

Town Centre Health Check



DECEMBER 2012



Bromsgrove
District Council

www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

Contents	Page
Chapter 1: Introduction	4
Chapter 2: Spatial Portrait	7
Chapter 3: Bromsgrove Overview	10
Chapter 4: The Survey - Town Centre Health Check Indicators	20
Chapter 5: Conclusion	64
Chapter 6: Recommendations	70

Appendices

Appendix A: Glossary	72
Appendix B: Street Surveys Record 2012	74
Appendix C: Goad Category Report 2008	83
Appendix D: Town Centre Use Maps	91
Appendix E: Pedestrian Footfall 2009-2012	93

Tables and Figures

Table 1: Local Units in VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises by Industry	10
Table 2: VAT Registered Businesses	11
Table 3: Count of Births of New Enterprises	12
Table 4: Count of Deaths of Enterprises	12
Table 5: Employment and Unemployment	13
Table 6: Reasons for Economic Inactivity (%)	13
Table 7: Total JSA Claimants	14

Table 8: Qualifications	15
Table 9: Employment by occupation	15
Table 10: Household Income	18
Table 11: Annual Mean Earnings for all Employees by District	19
Table 12: Use Class by Area	25
Table 13: Use Class Groups	29
Table 14: Floorspace (Sq. Ft.) by Sector in Bromsgrove	32
Table 15: Total number of pedestrians each day from 2009 to 2012	45
Table 16: Car Ownership Levels	51
Table 17: Crime figures for Bromsgrove Town centre (St. Johns Ward)	55
Figure 1: Town Centre Boundaries	23
Figure 2: Town Centre Uses (North)	24
Figure 3: Town Centre Uses (South)	25
Figure 4: Ground Floor Uses Class by Area	27
Figure 5: Ground Floor Use Class Distribution	28
Figure 6: Vacant Units 2009 to 2012	29
Figure 7: Footfall Locations	41
Figure 8: Pedestrian Footfall 2012	44
Figure 9: Pedestrian Footfall at location 2009 to 2012	44
Figure 10: Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area	58
Figure 11: Worcester Road AQMA	62

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in March 2012 and supersedes guidance contained in Planning Policy Statement 4 'Economic Development' (PPS4). One of the purposes of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development by contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure.
- 1.2 The Government is committed to securing economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity, building on the country's inherent strengths, and to meeting the twin challenges of global competition and of a low carbon future. The Government is committed to ensuring that the planning system does everything it can to support sustainable economic growth. Planning should operate to encourage and not act as an impediment to sustainable growth. Therefore significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth through the planning system. To help achieve economic growth, local planning authorities should plan proactively to meet the development needs of business and support an economy fit for the 21st century.
- 1.3 The NPPF expands on economic development and devotes a chapter to 'Ensuring the vitality of town centres'. This chapter states that planning should promote competitive town centre environments that provide customer choice and a diverse retail offer and which reflect the individuality of the town centre. Town centres should be recognised as the heart of the community and their viability and vitality supported. Suitable sites should be allocated to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in the town centre. Where town centres are in decline, local planning authorities should plan positively for their future to encourage economic activity.

Town Centre Health Checks

- 1.4 This Health Check updates key elements from the previous study published in November 2011, which was produced by the Strategic Planning Team within Bromsgrove District Council. To provide continuity and the opportunity for comparisons to be drawn, attempts have been made to use data sources compatible with the studies completed in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

- 1.5 The main purpose of this town centre health check is to monitor the vitality and viability of Bromsgrove Town Centre. Although PPS4 has been deleted regarding the methodology for health check process and identifying indicators, the accompanying practice guidance on 'Planning for Town Centres' still exists, detailing the benefits of regular auditing and monitoring of town centres. The useful indicators for Health check monitoring that were established as part of PPS4 will continue to be used by Bromsgrove District Council in order to compare data from previous year's studies. This report will be used to inform the review of site allocations and town centre policies, particularly the Town Centre Area Action Plan. The report also enables early signs of change of town centres to be identified and informs the type of action that should be taken.
- 1.6 It is a prerequisite for any town centre strategy to have a clear understanding of the scale and quality of existing provision of retail and other key town centres uses; the network and role of different centres; and their vitality and viability and how it has changed over time. The Practice Guidance 'Planning for Town Centres' sets out how town centre 'health checks' can be used to measure vitality and viability.
- 1.7 One of the key objectives of regular monitoring and town centre health checks (in addition to providing important baseline data for retail/town centre assessments) is to consider a centre's performance over time. It will also be relevant to consider how the centre has performed relative to national trends, and to similar sized centres elsewhere. This type of analysis provides an important insight into whether the centre is improving, stable or declining, and will have a bearing when considering the potential/need for new development and the likely impact of new developments.
- 1.8 Retailing and leisure are particularly dynamic sectors, and a range of factors, including economic and social trends and new technology can have a significant impact on the current and future role of existing centres and the scope for new ones. These factors need to be taken into account when considering future needs, identifying sites and strategies, and assessing the impact of new development. However, it is also relevant to consider long term trends and to provide robust, policies to provide investor confidence and certainty given the complexity and scale of many town centre development projects.

Data Collection

- 1.9 The report is divided into two parts. The first part gives an overview on Bromsgrove in terms of the local economy, economic performance, the

population and workforce, the labour market and the labour and property markets. Data is collected via desktop surveys such as online data from the Office of National Statistic (ONS), the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), Worcestershire County Council, West Midlands Regional Observatory Property Mall Control Panel's websites and also the Bromsgrove's Annual Monitoring Report.

1.10 The second part of the report covers the town centre health check indicators. In order to measure the vitality and viability and monitor the health of town centres over time and inform judgements about the impact of policies and development, local authorities should also regularly collect market information and economic data, preferably in cooperation with the private sector. In line with the health checks conducted in 2009, 2010, and 2011 the following key indicators will be used:

- Diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace): the amount of space in use for different functions – such as offices; shopping; leisure, cultural and entertainment activities; pubs, cafes and restaurants; and, hotels.
- The amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in edge-of-centre and out-of-centre locations.
- The potential capacity for growth or change of centres in the network: opportunities for centres to expand or consolidate, typically measured in the amount of land available for new or more intensive forms of town centre development.
- Retailer representation and intentions to change representation: existence and changes in representation of types of retailer, including street markets, and the demand of retailers wanting to come into the centre, or to change their representation in the centre, or to reduce or close their representation.
- Shopping rents: pattern of movement in Zone A rents within primary shopping areas (ie. the rental value for the first 6 metres depth of floorspace in retail units from the shop window).
- Proportion of vacant street level property and the length of time properties have been vacant: vacancies can arise even in the strongest town centres, and this indicator must be used with care. Vacancies in secondary frontages and changes to other uses will also be useful indicators.
- Commercial yields on non-domestic property (i.e. the capital value in relation to the expected market rental): demonstrates the confidence of investors in the long-term profitability of the centre for retail, office and other commercial developments. This indicator should be used with care.

- Land values and the length of time key sites have remained undeveloped: data on changes in land value and how long key town centre and edge of centre sites have remained undeveloped provide important indicators for how flexible policies should be framed and can help inform planning decisions.
- Pedestrian flows (footfall): a key indicator of the vitality of shopping streets, measured by the numbers and movement of people on the streets, in different parts of the centre at different times of the day and evening, who are available for businesses to attract into shops, restaurants or other facilities.
- Accessibility: ease and convenience of access by a choice of means of travel, including – the quality, quantity and type of car parking; the frequency and quality of public transport services and the range of customer origins served; and, the quality of provision for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled people and the ease of access from main arrival points to the main attractions.
- Customer and residents' views and behavior: regular surveys will help authorities in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of town centre improvements and in setting further priorities. Interviews in the town centre and at home can be used to establish views of both users and non-users of the centre, including the views of residents living in or close to the centre.
- Perception of safety and occurrence of crime: should include views and information on safety and security, and where appropriate, information for monitoring the evening and night-time economy.
- State of the town centre environmental quality: should include information on problems (such as air pollution, noise, clutter, litter and graffiti) and positive factors (such as trees, landscaping and open spaces).

