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The Vision is given in the vaguest terms. There is nothing in it to suggest what is/will be distinctive about Gosport, nothing about the kind of development that would assert the town's identity. There is no real attempt to put forward a vision to suggest how the sites at Haslar, the town centre and Royal Clarence Yard might complement one another.
A major challenge is that Gosport is seen as a dormitory town, a base from which people travel to work, to shop and for leisure.

Theme A: Creating an Attractive Townscape	The town centre area already has quite a lot of highrise buildings. One of the trade-offs for flat-dwellers is that there is enough attractive green space around the blocks. I'm concerned that some of the proposals would reduce this. This applies especially to the bus station site, long in need of improvement. It is an obvious site for a landmark building but this doesn't have to be tall - indeed with Harbour and Seaward Towers nearby and the Spinnaker Tower opposite, there is no point in competing upwards.
Theme B: Creating New Employment Opportunities	Exploring all possible marine-related options looks the best bet.
Theme C: Enhancing the Shopping and Leisure Experience	The idea of specialist markets is the only one which offers the possibility of Gosport developing something not available in Portsmouth or Fareham. It's a pity that Gosport's regular Tuesday and Saturday markets are currently at such a low point. The number of 'pound shops' seems to have discouraged traders.
Theme D: Providing New Homes	There is no indication that the residential mix described will meet Gosport's needs for social housing, especially suitable for young families. This could be spelt out in the Vision statement.
Theme E: Improving Accessibility	
Theme F: Improving Public Realm and Green Infrastructure Provision	There is the chance to open up the Waterfront for residents and tourists alike in a way that Royal Clarence Yard has failed to do. Preserving the atmosphere of the Falkland Gardens and extending the Millennium walkway would both contribute to this.
Theme G: Managing Flood Risk	A key consideration in a town like ours, much of it surrounded by water and in various flood zones.
Theme H: Providing Appropriate	
Infrastructure Theme J: Creating a Healthier Town	

Royal Clarence Yard and the Retained Area Royal Clarence Yard and the Retained Area The existence of so many empty retail units here is a real concern, as retail development in the town centre is likely to be at the expense of development in RCY. North of the High Street The High Street and associated areas South Street The Precinct is certainly under-occupied and little used. If there is to be new retail available on the bus station site and elsewhere, I can't see that businesses would choose this as a location, even if it were improved. It could be used for residential development or for extra emergency accommodation. Trinity Green area This is a special area for residents and is of historical significance. Any kind of in-filling and further tall buildings would change this. Barclay House is an important resource for homeless families and could be improved or extended. Haslar Marina The Gosport Lines A good idea to link the sites for walkers/walking tours.	The Bus Station and Falkland Gardens	Good opportunity to relocate the tourist office. Toilets are essential in this area. Ease of access and changing transport for people with limited mobility should be given high priority (good as the new Portsmouth bus station is, not enough thought was given to some of the distances involved in 'inter-changing'. The north side of the Falklands Gardens could certainly improved. The Gardens remain one of the very few places where residents/families can enjoy the harbour from a green area.
Royal Clarence Yard and the Retained Area Area The existence of so many empty retail units here is a real concern, as retail development in the town centre is likely to be at the expense of development in RCY. North of the High Street The High Street and associated areas South Street The Precinct is certainly under-occupied and little used. If there is to be new retail available on the bus station site and elsewhere, I can't see that businesses would choose this as a location, even if it were improved. It could be used for residential development or for extra emergency accommodation. Trinity Green area This is a special area for residents and is of historical significance. Any kind of in-filling and further tall buildings would change this. Barclay House is an important resource for homeless families and could be improved or extended. Haslar Marina	Gosport Waterfront North of Mumby	
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8. Is there anything in the SPD that particularly concerns you and why?	1. The possibility that the building of a series of residential blocks above 3 storeys high will change the character of the centre. A lot of people who visit Gosport comment on the relatively open nature of the High Street area and the feeling that it isn't overcrowded. Tall buildings create shadow and make people feel hemmed in - they would make the High Street area look and feel more depressing. 2. The combination of building on car parks and at the same time significantly increasing the number of residential units seems counterintuitive. Where will new residents and their visitor park? 3. Pressure on the already busy A32 and local services (surgeries, schools, etc). The Waterfront development should not be looked at in
9. Are there any other sites within the Waterfront and Town Centre area which have potential for development?	isolation - further building is planned for the Haslar site and also at St Vincent college.
10. Please can you give any suggestions of what else the Council should consider to include in the final version of the SPD?	There is still no landmark leisure development in town (there was a cinema promised for Royal Clarence Yard). Young people are not well-catered for in the town.Gosport has an urgent need for more social housing. This should be reflected in discussion of new residential areas. If employment is to be built up around the marine sector, it would be worth researching what the boat owners in the marinas are looking for when they are ashore. The town centre is already densely populated, with limited amenities for residents.
11. Please include any comments you may have	Developments at Royal Clarence Yard and Haslar hospital are incomplete, and yet the council is taking on another major development. What lessons have been learnt from these earlier developments?
12. Please could you complete your contact details	Mr Mark Smith

Organisation (if applicable)	
Address	
Postcode	
Email	