

# Portchester to Paulsgrove Coastal Defence Scheme

**Exhibition Event on 17/03/2016 - Report**



## SUMMARY

A public exhibition was held at the Castle Street Centre on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 to give local residents, and those with an interest, the opportunity to find out more about the coastal defence improvements being developed from Portchester Castle to Paulsgrove.

The drop-in exhibition was held from 1pm – 8pm, to give as many people as possible the opportunity to attend. 193 people came and 121 questionnaires were filled out at the event. In summary:

- 98% of people believe there is a need to reduce the risk of coastal flooding and erosion to this area
- 99% understand why the coastal defences need improving
- 95% of those visiting the exhibition thought the standard of information at the exhibition was either good or very good

A more detailed summary of the results is found on page 4 and the full questionnaire answers are available in Appendix A.

## PUBLICITY FOR THE EXHIBITION

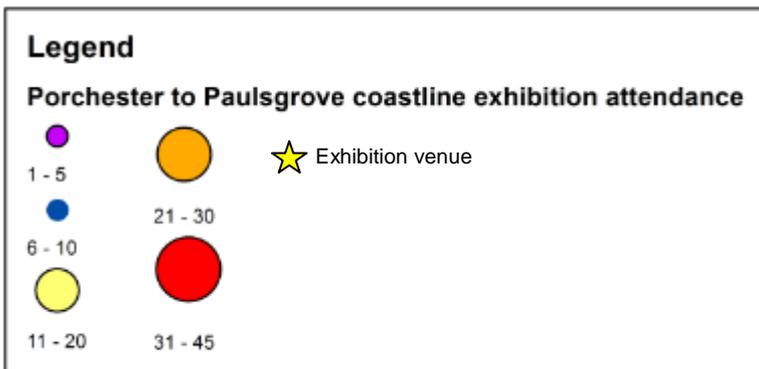
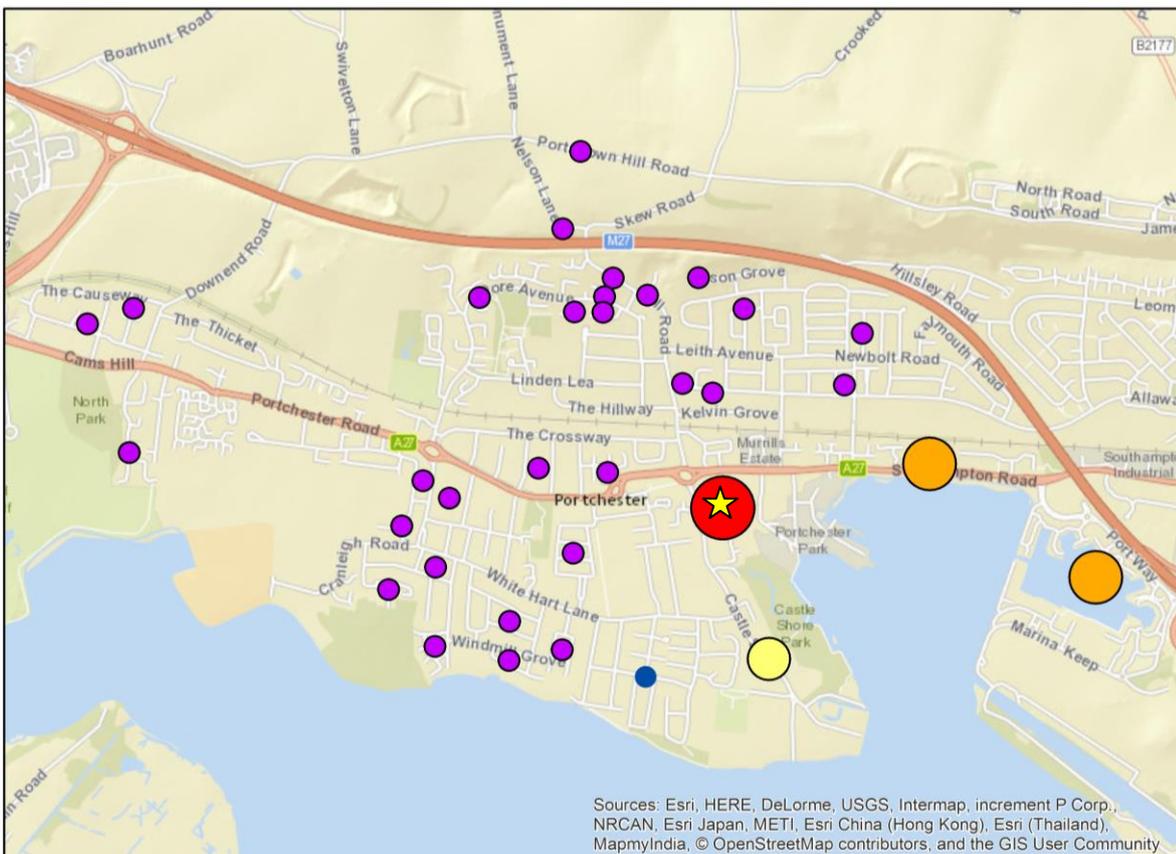
The event was widely advertised to local residents with 2,500 flyers and letters being delivered around the local area before the event and posters put up in local shops. Posters were displayed in council noticeboards in Portchester and Fareham town centre. **Figure 1** shows a display also put up in Portchester Library two weeks prior to the exhibition to advertise it further and an item posted on the project Facebook page to advertise the event, which reached 352 people. In addition the exhibition was advertised on the ESCP website and social media and the links were shared by interested parties. A press release was also sent out to advertise the event.



