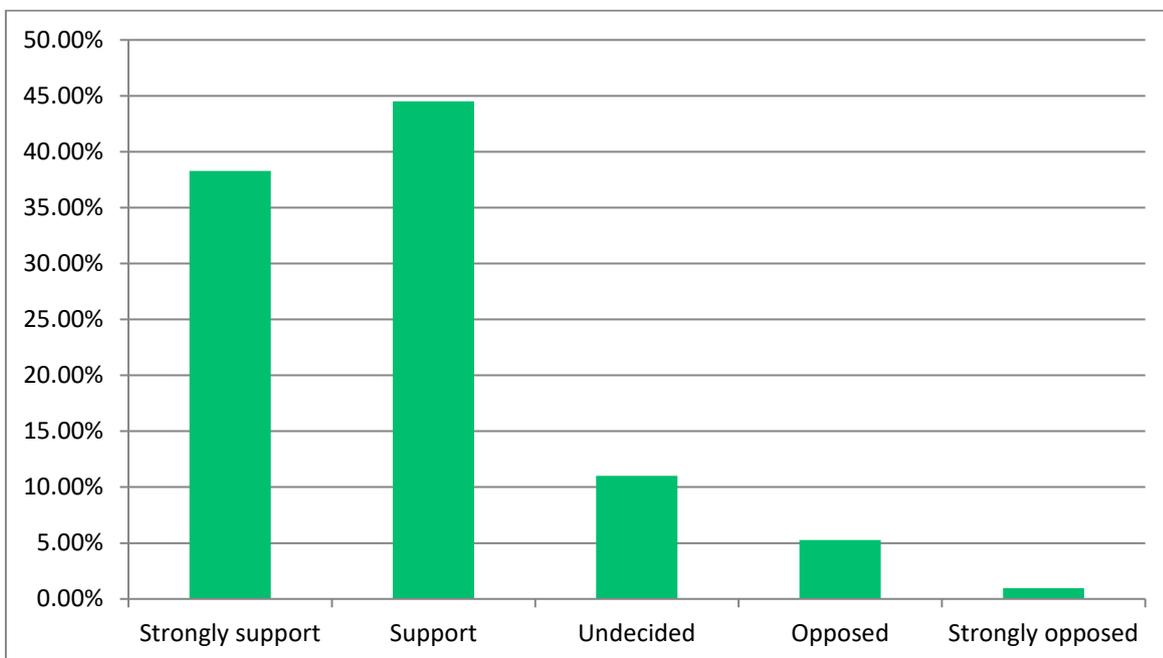
Southsea Castle Summary

Over 50% of respondents supported the proposal at Southsea Castle with an additional 33.97% indicating strong support for the proposal. Less than 6 % opposed the proposal with just 2 individual respondents being strongly opposed. Less than 10% were undecided on whether they supported or opposed the scheme.

3.5. Frontage 5 – Pyramids Centre

To what extent do you support the design being proposed at the Pyramids Centre?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	38.28%	80
Support	44.50%	93
Undecided	11.00%	23
Opposed	5.26%	11
Strongly opposed	0.96%	2
Answered	209	
Skipped	23	