2. Spatial Portrait

- 2.1 Bromsgrove District is situated in north Worcestershire lying to the south west of the West Midlands conurbation. The District is bounded by Birmingham, Dudley, Solihull, Redditch, Wyre Forest, and the largely rural districts of Wychavon and Stratford-on-Avon. The District covers approximately 21, 714 hectares. Although located only 22km (14 miles) from the centre of Birmingham, the district is predominantly rural with approximately 91% of the land designated Green Belt.
- 2.2 The area is well served by motorways, with the M5 running north to south and the M42 from east to west. The M5 and M42 connect with the M6 to the north of Birmingham and the M40 to the east. The District also benefits from train and bus connections into Birmingham city centre.
- 2.3 The main centres of population in Bromsgrove District are Bromsgrove town, Catshill, Hagley, Rubery and Wythall. Development pressures are high due to the District's proximity to the Birmingham conurbation and the motorway and railway connections, which adversely puts pressure on the Green Belt.
- 2.3 There are a number of shopping locations in the District catering largely for the day to day needs of residents. These shopping locations are in Alvechurch, Barnt Green, Aston Fields, Catshill, Hagley and Wythall. The main exceptions are Bromsgrove town and Rubery. The latter, on the southern fringe of Birmingham, serves as a suburban shopping area; the former evolved as a market town serving a wide and predominantly rural hinterland although its present attractions are limited and disadvantaged by the greater range and size of stores and facilities in neighbouring centres such as Birmingham, Worcester, Redditch, Solihull, Merry Hill.

Bromsgrove Town Centre Regeneration Programme

- 2.5 The Bromsgrove Town Centre Regeneration Programme is backed by a public sector partnership of Worcestershire County Council, Bromsgrove District Council, Worcestershire Primary Care Trust, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue Service and West Mercia Constabulary. The objective is the regeneration and revitalisation of the town centre of Bromsgrove by creating an attractive and vibrant centre at the heart of a thriving market town.
- 2.6 The regeneration programme covers a wide range of work streams and actions that include statutory planning, such as the Area Action Plan,

building of new public buildings, private developments, the refurbishment of the high street and pedestrian areas of the town centre, highway works, economic development initiatives, community involvement programmes, marketing of the town, other activities to do with themes such as; transport; health and well-being; young people; better environment etc.

- 2.7 All of these activities, communications, works, developments and soft projects have their own interdependencies and simultaneous timetables. Many of the key points in the programme have already been identified although not all of the actions, activities, work streams and discrete projects within the overall regeneration programme are ready to be defined in detail at this stage. This will be done by appraisal, studies and surveys as the programme progresses.
- 2.8 Effective programme and project management, strong partnership working and community engagement are all fundamental to the success of the regeneration programme the intention of which is to realise four strategic aims:
- ***A new revitalised town centre environment***, including:
 - Upgrading the public realm and resurfacing and refurbishing the High Street.
 - Preserving and enhancing the Conservation Area's character and appearance.
 - Wherever viable renovating, refurbishing, rejuvenating or redecorating the Town Centre's historic buildings.
 - ***A thriving and more diverse economy***, including:
 - An improved Retail Offer with the development of new stores; a major new supermarket and redevelopment of the market hall site
 - An expanded and varied Evening Economy
 - New town centre housing and offices
 - ***New multi-agency public service facilities***, including:
 - New Public Toilets
 - New Health Centre
 - New Police Station & Fire Station
 - New Library / Contact Centre (Hub)
 - New Joint County and District Administrative Quarter
 - New Leisure Centre
 - Review of facilities in the Recreation Road area
 - ***An improved Transport Infrastructure***, including:
 - Reviewing requirements for modernising the transport infrastructure
 - A review of car parking requirements in the town centre
 - Re-engineering of road junctions and traffic flows

- Improved pavements, footpaths and cycle routes
- New or upgraded bus station
- Links to the New Railway Station

2.9 The Bromsgrove Town Centre Regeneration Programme is therefore intended to link these various aims and coordinate their resolution. This will be done across a partnership of different public sector bodies and in conjunction with the community and third sector organisations as well as private sector businesses.

3. Bromsgrove Overview

- 3.1 The economic structure of a District, County or Region provides useful evidence for development plans and development management. The following information provides an overview on the economy, economic performance, the population and workforce and the labour market in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire and the West Midlands.

Economy

- 3.2 Employment by Broad Sector: The number of businesses in the West Midlands and the associated turnover in different industries in relation to other business across the United Kingdom provides an indication of the regional economic structure. According to 'UK Business: Activity, Size and Location - 2011' (ONS, 2011) in the West Midlands, 17.4% of the businesses are in wholesale and retail trade, 11.7% in professional, scientific and technical roles, 10.6% in construction, and 8.6% in health and education. In Bromsgrove itself the business make-up consists of 12.6% of the businesses are in wholesale and retail trade, 15.1% in professional, scientific and technical roles, 13.9% in construction, and 7.4% in health and education. There are more details on specific industries in table 1.

Industry	Bromsgrove	Worcestershire	West Midlands	UK
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	4.1	6.8	5.7	5.6
Production	6.0	7.7	7.8	5.8
Construction	13.9	11.0	10.6	10.7
Motor trades	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.0
Wholesale	4.3	5.8	5.6	4.9
Retail	8.3	10.4	11.8	11.2
Transport & storage	2.4	3.0	3.7	3.2
Accommodation and food services	5.2	5.6	5.9	6.4
Information & communication	6.4	5.3	4.7	6.1
Finance & insurance	2.7	2.2	2.4	2.6
Property	5.0	3.7	3.3	3.5
Professional, scientific & technical	15.1	13.3	11.7	13.7
Business administration & support services	8.2	7.4	7.0	7.0
Public administration & defence	0.6	0.8	1.4	1.0
Education	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.7
Health	5.0	4.6	5.8	5.7
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	6.7	6.5	6.4	7.1

- 3.3 Business Size: The majority of businesses across the West Midlands are small medium enterprises (SMEs) which have less than four employees, totalling to 67% of all businesses in the region. Similarly 73% of businesses within Bromsgrove are made up of four or less employees. Although a small proportion of West Midlands businesses (9.6%) have over twenty employees, they would employ a large proportion of the workforce, especially as 1.6% of business has over 100 employees. Bromsgrove only has 7.1% of its businesses employing over 20 people and 1.0% with over 100 employees (ONS, 2011).
- 3.4 VAT Registrations and De-registrations: Are the best official guide to the pattern of business start-ups and closures. They are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population in the District. Enterprise is a key driver of economic growth. Increases in the number of firms increase the output capacity of the economy. A widely used measure is the number of new VAT registrations as a ratio of the population. Enterprise, as measured by the number of new VAT registrations per 10,000 of the total population is higher in Worcestershire than both the regional and the national averages. In 2006 the rate was 34 per 10,000 compared to 28 per 10,000 for the Region.
- 3.5 In 2007, Bromsgrove District had significantly more registrations than de-registrations, indicating economic growth. The percentage of registrations was almost equal to the national and above regional levels, which implied that the business economy was relatively strong.

	Bromsgrove	Bromsgrove	West Midlands	Great Britain
Registration	390	10.0%	9.4%	10.2%
Deregistration	250	6.4%	7.2%	7.3%
Stock (at end of year)	3,705	-	-	-

Source: *BERR - vat registrations/deregistrations by industry (2007)*

- 3.6 Enterprise Births and Deaths: It is important to highlight that there are a number of micro-businesses in Worcestershire that are not yet at the level where they can register for VAT and are therefore not accounted for in these figures. However there is a need to support these businesses, ensuring that they develop and grow, thereby laying the foundation for future job creation.

Table 3: Count of births of new enterprises, 2006-10

Area	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% change 2009-10
Bromsgrove	475	515	470	390	405	3.8
Worcestershire	2,615	2,730	2,435	2,015	2,175	7.9
West Midlands	21,025	22,805	20,585	18,245	17,805	-2.4
England	225,120	246,700	236,345	209,035	207,520	-0.7

Source: ONS (2012) *Business Demography (2010)*

3.7 The number of enterprises closing has risen in the county with an increase of 5% when compared to 2009. Although the proportion of enterprise closures has continued to increase in 2010, it is of a significantly lower magnitude than in 2009 when there was an increase of 37%. The most notable increase in 2010 was in Bromsgrove where there was a rise of around 11%. The number of enterprise deaths in the county increased by a similar proportion to the West Midlands and England.

