

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT TO THE PANEL MEETING – 18  
AUGUST 2008**

**FOR WOOLSTON PLANNING APPLICATIONS  
08/00389/OUT and 08/00629/FUL**

As the Chamber of Commerce in the port city of Southampton for some 150 years, we have maintained strong support for the local marine sector since we sponsored the first Southampton Boat Show in 1969. More recently, we have closely followed the progress of plans to redevelop the ex-Vosper ship building site in Woolston over the last four years and our Planning and Transport Committee has received presentations and made comments on three consultations since the first Woolston Planning Brief in 2004.

The Southampton and Fareham Chamber of Commerce welcomes the extensive level of research, consultation and enhancement of the proposals carried out by SEEDA and its partners/agents. The Chamber's statements of support to Southampton City Council for both the current planning applications, have been submitted and are available on our web site.

The total number of jobs from the whole redevelopment is comparable to the earlier application. This is good news indeed and the agencies involved are to be congratulated. The Chamber also accepts it would have been difficult to attract such a key employer as Palmer Johnson, without the supporting infrastructure that the Crest application provides.

On the basis of information provided, the Chamber is satisfied that the two schemes together with adequate Section 106 Agreements will achieve not only jobs and training for local people, but will be an important part of an emerging international marine hub and a truly mixed use redevelopment of the entire Woolston site for the whole Woolston community to enjoy.