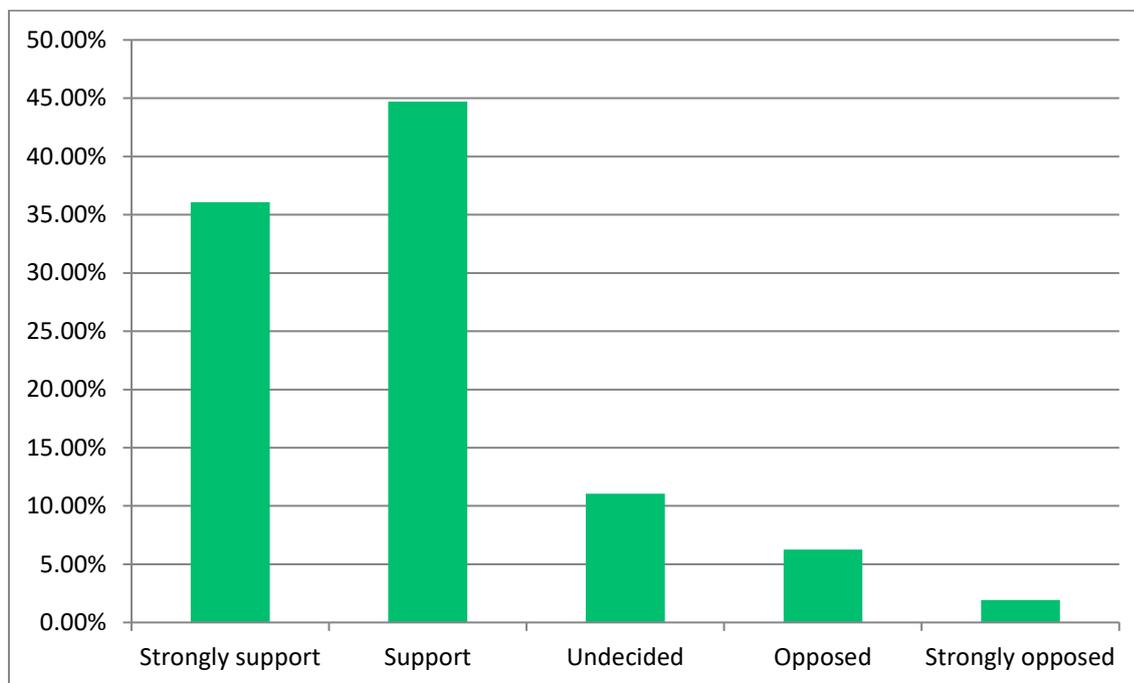
Pyramids Centre Summary

Nearly 45% of respondents supported the proposal at the pyramids centre with an additional 38.32% indicating strong support. Less than 7% opposed the proposal which included just 2 individual respondents being strongly opposed. 11% of respondents were undecided whether they supported or opposed the proposal.

3.6. Frontage 6 – South Parade Pier

To what extent do you support the design being proposed at South Parade Pier?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	36.06%	75
Support	44.71%	93
Undecided	11.06%	23
Opposed	6.25%	13
Strongly opposed	1.92%	4
Answered	208	
Skipped	24	



South Parade Pier Summary

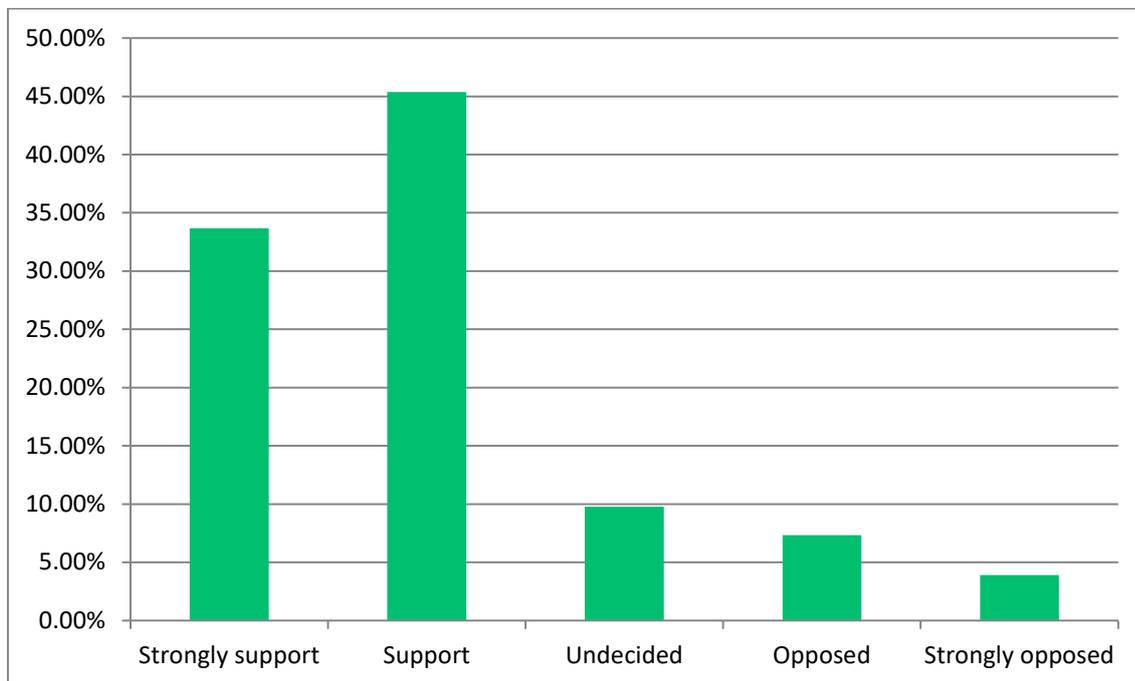
Nearly 45% of respondents supported the scheme with an additional 36% of respondents indicating strong support for the scheme. Less than 9% opposed the scheme proposal, with just 2% being strongly opposed. 11% were undecided on whether they were in support of or opposed the proposal.