**Figure 1:** Display in Portchester Library and Facebook post advertising the event

## THE EXHIBITION

193 people attended the exhibition, and a total of 121 questionnaires were completed at the event. A further 8 were completed online after the exhibition. On arrival each visitor was welcomed and asked to mark on a map where they had come from. The spread of visitors is shown in **Figure 2**. As well as those from the Portchester area and Southampton Road there were a number of visitors from Wallington, Fareham, Lee-on-the-Solent, Fleetlands and Gosport.



**Figure 2:** Map of where visitors came from

Information was displayed on a series of posters, detailing:

- Roles and responsibilities in coastal management, and the impact of climate change and sea level rise on the local area
- The level of flood risk and photographs of both historic and recent local flooding caused by storms and high tides
- A summary of the project area and the existing coastal defences
- The short listed defence options for each section of coastline, headed: Portchester Castle; Portchester Sailing Club; the Recreation Ground and Southampton Road, and examples of potential coastal defence types
- The local environment and heritage, and our work so far to carefully consider the importance of these
- The story so far - other work carried out for the project including the Shoreline Management Plan, Portchester to Emsworth Coastal Strategy, funding secured, topographic surveys, environmental assessments, cultural and heritage assessments and inspecting the condition of existing defences.
- Funding for the project
- The plan – what will happen when, as part of the project
- Where to find out more information

Each visitor was given a feedback form to fill in to share their views on the coastal defence options and the exhibition. A presentation was running on a laptop with information on the role of the Partnership and how we work, the journey of the project and information on the shortlisted defence options. The project team were also on hand to answer any questions and there were refreshments available for visitors to enjoy. A summary of the feedback form results are shown on page 4.

The project team received positive feedback from the public, with a number of people commenting on how helpful the exhibition was and how knowledgeable the staff had been when answering questions. There was a lot of appreciation for the scheme's consideration of the heritage and environment features of the area. A sample of the comments received on the feedback forms are shown on page 5.

## FEEDBACK FROM RESULTS

The results from the questionnaires are displayed in this section. 121 were filled out at the exhibition and a further 8 were filled in online. Overall the results and feedback gained from the exhibition have been very positive. Where the totals exceed 129 for some questions it is because they are multiple choice questions.