Table 4: Count of deaths of enterprises, 2006-10

Area	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% change 2009-10
Bromsgrove	350	410	375	470	520	10.6
Worcestershire	2,040	2,205	2,040	2,660	2,795	5.1
West Midlands	17,105	18,980	18,080	23,060	24,230	5.1
England	182,800	199,300	196,695	246,630	261,880	6.2

Source: ONS (2012) *Business Demography (2010)*

3.8 Unemployment & Economic Activity Rate: Unemployment gives background on the scope for economic development opportunities. It needs to be in the context of the qualification and skills of a potential workforce. As of April 2012, the overall unemployment level in Bromsgrove is 6.1%, compared with 9.1% regionally (West Midlands) and 8.1% nationally.

	Bromsgrove (%)	Region (%)	Great Britain (%)
Economically Active	76.6	74.3	76.5
In employment	71.3	67.4	70.2
Un-employed	6.1	9.1	8.1

Source: ONS annual population survey (2012)

3.9 In regards of the labour force, people are considered to be economically active if they are aged 16 and over and are either in work or actively looking for work.

3.10 The reasons for economic inactivity are primarily retirement and education. However as many people who have retired are unlikely to return to the labour market and students are preparing themselves for employment, these two groups have been removed from the analysis. Over 44% of the Bromsgrove's economically inactive population is economically inactive as they are looking after the home or family. This is followed by those who are permanently sick or disabled at just over 31%. The Coalition Government are looking at ways to bring people back to the labour market who might have become disengaged.

Area	Looking after home/family	Permanently sick/disabled	Other
Bromsgrove	44.8	31.9	23.3
Worcestershire	46.4	33.4	20.2
West Midlands	41.9	36.5	21.6
England	43.7	35.5	20.8

People who have retired, and students, have been removed from this analysis.

Source: ONS (2011) Census (2001)

3.11 The Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours a week. Table 6 indicates the total number of JSA claimants in Bromsgrove compared to the County and Region.

	Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	Worcestershire (%)	West Midlands (%)	Great Britain (%)
All people	1,268	2.2	3.0	4.7	3.8
Males	855	2.9	4.0	6.3	5.1
Females	413	1.4	2.0	3.1	2.5

Source: ONS (2012)

Economic Performance

- 3.12 Gross Value Added (GVA): measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the United Kingdom and is a headline measure used to monitor economic performance. GVA is a measure of productivity of the economy and denotes estimates that were previously known as gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices. While GDP measures the total expenditure on final goods and services produced in the domestic economy, GVA measures production and income. Under the European System of Accounts 1995, the term GDP is equal to GVA plus taxes on products (less subsidies on products), i.e. at market prices. GVA is published as five year moving averages to smooth out year-on-year fluctuations.
- 3.13 Put simply Gross Value Added is the value of goods and services produced by an area, sector or producer minus the cost of the raw materials and other inputs used to produce them. GVA is mainly composed of the income made by employees (earnings) and the business (profits/surplus) as a result of production. Hence, GVA data are workplace-based and should be seen as a measure of the economic output of an area rather than its wealth.
- 3.14 GVA per resident head in Worcestershire was £16,074 compared with £17,044 in the West Midlands and £19,951 in the UK. In the West Midlands there is a productivity gap of £15bn i.e. if the GVA per resident head in the West Midlands was the same as in the UK, the West Midlands would be contributing £15bn more to the economy.
- 3.15 Although GVA has increased over time both the West Midlands and Worcestershire are decreasing in comparison to the UK. To make the

Worcestershire economy stronger and to close the widening gap attention needs to be focused on improving the skill levels of the population and encouraging and supporting new business creation. However it is important to note that a lack of available employment land in the county could be a limiting factor in increasing GVA per resident head (Worcestershire County Council, 2011).

The Population and Workforce

- 3.16 Qualifications: The percentage of the population that has achieved different levels of qualification and that are employed in different jobs can be used to give a background of the potential workforce of an area. The population in Bromsgrove on average has higher levels of qualification than the county and regional average, in particular the higher qualification level - Level 4 and above. Table 6 below also indicates there are a smaller percentage of Bromsgrove's population with no qualifications when compared both regionally and nationally.

	Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	Worcestershire (%)	West Midlands (%)	Great Britain (%)
NVQ4 and above	19,000	33.3	30.6	26.3	32.9
NVQ3 and above	31,400	55.2	49.8	45.9	52.7
NVQ2 and above	41,000	71.9	66.4	64.3	69.7
NVQ1 and above	48,100	84.4	79.1	78.5	82.7
Other qualifications	#	#	8.7	7.5	6.7
No qualifications	6,200	10.9	12.2	14.0	10.6

Sample Size too small for reasonable estimate

Source: Office of National Statistics (2012)

- 3.17 Occupations: In line with the achievement of higher qualifications, the occupation groups breakdown shows that Bromsgrove also has a higher percentage of managers, senior officials and professionals (36.5%) than Worcestershire (31.9%), the region (32.76%) and the national (29.2%) average, whereas it has a lower percentage of people in elementary occupations, sales and customer service occupations and process, plant and machine operatives. Although this is the case, there was a reduction in managers and senior officials across Bromsgrove from 7,000 (16%) to 5,000 (12.3%) since last years' figures. However there was an increase in professional occupations from 8,500 (19.4%) to 9,900 (24.2%), and associate professional and technical positions from 5,300 (12.2%) to 6,100 (14.8%) over the same time frame.

	Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	Worcestershire (%)	West Midlands	Great Britain

				(%)	(%)
Managers and senior officials	5,000	12.3	13.1	15.4	10.0
Professional occupations	9,900	24.2	18.8	17.3	19.2
Associate professional & technical	6,100	14.8	14.5	12.1	14.0
Administrative & secretarial	#	#	9.1	11.1	11.1
Skilled trades occupations	4,900	11.9	10.7	11.7	10.8
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	3,800	9.3	8.1	9.1	9.1
Sales and customer service occupations	3,700	9.0	6.1	8.3	8.1
Process plant & machine operatives	#	#	7.8	8.1	6.4
Elementary occupations	#	#	11.3	12.3	10.9

sample size too small for reasonable estimates

Source: Office for National Statistics (2012)

3.18 Population: The 2011 census data indicates that Bromsgrove has a population of 93,600, which is only an increase of 200 on the 2010 estimated figure. The population of Bromsgrove was approximately 87,800 in 2001, so Bromsgrove's population has increased by approximately 5,800, or just over 6%, in the last 10 years. The 2011 show that Bromsgrove had an estimated 21,000 children, representing over 22% of the total population in Bromsgrove. There is approximately 19,200 people aged 65-plus living in the District, over 20% of the total population.

3.19 In Bromsgrove the number of children has increased by approximately 200 (1%) in the last 10 years although numbers peaked in the middle of the time period. The number of people aged 65 and over has risen by about 4,100 since 2001, representing a 27% increase. The number of people in the 19-64 age groups has increased by 1,700 (3.3%) over the same time period (*Census 2011*).

- 3.20 House Affordability: The housing market in the District has been buoyant in recent years due to its close proximity to the West Midlands conurbation. However, due to the current economic climate house prices have fallen 0.1% in the District over the past year, although this is significantly better than the 2.3% decrease experienced last year and the 13.6% the year before. Despite these decreases, house prices are still relatively high compared to the rest of the West Midlands. In March 2012, the average house price across Bromsgrove was £221,431 compared with £154,121 in neighboring Birmingham and £161,440 in Redditch, as well as the West Midlands average of £167,537 (Land Registry, 2012).
- 3.21 As of 2012 (April 2011 - March 2012) a total of 157 affordable dwellings were completed compared to 65 the year before. This figure was above the Bromsgrove District Council's target of 80 per annum, which was proposed as part of the Council Plan 2009/12. This plan aimed for 240 affordable dwellings over the three year period, this target has been successfully achieved with 283 affordable dwellings built between 2009 and 2012.
- 3.22 The SHMA (2012) indicates that the analysis of the current need for affordable housing in the authority over the next five years indicates a high demand for this tenure. An annual need of 219 affordable properties is calculated as being required to meet the future needs over the next five years and the existing backlog. This reflects the impact of rising house prices over the first half of the last decade and the continued pressures on wages as well as the availability of mortgage finance. It also reflects the fact that affordable housing makes up a relatively low proportion of the overall stock in Bromsgrove currently, approximately 10%, a proportion which is considerably below the national average of 20%.
- 3.23 The housing supply position in previous years meant it was extremely challenging to achieve a modest target year after year, as there was a total reliance on sites coming forward for 100% affordable housing. This issue should continue to improve since SPG10 was lifted in January 2010. It is clear from the last three years that affordable housing completions are going in a positive direction and this year they accounted for 60% of the new dwellings total achieved across the District. The realisation is that the demand for affordable housing is continuing to increase, and this issue is being addressed in the Draft Core Strategy 2. Policy CP4 regarding the Bromsgrove Town expansion sites and other development sites, as well as CP7, strive to achieve affordable housing. Where there is a net increase of 5 or more dwellings or the site is equal or greater than 0.2 hectares a 40% affordable housing provision will be expected onsite. The Council will seek to achieve 2/3 social rented and 1/3 intermediate housing.