Within the comments, a number of respondents were pleased with how the design proposal has changed since the previous consultation in summer 2018.

3.7 Canoe Lake

To what extent do you support the proposal at Canoe Lake Park?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	33.66%	69
Support	45.37%	93
Undecided	9.76%	20
Opposed	7.32%	15
Strongly opposed	3.90%	8
	Answered	205
	Skipped	27



Canoe Lake Park Summary

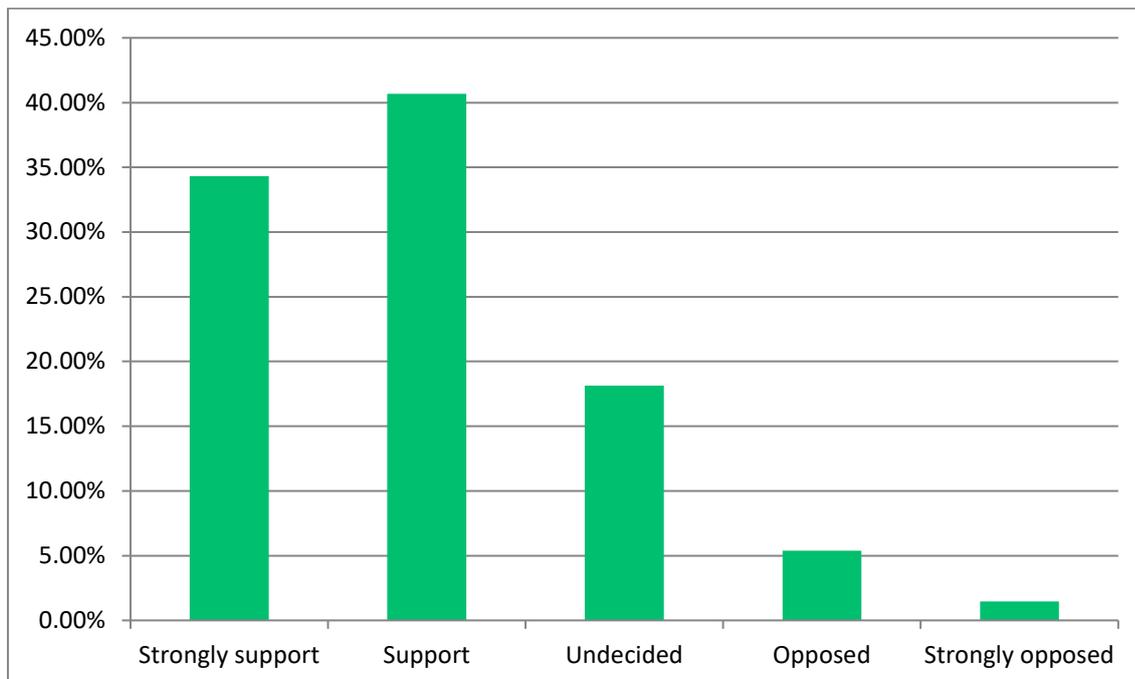
Over 45% of respondents showed support for the proposal at Canoe Lake, with an additional 33% indicating strong support. 10% of respondents were opposed to the proposal with 8 individuals being strongly opposed. Less than 10% were undecided.

Comments specific to Canoe Lake included mixed views on the retention of the road as well as cycle provision in the area.

3.8 Eastney Esplanade

To what extent do you support the proposal at Eastney Esplanade?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly support	34.31%	70
Support	40.69%	83
Undecided	18.14%	37
Opposed	5.39%	11
Strongly opposed	1.47%	3
Answered		204
Skipped		28



Eastney Esplanade Summary

Over 40% of respondents showed support for the proposal for Eastney Esplanade, with an additional 34% showing strong support. Just less than 7% of respondents were opposed to the proposal, while 18% were undecided.

Comments specific to Eastney Esplanade included concerns that it would look out of place or “left behind” in comparison to the rest of the seafront following the construction.

4. Further comments concerns

Respondents had the option to leave comments and express any concerns. Of the respondents, 73% left comments. A sample of which are in table 1 below.

