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GOSPORT WATERFRONT AND TOWN CENTRE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING  
DOCUMENT (SPD)

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My comments are general and not particularly linked to individual aspects of the Plan - although I do wonder why Falklands Gardens needs "improving". Probably in the waterfront area, which includes Falklands Gardens and also the space between high rise buildings, more of the view towards Portsmouth Harbour would be obscured.

My main comment is that I would have thought that anyone who wished to put extra businesses and houses on the end of a peninsula, where there is constrained entry and exit, should be particularly wary and consider doing so at their peril, as this involves numerous extra vehicles and people, wishing to get on and off the peninsula. As things stand at the moment the Gosport/Fareham Road is pretty choked and has vehicles queueing despite some improvements over the years. The Rowner Road (since the Newgate Lane improvement and the big traffic light system at the roundabout) is extremely busy - with queueing at certain times. I have lived close to the Rowner Road for 25 years and have observed how things have developed. There is pollution from the traffic. When I walk along the road I can smell the fumes and I know that soot accumulates on my windowsills and that there are large marks of polluted pools on my large flat garage roof at the rear once the rainwater has dried out. There is indeed soot in the rain.

You may say that electric cars are coming along but this will take some time, and that does not include electric buses and lorries. Even if all vehicles were non polluting there is the amount of space which they will all take up on the roads.

I'm sure the residents of Gosport have noticed the deterioration in the ability of traffic being able to circulate easily particularly in the Elson and Stoke Road areas on account of parked cars. Sometimes the buses can hardly get through. The site of the Haslar Hospital is already being developed and no doubt there are other ex MOD sites becoming available. Even if a car ferry were provided to Portsmouth there would be queues either end.

I seem to remember voting for aspects of expenditure where the population felt that the Council could make economies without too much impact on residents when we were told that cut-backs needed to be made. Is the Council being seduced by the anticipated contributions from further residents and new businesses?



M M Draper BAHons AKC



email: 

tel: 