- 3.24 Housing Targets: Bromsgrove’s housing targets are based on the Worcestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (February 2012). In total the SHMA suggests that there will be a requirement for between 6,800 and 7,000 dwellings between 2011/12 and 2029/30 to meet the demands generated by new household formation. This requirement factors in the historic supply of new housing between 2006 and 2011. Based on these figures the Council intends to have a housing target of 7,000 dwellings from 2011/12 to 2029/30
- 3.25 Index of Multiple Deprivation: According to the 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation Bromsgrove had the highest proportion of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the least deprived quintile (47%) across the West Midlands. When compared to the rest of Worcestershire, Bromsgrove District has the lowest instances of deprivation, and ranks in the bottom quarter of most deprived local authorities across England (280th out of 354 authorities). However, this has seen an increase from the 2007 Indices, whereby Bromsgrove was positioned 299th nationally. Although the majority of the District performs well in terms of deprivation, there are small pockets of deprivation that need to be tackled. There are three LSOAs in the 30% most deprived nationally and the most deprived area in the District is in the northern part of Sidemoor, which is ranked, 8,168th out of 32,482 most deprived areas nationally (DCLG Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2010).
- 3.26 Earnings: Median household incomes in Worcestershire are higher than they are elsewhere in the West Midlands and England. Household incomes are highest in Bromsgrove (£34,492 pa) and lowest in Wyre Forest (£27,821 pa). Household income includes income from employment (earnings) as well as that from other sources, for example investments and savings.

Area	Median Income (£)
Bromsgrove	£34,492
Malvern Hills	£30,218
Redditch	£30,291
Worcester	£29,115

Area	Median Income (£)
Wychavon	£31,675
Wyre Forest	£27,821
Worcestershire	£30,515
West Midlands	£27,068
England	£29,464

Source: CACI Ltd. (2011)

District	Residence based earnings	Workplace based earnings	% Difference
Bromsgrove	£29,552	£20,697	30.0
Malvern Hills	£24,288	£22,411	7.7
Redditch	£21,934	£22,454	-2.4
Worcester City	£26,478	£23,770	10.2
Wychavon	£26,725	£24,345	8.9
Wyre Forest	£20,842	£18,658	10.5
Worcestershire	£25,330	£22,685	10.4

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2012)

3.27 As the table above indicates, workplace earnings are lower in general than residence-based earnings across Worcestershire, with the exception of Redditch. The biggest differential can be seen in Bromsgrove where, the average (mean) annual earnings of people who work within the District is £20,697 compared with the average annual earnings for residents of Bromsgrove District, which is £29,552, a difference of 30% (ASHE, 2011). This would suggest that the District's population earn higher salaries than average, but they earn them in employment locations outside the District. Due to Bromsgrove's close proximity to the MUA, many residents commute to jobs in and around Birmingham. Therefore, it appears that there is an imbalance between the types of jobs and pay available within Bromsgrove compared with the average wages of the population. Industries with higher paid jobs need to be encouraged to stay or locate in the District so as to correct this imbalance and reduce the daily flow of the population to other employment centres which is unsustainable (ASHE, 2011)

4. The Survey - Town Centre Health Check Indicators

- 4.1 In accordance with the NPPF economic development is defined as development within the B Use Classes, public and community uses, as well as main town centre uses (not including housing development). The NPPF defines main town centre uses as follows:
- Retail development
 - Leisure, entertainment facilities, and the more intensive sport and recreation uses
 - Offices, and
 - Arts, culture and tourism development
- 4.2 The NPPF states that planning policy should promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. The Government's overarching objective is sustainable economic growth. To help to achieve this, the Government's objectives for planning are to build prosperous communities; reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions; deliver more sustainable patterns of development and respond to climate change; and to promote the vitality and viability of town and other centres as important places for communities. As detailed in 'Planning for Town Centres' (2009), in order to achieve this, the Government wants:
- new economic growth and development of main town centre uses to be focused in existing centres, with the aim of offering a wide range of services to communities in an attractive and safe environment and remedying deficiencies in provision in areas with poor access to facilities
 - competition between retailers and enhanced consumer choice through the provision of innovative and efficient shopping, leisure, tourism and local services in town centres, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community (particularly socially excluded groups)
- 4.3 Government guidance in the form of 'Planning for Town Centres' emphasises the need for local planning authorities to gain a proper understanding of the health of the town centres in their area. Although there was a list by which the health of a town centre should be assessed within PPS4, this has subsequently been deleted. However, these indicators are still regarded as effective criteria in which to assess the health of Bromsgrove Town Centre. As these indicators were used in previous years, comparisons made and a full list of these indicators are highlighted below:

- ✚ Diversity of main town centre uses;
- ✚ The amount of edge / out-of centre retail / leisure floor space;
- ✚ Potential capacity for growth or expansion;
- ✚ Retailer representation and intentions to change representations;
- ✚ Proportion of vacant street level property;
- ✚ Shopping rents and commercial yields on non-domestic property;
- ✚ Land values and the length of time key sites have remained undeveloped;
- ✚ Pedestrian flows;
- ✚ Accessibility;
- ✚ Customer views and behaviour;
- ✚ Perception of safety and crime; and
- ✚ State of the town centre environmental quality.

4.4 The majority of the indicators could be collected and compared with the original Bromsgrove Town Centre Health Check data in 2009 and the subsequent information gained in 2010 and 2011. However, due to the lack of information available, two of the above indicators - ‘the intentions of retailers to change representations’ and ‘land values and the length of time key sites have remained undeveloped’ - are not reported on. As work progresses on the Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP), this information may become more readily available. The findings of each indicator are presented below, compared with the last three years results, and summarised as part of a SWOT analysis which highlights the import issues towards the future development of the town centre as part of the conclusion.

Purpose of the Town Centre Health Check

- 4.5 The Town Centre Health Check is produced for a number of reasons:
- In accordance with “Planning for Town Centres: Practice Guidance on need, impact and the sequential approach” that supports the monitoring of Town Centres;
 - It helps assess the success of retail policies within the adopted Bromsgrove District Local Plan;
 - It will be used to assist the development of town centre and retail policies within the Local Development Framework, particularly the Town Centre AAP;
 - To consider the Town Centre’s performance over time
 - It helps assist with retail planning and development management in Bromsgrove Town Centre; and

- It helps assist with the ongoing information required for the Townscape Heritage Initiative in the Town Centre.