In summary:

- 98% believe there is a need to reduce the risk of coastal flooding and erosion to this area
- 99% understand why the coastal defences need improving
- 95% thought the standard of information at the exhibition was either good or very good

The support for the coastal defence options is as follows:

- 97% support the options for Portchester Castle
- 89% support those by the Sailing Club
- 93% support the options along the recreation ground
- 89% support the options proposed for Southampton Road

This is an overall average of 92% support for the coastal defence options.

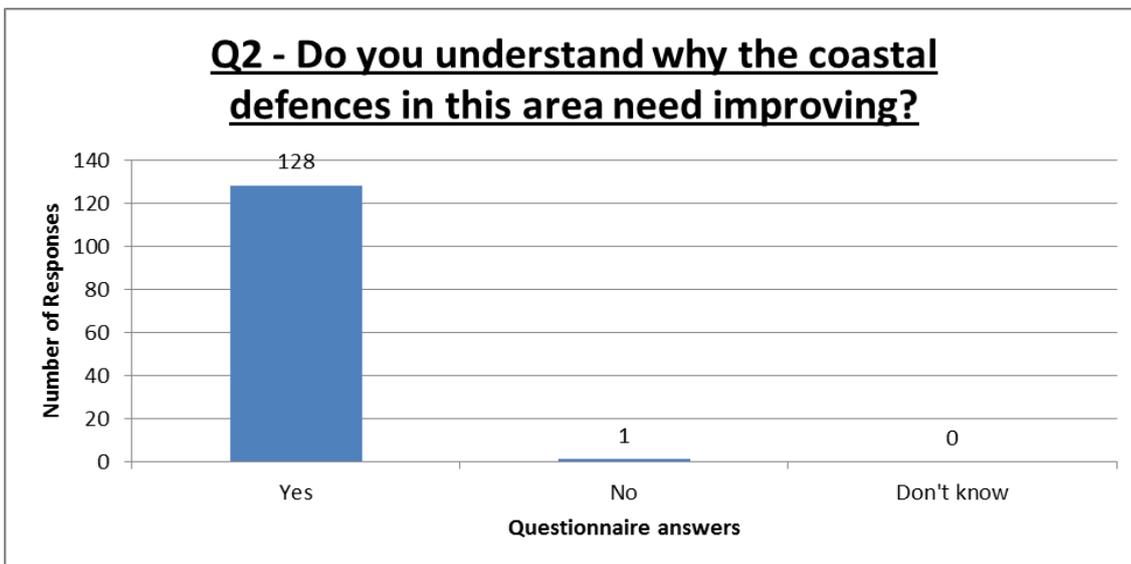
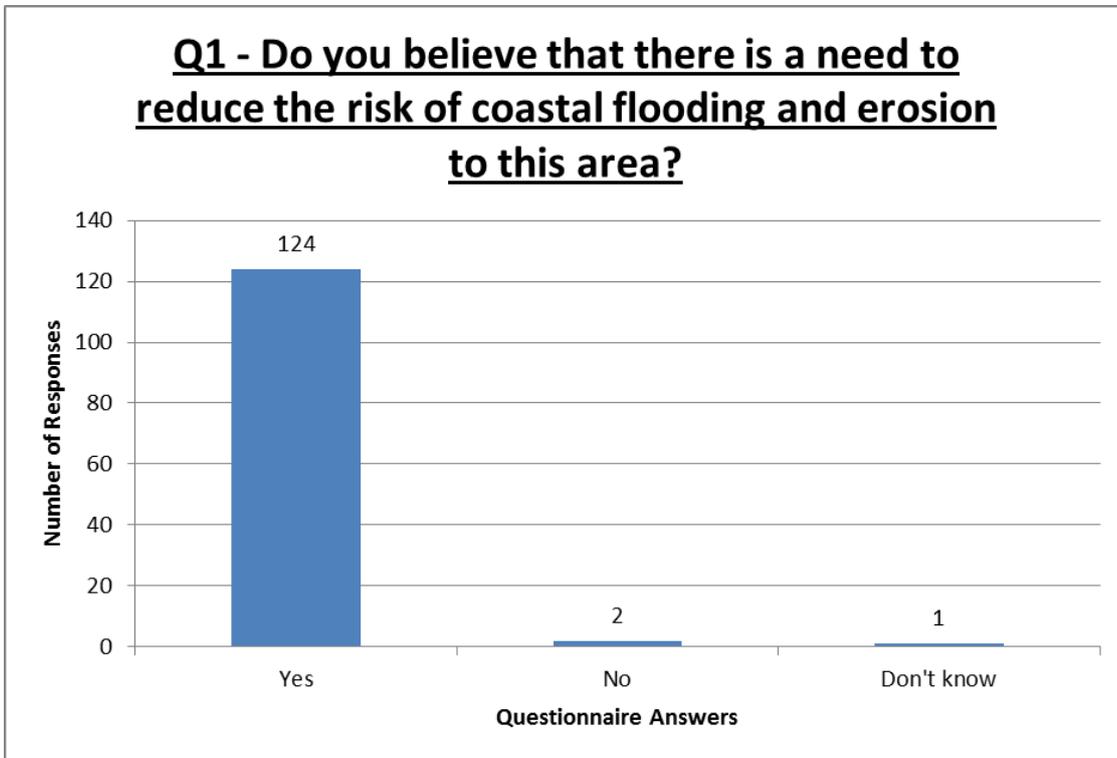
The detailed results are displayed in Appendix A.

