

**Report Title:** Area Report - Portsmouth Harbour (Including Fareham, Gosport, Portsmouth)

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**Area Report - Free text:** Portsmouth Fareham Gosport

## AQUIND – ‘Issue Specific’ Special Hearing

Despite representations from the local authorities concerned that the Aquind proposal should be determined by the relevant local planning authorities, the Government decided back in late 2018 that the proposal was a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' that should be determined by the Secretary of State through the Development Consent Order process.

Since then, there have been varying levels of local protests throughout Portsmouth and along the route northwards to Lovedean where the interconnector to the grid will be sited. The penny is slowly dropping now and local politicians and residents are starting to realise the extent of the potential disruption along the route.

An ‘Issue Specific’ planning inspectorate hearing began on the February 17<sup>th</sup> at which local authorities raised concerns regarding the machinery being used and the traffic management plans.

The documents presented are available at the [Planning Inspectorate website](#) and there’s a document [sourced from Portsmouth City Council](#) dated November 2020 which gives a reasonable summary of the history to date and the issues they see.

## Sea defences

I attended a presentation by [Coastal Partners](#) giving the status of the [Southsea Coastal Scheme](#) works at Spur Redoubt, Old Portsmouth. Progress continues on schedule despite constraints by Historic England who continue to investigate artefacts uncovered.

Some fascinating equipment being used for installing sheet piling, including vibration piling and ‘silent’ piling. Coastal Partners continue to do an impressive job of balancing managing public interest against public hostility.

## Planning applications

### Tipner West

The Tipner West Planning Application is an EIA scoping report for development comprising reclamation of circa 27ha of land from Portsmouth Harbour to create a site of circa 59ha. Intention is for delivery of up to 4,000 residential dwellings and circa 10ha of employment land.

[Planning application and associated documents are available here.](#)

Documents include comprehensive set of consultee responses from CEFAS - [Centre for Environment, Fisheries, and Aquaculture Science](#) and a [rather less detailed response](#) from the MMO