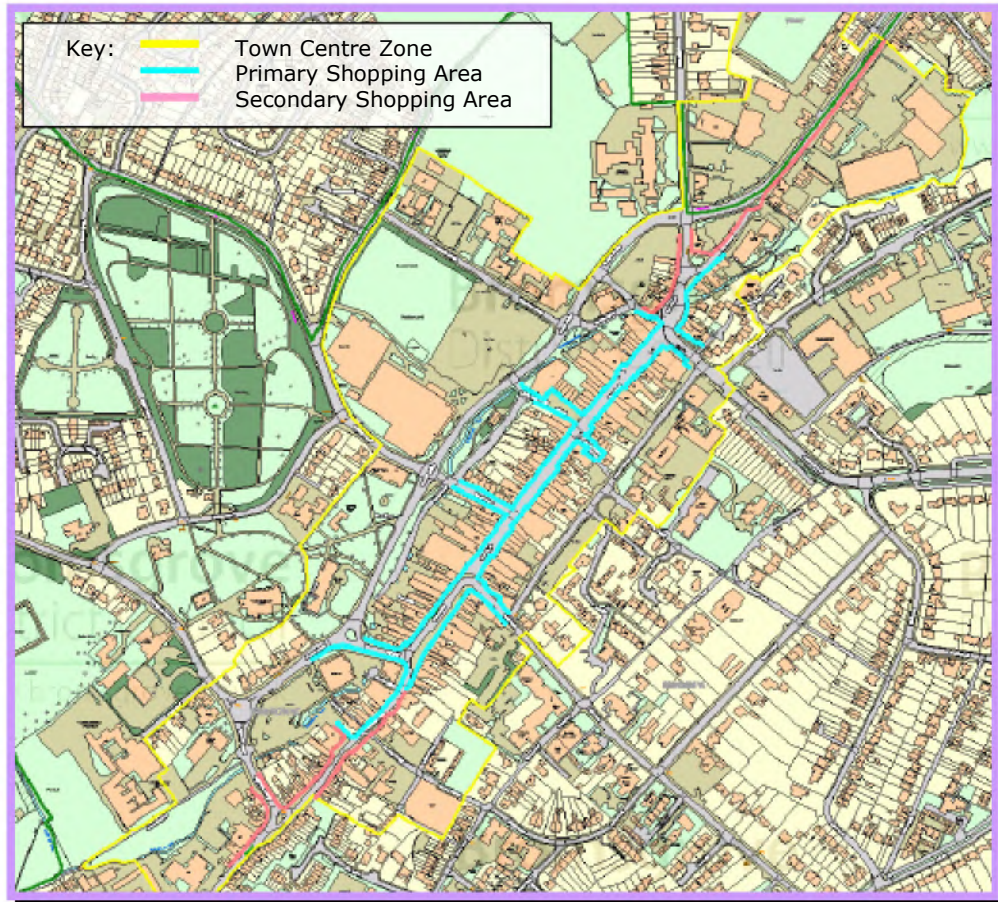
4.6 Town centres are constantly changing and therefore elements of this document will only provide a snap shot in time, for example, the ground floor survey and pedestrian count. However, as the Health Check is updated comparisons can be made with previous years. There are also a number of other benefits this document will offer:

- It allows positive and negative aspects of the town centre to be identified, and in turn regenerated or enhanced;
- It provides data that can be used to make sure that the centre remains competitive with neighbouring centres in the region.
- It provides baseline data for comparative links to be made with future health checks.

Boundaries

4.7 The extent of the town centre surveyed is illustrated on the map below. Principally it covers: Birmingham Road, Chapel Street, Church Street, Crown Close, George Street, Hanover Street, High Street, Market Street, Mill Lane, New Road, St John Street, Station Street, The Strand, Windsor Street and Worcester Road. Although this area is larger than the primary shopping areas and secondary shopping areas identified in the 2004 Local Plan, it is considered important to include the additional areas in order to gain a true picture of the town centre. The Draft Town Centre AAP published in January 2011 proposed extending the primary shopping zone, however until adopted this area will remain consistent with the Local Plan.

Fig 1: Town Centre Boundaries



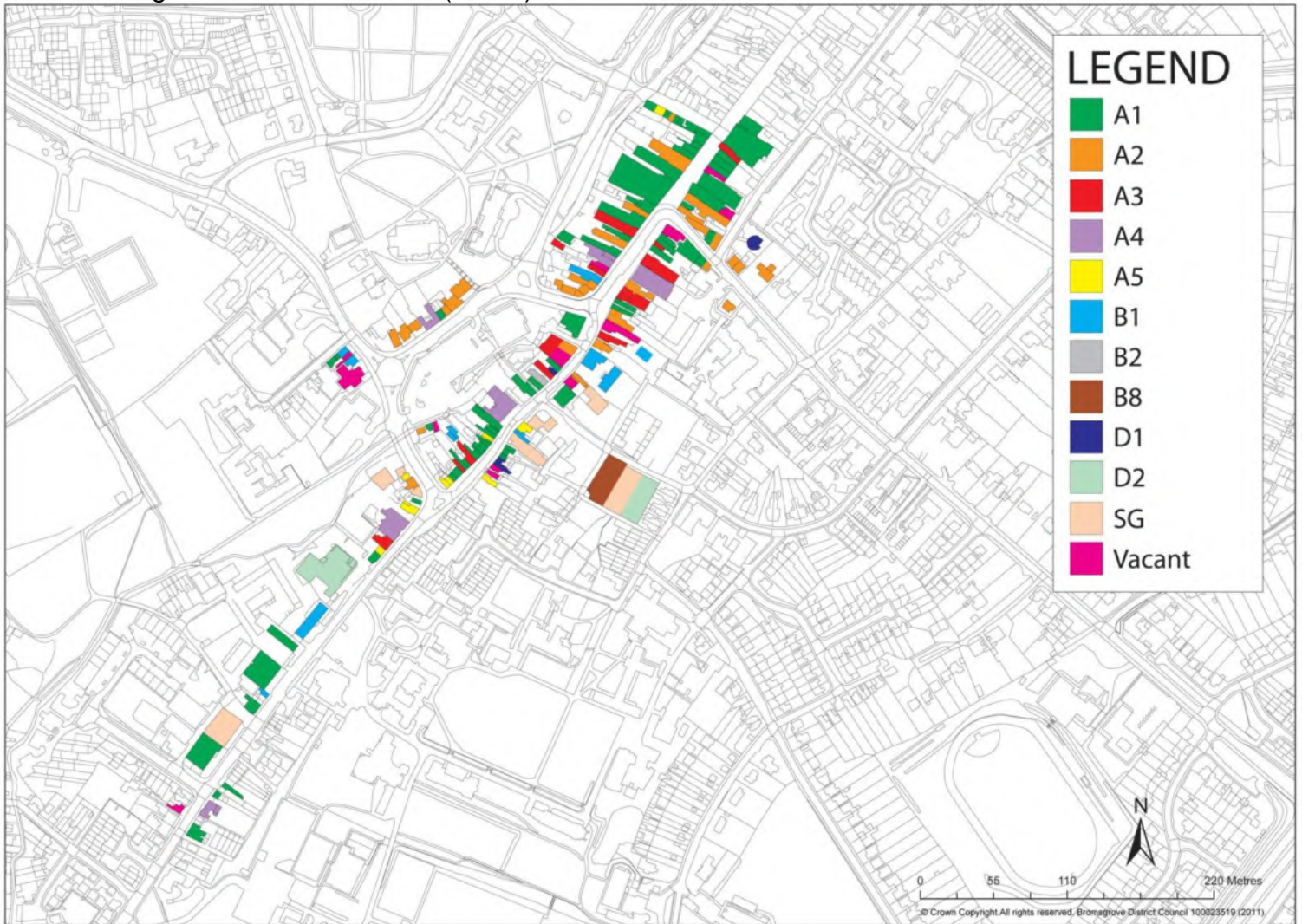
Diversity of Main Town Centre Uses

4.8 There were 348 units surveyed in Bromsgrove town centre at the time of the 2012 summer survey, compared with 342 in 2011. This is due to units being sub-divided and units converted into offices. Residential properties (Use Class C1, C2 and C3) are not recorded in the survey. Records of the survey are attached in Appendix B. It should be noted that entrances that led to properties above or below the ground floor level were not included as they tend not to have a 'frontage'. The two maps below give a pictorial representation of the surveyed area's land use composition (larger maps can be found in Appendix D).