## COMMENTS RECEIVED

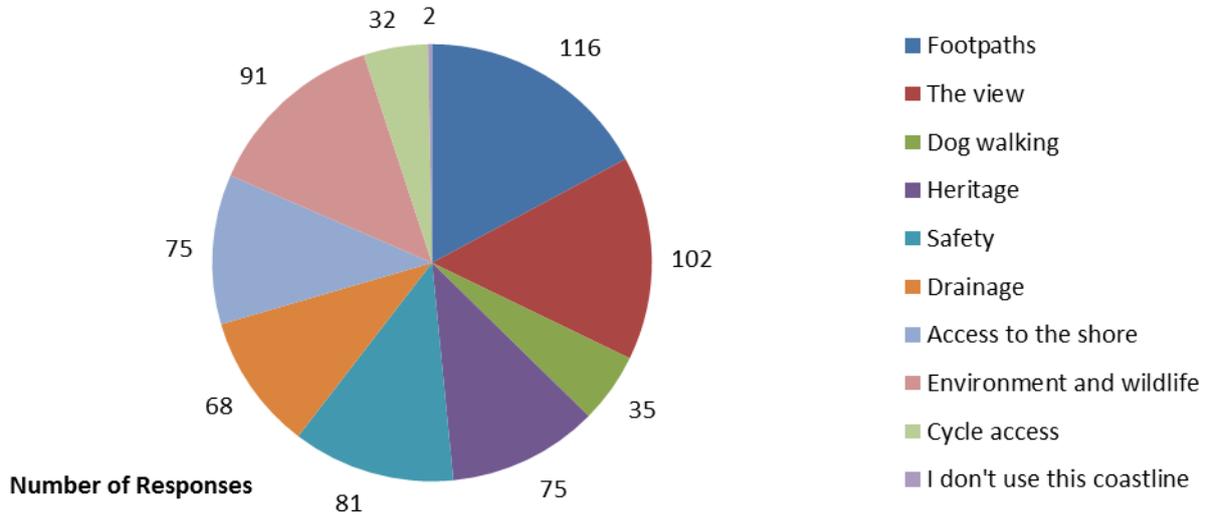
It's a beautiful area and needs protecting
Thanks for the opportunity to examine options. Well done to the support staff
Keep up the good work
Staff were very helpful and knowledgeable
The options have been looked at sensitively and there is a need with global warming. And we really need to look to the future
It's essential to plan ahead and protect this area
We look forward to the start of the work
Well done
Agree there is a need and would support options agreed by experts
I appreciate time taken by project officials to explain the flood area
Very Good. Nicely done
Thank you for bringing this information to our notice