The main overall themes identified from the comments included:

- Concerns over cycle provisions
- Concerns over reduction in parking
- Some concern over Eastney looking “left behind”
- Some concern over the one-way road and traffic congestions

The themes have been illustrated in the below word cloud which generates the words based on the popularity of words used in the comments. The larger the word, the more frequent it's use.



Table 1 | Sample of comments received within the questionnaire

I fully support the flood defence proposals, but have concerns about detailed highway management.
I wish we could get rid of cars from the seafront. They are the reason this work is required yet people expect others to fund their blinkered laziness. What's wrong with buses, bikes and feet?
Eastney will become the "wrong" end.
A cycle path on the main promenade would be much preferable. This system is seen in cities around the world and works perfectly well.
Strong concern of lack of appropriate consideration for cyclists. Cycle lanes on roads are dangerous especially for children. A shared promenade, with a simple white line to separate cyclists from pedestrians, as in many other towns would be best.
Please ensure all parking is kept
At band stand, will we be able to look over wall when sitting on the benches? Please keep street parking at all costs at monument and canoe lake.
Clarence Esplanade: It is not clear where cyclists will be able to ride. A one way system for cyclists will discourage cycling. If the promenade is to be wider there is no good reason why the promenade should not be a shared cycling / pedestrian space.
All cycle lanes must be on the side adjacent to promenade, otherwise cyclists will not use them and will instead cycle on the promenade - pretty well as they do today.
1 - Need a Cycle Route - Clarence Pier to D-Day Museum as One-way system will prevent cyclists cycling West to East -perhaps using the Promenade! 2 - Street Furniture needs to be cognizant of , people's views and vista's to create the best landscape views without signs in the way.
The sharing of space by pedestrians and cyclists must be considered.
I would like to see a dedicated cycle path along the length of the seafront and next to the Esplanade. Cars should be further out from the sea.
Many people visit the seafront. Parallel parking will prevent many people parking and sitting in their cars looking out to sea.
The scheme looks practical with due attention to the use of appropriate materials. Very positive.
I would prefer the roadside parking to be chevron style rather than the parallel parking proposed, this would enable passengers to exit/enter vehicles away from the carriage way, this would be safer and not obstruct the road
I think it would be a really good addition to have at least one concrete slope all the way to the sea so wheelchair users get the chance to go to the sea edge and be able to paddle their feet!
Ensure cyclists use cycle lanes provided.
Total lack of consideration for cyclists and joined up cycle lanes adjacent to the Promenade. Only interested in placating the motorist lobby.
Very pleasing design - fantastic.
1) I feel that Eastney Esplanade should be made more user friendly now. There should be more offered to people who walk down the sea front in the way of refreshment provision. Although nature has taken a hand in this wild stretch of beach there is room for improvement. 2) when driving along whole of the seafront people should be able to drive both ways the whole length of it right from Clarence pier to Eastney swimming pool. I do not agree with putting in a one way system in at one end.
Question 3 Southsea Common - A gentle landscape slope down to the Common at the bund partition would be welcome. the Common is wide enough South to North to absorb a longer slope.
I feel that the "watered down" proposals for South Parade Pier are less ambitious than before and miss a great opportunity to develop the area as a tourist venue / destination.
Lack of provision for cycle lanes.
Concerned about the extensive use of rock armour, which is ugly!

5 Executive Summary

Overall there was a lot of support for the proposed options at each of the frontages. This has been demonstrated in section 3. Statistically the frontages with the most support are Long Curtain Moat and Southsea Castle. The frontages with the least support are Southsea Common and Eastney Esplanade, however a clear majority remains in support of the proposals at these frontages.

Several themes were evident from this consultation. Transport issues featured heavily, with demands for alternative cycling provision, such as shared space on the promenade, and for continuous cycle provision in areas where cycling is not an option at the moment (such as Long Curtain Moat and Southsea Castle). Parking provision was also a big concern as there may be a reduction in parking if parallel spaces are to be adopted over chevron spaces.

Although at the last consultation it was popular opinion for Eastney Esplanade to remain untouched for 50 years, there was some concern during this consultation that the frontage would look left behind as a result. There was also an interest in street furniture and the materials to be used during construction.

The consultation materials are available to view on the Southsea Coastal Scheme website at <https://southseacoastalscheme.org.uk/our-plans/>