Fig. 2 Town Centre Uses (North)



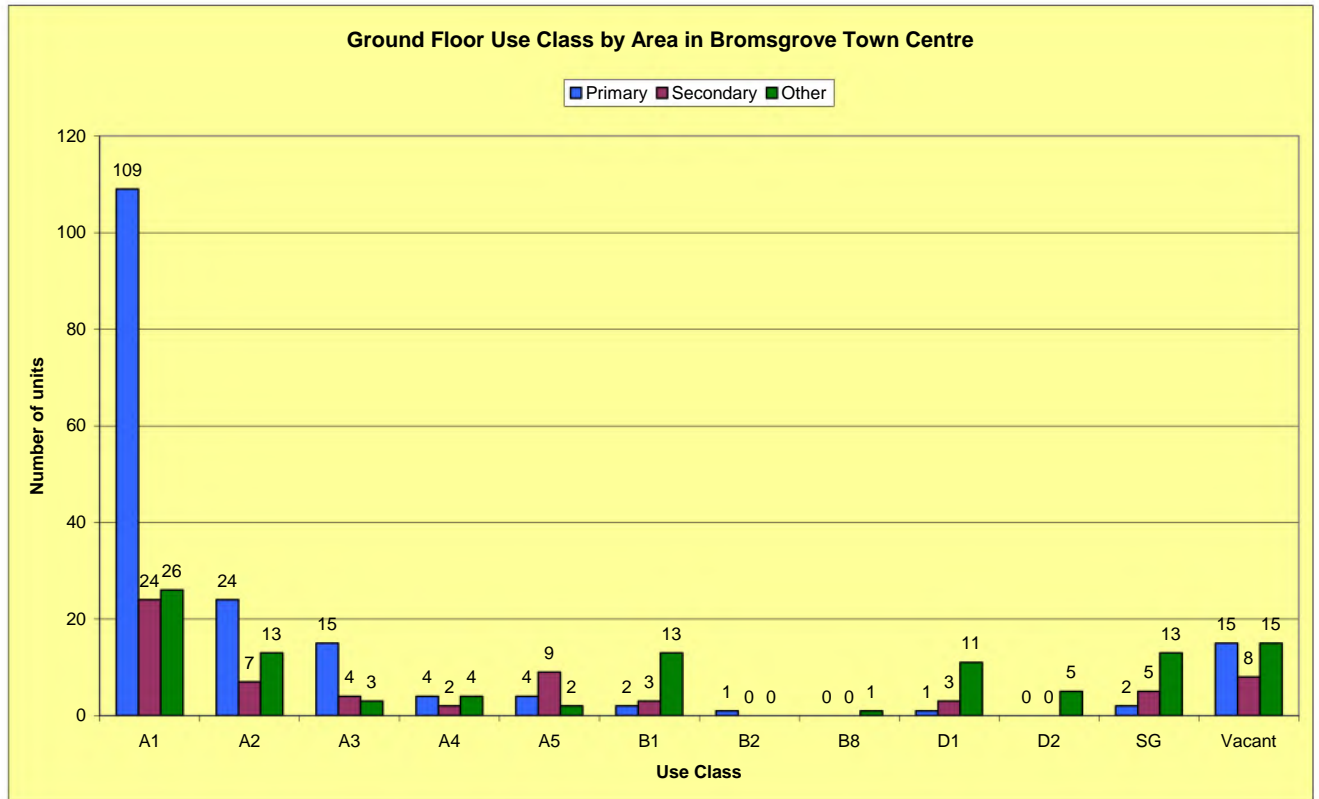
Fig. 3 Town Centre Uses (South)



Use Class	Primary	%	Secondary	%	Other	%	Total
A1	109	68.6%	24	15.1%	26	16.4%	159
A2	24	54.5%	7	15.9%	13	29.5%	44
A3	15	68.2%	4	18.2%	3	13.6%	22
A4	4	40.0%	2	20.0%	4	40.0%	10
A5	4	26.7%	9	60.0%	2	13.3%	15
B1	2	11.1%	3	16.7%	13	72.2%	18
B2	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1
B8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	1
D1	1	6.7%	3	20.0%	11	73.3%	15
D2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	100.0%	5
SG	2	10.0%	5	25.0%	13	65.0%	20
Vacant	15	39.5%	8	21.1%	15	39.5%	38
Total	177		65		106		348

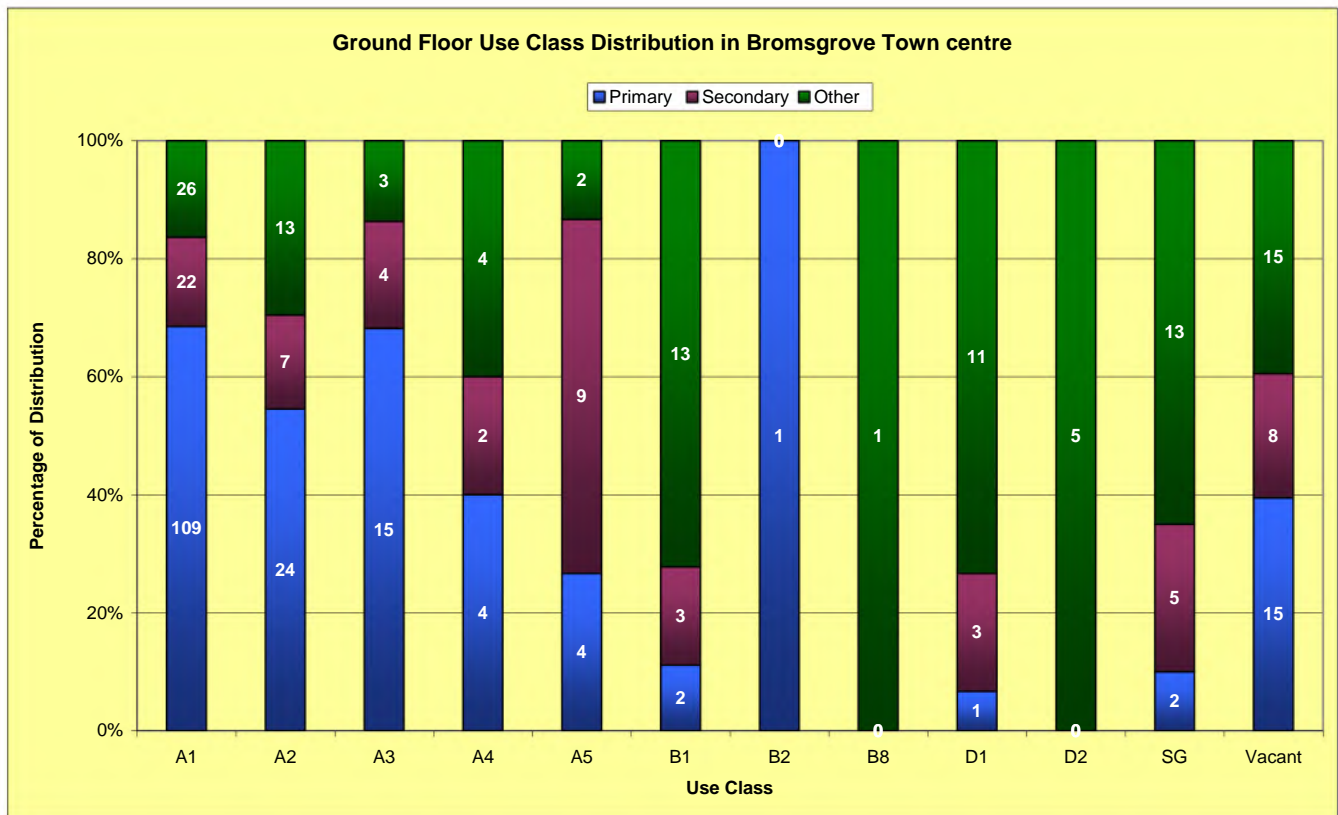
- 4.9 Among the 348 businesses / vacant units, almost half of the shops are for retail A1 use (45.7% / 159 units), followed by A2 financial and professional offices use (12.6% / 44 units) and vacant shops (10.9% / 38 units). The rest are made up of uses with a considerably smaller number of units: A3 restaurants and cafes (6.3% / 22 units), sui generis (5.7% / 20 units), D1 non residential institutions (4.3% / 15 units), B1 business use (5.2% / 18 units), A5 hot food takeaways (4.3% / 15 units), A4 drinking establishments (2.9% / 10 units), D2 amenity and leisure use (1.4% / 5 units), B2 general industry (0.3% / 1 unit) and B8 storage or distribution (0.3% / 1 unit). This information is recorded in the graph below, indicating the uses in the town centre in terms of which area of the town they are situated.
- 4.10 The 2012 figures have remained fairly consistent with the 2011 ground floor use class survey, with only relatively few changes. The number of retail units (A1) only increased by 2 units, the number of A2 increased by 2 units; D1 units increased by 2 units and B1 units also increased by 1 unit. In terms of decreasing uses; there was a reduction in A4 use by 1 unit and A3 use by 1 unit. Vacant units remained the same at 38 units.