**Table 1:** A sample of comments received from the public

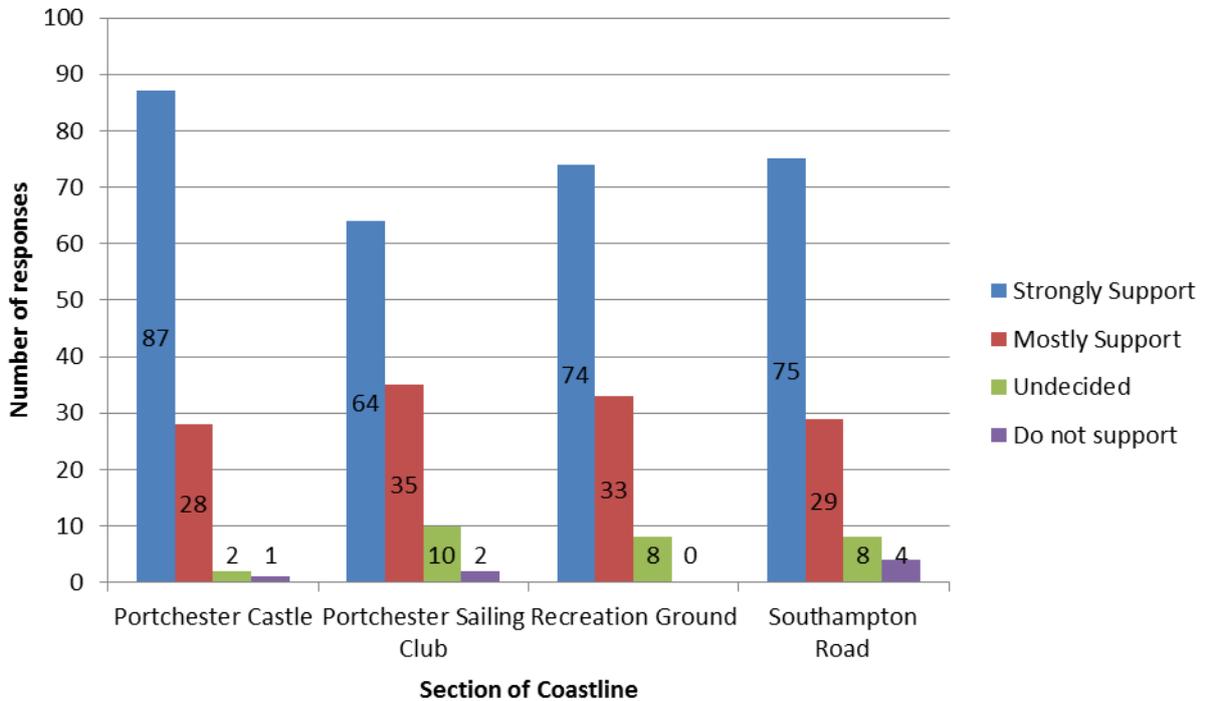
**Appendix A**



### Q3 - When using the coastline between Portchester Castle and Port Solent, what is important to you?

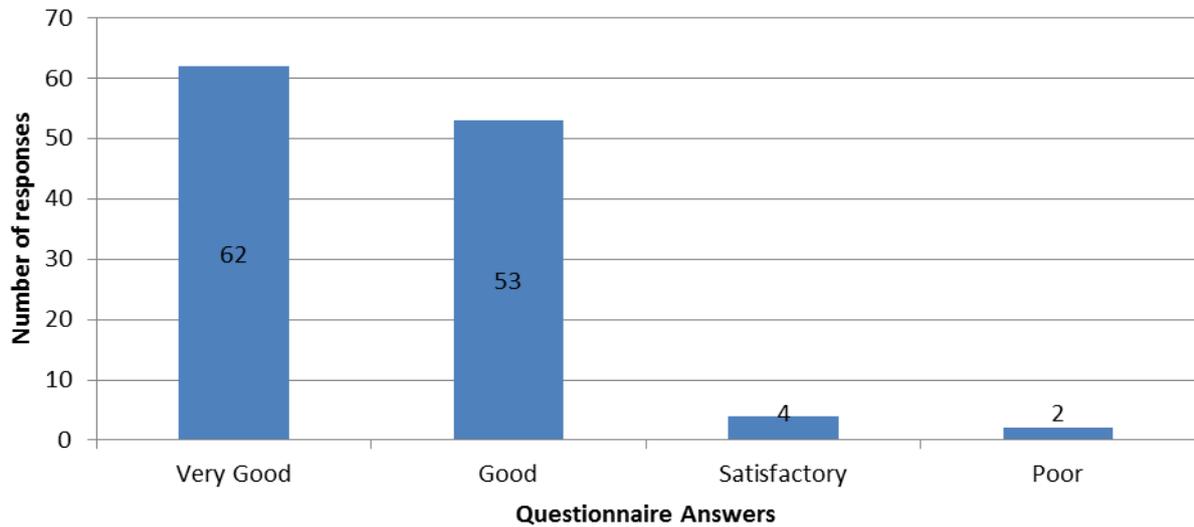


### Q4 - Support for Coastal Defence Options

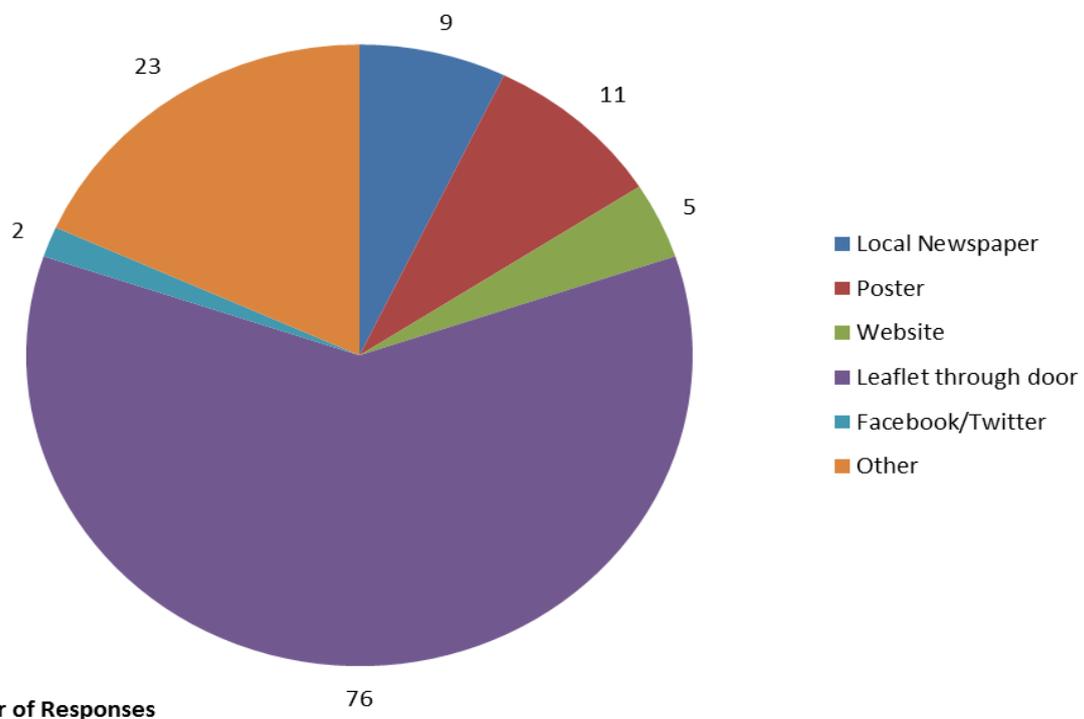


Questions 5 and 6 were optional questions with free text for people to answer with.

**Q7 - How do you rate the standard of information that has been given today?**



**Q8 - How did you hear about the exhibition event?**



PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EXHIBITION



Photo 1: Visitors talking to ESCP staff



Photo 2: Visitors discussing flood risk with ESCP staff



Photo 3: Visitors at the exhibition



Photo 4: Visitors filling out the questionnaire