Fig 4: Ground Floor Use Class by Area



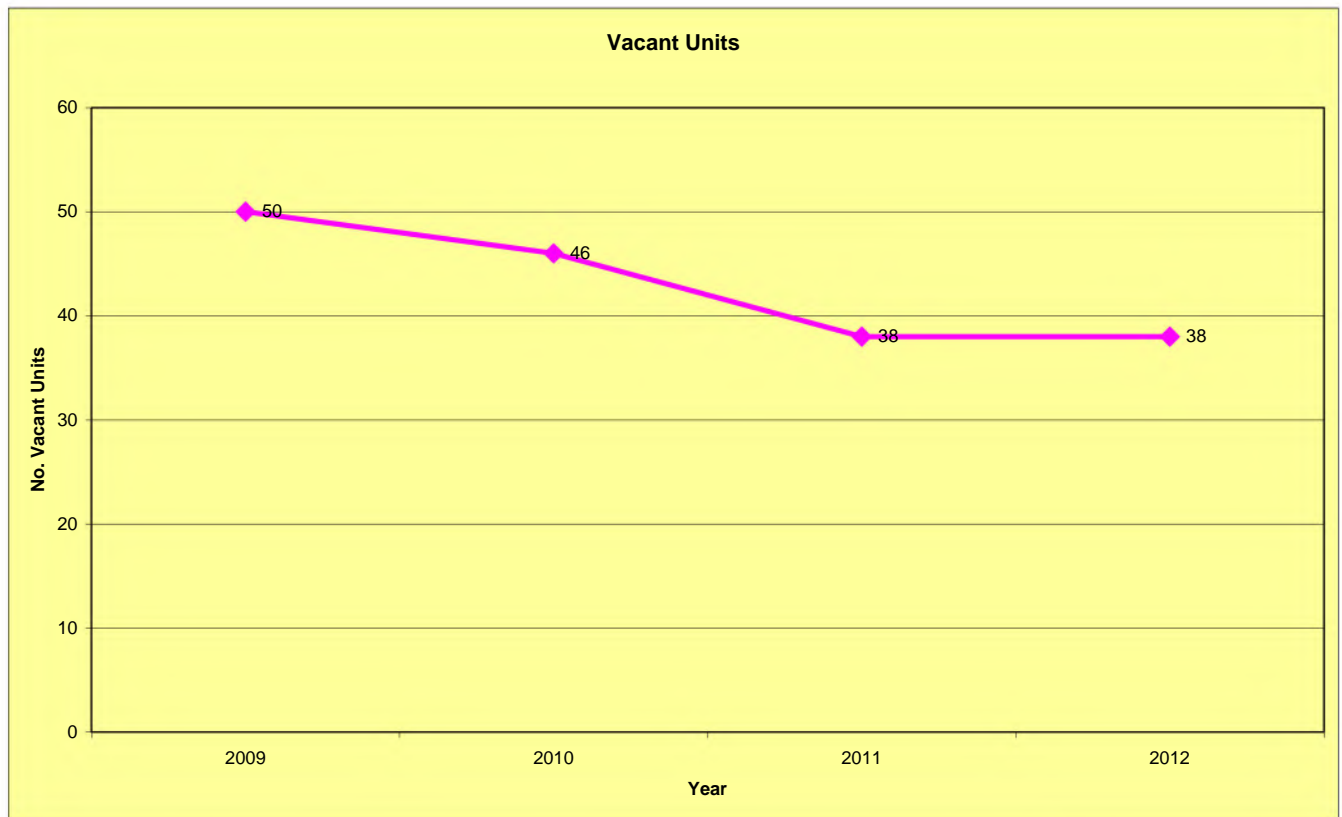
4.11 The stacked columns below illustrate the use class by percentage of distribution in the primary, secondary and 'other' areas.

Fig 5: Ground Floor Use Class Distribution



4.12 The graph (Fig. 6) below shows how the number of vacant units has changed from 2009. The vacancy rate has decreased year on year and remained the same during the 2012 survey. This reduction reflects a positive in terms of town centre regeneration.

Fig 6: Vacant Units 2009 to 2012



	A	B	D	SG	Vacant	Total
Primary	156	3	1	2	15	177
	88.1%	1.7%	0.6%	1.1%	8.5%	100.0%
Secondary	46	3	3	5	8	65
	70.8%	4.6%	4.6%	7.7%	12.3%	100.0%
Other	48	14	16	13	15	106
	45.3%	13.2%	15.1%	12.3%	14.2%	100.0%
Total	250	20	20	20	38	348
	71.8%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	10.9%	100%

4.13 The NPPF states that Council’s should define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, based on a clear definition of primary and secondary frontages in designated centres, and set policies that make clear which uses will be permitted in such locations. These areas have been established as part of the Bromsgrove District Local Plan. The primary shopping area (PSA) is the centre for retail development.

- 4.14 The table above indicates the overall use classes and the number of units and percentage in terms of the area (Primary, secondary, or other).
- 4.15 The 2012 survey highlights that within the primary shopping area, 88.1% of its units fall within 'A' use classes. 68.6% of all A1 uses (including charity shops) in the town centre locate in this area (109 units), this is followed by A2 professional and financial services (54.5% / 24 Units) and A3 food and drink (68.2% / 15 units). Although it looks surprising that 100% of the B2 general industry use locates in the primary shopping area, the percentage figure is distorted by the fact that there is only 1 B2 use in the town centre (the Bromsgrove Printing Co. on Worcester Road). The possible explanation for the B2 use to be located in the primary shopping areas could be due to the more diverse uses of the nearby secondary shopping area. 15 vacant units (39.5% of the total vacant units) were also recorded in the primary shopping area; however, only 8.4% of the primary shopping zone was vacant units. This was a slight increase on last year, whereby there were 13 vacant units, 7.6% of the PSA total make up.
- 4.16 In the secondary shopping area (SSA), 70.8% of it's' units fall within use class A. A1 use accounts for 36.9% (24 units), A2 use 10.8% (7 units), A3 use 6.2% (4 units), A4 use 3.1% (2 units) and A5 use 13.8% (9 units). In accordance with the practical guide, 'Planning for Town Centres' (2009), the secondary shopping area "provides greater opportunity for a diversity of uses". 4.6% (3 units) are used as B1 offices, 4.6% (3 units) are D1 use and 7.7% (5 units) are Sui Generis. There were a total of 8 vacant units recorded in the secondary area, making up 12.3% of the total units in the SSA, which was a reduction of 2 vacant units from 2011 and 2010, and a decrease from 19% in the 2009 survey.
- 4.17 For areas outside the primary and secondary shopping areas, 45.3% of the units fall within use class A. They are A1 use 24.5% (26 units), A2 use 12.26% (13 units), A3 use 2.8% (3 units); A4 use 3.8% (4 units) and A5 use 1.9% (2 units). The rest of the units fall within use class B (13.2%), use class D (15.1%) and other uses (12.3%). There were a total of 15 vacant units (14.2% of the total units in this area) recorded in the 'other' areas. The number of vacant units increased by 2 in this area, but was still an improvement on the 2010 survey which indicated 23 vacant units in this area.

- 4.18 In terms of where particular uses are concentrated, as mentioned previously, the majority of A1 retail units are based in the Primary Shopping Area (PSA), with a total of 109 units, equivalent to 68.6%. The PSA is also where the majority of A2 (54.5%) and A3 (68.2%) uses are located. The Secondary Shopping Area (SSA) has the second most A3 units (18.2%), whereas the 'Other' Areas have the second most A2 units (29.5%). A4 units are similar across all areas with only a difference of 2 units between the PSA and the SSA'. The majority of A5 uses (60%) are located in the SSA, compared with 26.7% in the PSA and 13.3% in the 'other' areas. The overwhelming majority of B1 offices (72.2%) are in the 'other' areas. This location is also where the most B8 (100%), D1 (73.3%), D2 (100%) and Sui Generis (65.0%) uses are located.
- 4.19 Government guidance in 'Planning for Centres' says that different but complementary uses in the town centre during the day and in the evening can reinforce each other and attract people from different age and social groups, making town centres more attractive to local residents, shoppers and visitors. Most of the night time uses in Bromsgrove town centre such as restaurants, takeaways, night clubs, and drinking establishments, locate either at the West End of the High Street and Worcester Road or outside the primary shopping areas, resulting in a quiet primary shopping area at night time. In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), 82% of the respondents prefer their venues of visit to spread along the length of the High Street. Only 18% would like the venues concentrated near existing venues at the West End of the High Street. One of objectives in the Draft Area Action Plan is to improve the range and quality of evening economy uses within the town centre, including a choice of bars, cafes and restaurants.
- 4.20 In terms of use across the town centre it is clear that there are still a number of vacant units which need to be tackled. The AAP in particular will look to address this. The vacant Market Hall site, which is currently used as a temporary car park, is proposed as a potential mixed use development. There are currently five vacant premises along Recreation Road; however this site is currently up for sale and promoted as a potential residential development. A planning application has been approved subject to Section 106 agreements for a Sainsbury's along Birmingham Road, which would replace the current Co-Op and two vacant units. There is also a planning application that been granted regarding the vacant land at 88 to 92 Birmingham Road for a petrol garage, which would see the existing Texaco garage move from the Sainsbury's site if granted permission. In October 2011 Bromsgrove District Council announced plans to move into the vacant Parkside

Middle School building in the town centre, although it could take up to 2 years for the transition to take place.

Mix of Uses - floorspace

- 4.21 The Goad Category Report for Bromsgrove (2008) only covers ground floor units in the primary shopping areas and part of the secondary shopping areas identified in the Bromsgrove Proposals Map. The Goad Category Report is attached in Annex C.
- 4.22 The report illustrates that floorspace in Bromsgrove town centre was dominated by comparison goods such as booksellers, charity shops, DIY & home improvement shops and telephones & accessories shops, etc (37.92%). Compared with the UK average, the index figures (the index figure illustrates the difference between a percentage figure for the centre and the UK average) shows that Bromsgrove town centre has a significantly lower proportion of convenience goods such as convenience stores, fishmongers and greengrocers (37% less) and leisure services such as bars, fast food and takeaways and sports and leisure facilities (48% less) but significantly higher proportion of retail service such as photo processing/ studios, vehicle repairs & services, etc (44% more) and financial & business services such as building societies, legal services and financial services, etc (33% more). Bromsgrove also suffers from a higher percentage (3%) of vacant retail & service outlets than the UK average. Although from the surveys conducted each year, this has improved and would be reflected in more up-to-date Goad reports.

	Outlets	Area %	Index
Comparison	207,400	37.92	100
Convenience	107,500	19.66	63
Retail Services	55,000	10.06	144
Leisure Services	63,900	11.68	52
Financial & Business Services	63,800	11.67	133
Vacant Retail & Service Outlets	49,300	9.01	103

Source: Goad Category Report for Bromsgrove (April 2008)

Edge-of-Centre and Out-of-Centre Locations

- 4.23 One of the indicators used for town centre health checks relates to the amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in edge-of-centre and out-of-centre locations. Bromsgrove town centre area is mainly surrounded by residential use, except to the southwest which has some industrial use.

Retail

- 4.24 In terms of retail in edge-of-centre locations, there is an Asda store on Market Street, which also has a multi-storey car park, an off street car park and a recreation ground beside it. The store is physically separated from the primary shopping streets by the busy Market Street. A traffic light crossing has been installed to aid movement between the two. The pedestrian count shows that the Asda crossing is a busy one. However, it is difficult to judge whether supermarket shoppers would also spend time in the town centre as people going to the town centre may also park at the car parks by Asda and use the crossing to get to the town centre. Other well known retailers on the edge-of-centre are Halfords on Birmingham Road and Just for Pets in Market Street.
- 4.25 On the edge-of-centre outside the primary and secondary areas, there are 26 retail (A1) units, including 5 salons and 2 DIY shops, etc. This area includes part of Worcester Road, Birmingham Road, Crown Close, Hanover Street, Perry Lane, Recreation Road, St John Street, Stourbridge Road and Windsor Street.

Leisure

- 4.26 Approximately 200 metres from the primary shopping area in School Drive is the Dolphin Centre which includes swimming pools, fitness suites, exercise studio, sports halls and training and conference centre. There are two off street car parks by the centre which provide 164 spaces and 13 spaces for the disabled. The Draft Town Centre AAP proposes to extend the town centre boundary to include the Dolphin Centre and neighbouring car parks as well as land further along School Drive.
- 4.27 There are 2 takeaways, 3 restaurants and 4 pubs on the edge-of-centre in St John Street, on Worcester Road and Birmingham Road.

- 4.28 The Artrix; a versatile multi disciplinary arts centre with a 300 seat auditorium, a spacious dance studio, meeting rooms and a visually stunning foyer/gallery is located at the end of School Drive, a short walk from the Primary shopping area and boasts an ample size free car park.

Office

- 4.29 St John Street is mainly used for professional businesses (6 A2 uses), such as solicitors, accountants and architects and estate agents. Further down towards the primary shopping area on New Road are 3 A2 uses (an accountant and 2 estate agents) and an off street car park. Along Birmingham Road further down the secondary shopping area is a small business park, Holts Studio with 6 independent small businesses and some professional uses such as a solicitor a mortgage advisor.

Potential Capacity for Growth

- 4.30 The land uses surrounding the town centre zone can act as a physical barrier to the future expansion of the town centre. However within the town centre zone, there are several sites / areas that may have development opportunities. The Draft Town Centre AAP published in January 2011 shows a number of potential development sites across the town centre.

Retail

- 4.31 New retail accommodation will be provided to expand the variety on offer of the Town Centre. The AAP involves concentrating commercial and retail development around the High Street and other areas of the Primary Shopping Area. Due to the physical space constraints of this area new additional retail accommodation will be provided as part of potential mixed use schemes in key locations. This approach will improve the quality and range of town centre shopping and help to define and distinguish Bromsgrove as a centre which contains the High Street retailers many people expect, but will also ensure that smaller boutique style independent retailers are safeguarded along with the historic shop premises which many of them occupy.

- 4.32 It is hoped existing retail sites such as the Sainsbury's scheme on Birmingham Road Retail Park will offer improved shopping opportunities. This is in addition to other sites proposed as part of the AAP.
- 4.33 The former Market Hall site is suitable for a high profile retailer and could provide a potential new retail led mixed use location, adding to the overall retail offer and creating an anchor at the southern end of the Town, thus ensuring active retail uses along the entire length of the Primary Shopping Area.
- 4.34 Windsor Street would provide the opportunity for larger retail and leisure units that cannot be accommodated on the High Street, preferably as part of a mixed use development. The town currently suffers from a lack of larger retail units which some high street retailer's desire.
- 4.35 The Mill Lane 'Iceland' Site has the potential for re-development to create a large, modern, high quality High Street retail space. This will improve the retail offer in the Primary Shopping Area and allow for improved public realm, creating a more attractive route to ASDA and the Recreation Ground.

Employment/Commercial

- 4.36 The Town Centre is currently home to a variety of employers. In addition to those employed in the retail sector, significant numbers of people work in office based jobs as well as some light industrial businesses. It is important that a wide mix of employment opportunities is maintained and expanded to allow for a Town Centre that can be successful in all market conditions.
- 4.37 An important part of this will be the significant improvement in the provision of office accommodation within the Town Centre. The expected expansion and increase in the population of the District as identified in the Core Strategy will bring with it a requirement for new employment opportunities. Whilst some of this will be provided for on existing employment sites and new development on the expansion sites, it is important that the Town Centre also offers new opportunities. Office based development within the Town is seen as important, particularly with the increased catchment area for business and employees offered by the planned electrification of the cross city railway line and in the

longer term the provision of a new train station. These improvements will make Bromsgrove even more readily accessible from Birmingham. In order to capitalise on this it is important to offer a pleasant and affordable choice for businesses and commuters choosing to relocate out of very costly city centre accommodation.

- 4.38 A significant number of people in and around the Town Centre are employed by the public sector but unfortunately the accommodation tends to be in outdated and inefficient properties. It has been recognised that a rationalization of all the public property assets could release further regeneration opportunities. As part of this rationalisation, public sector buildings such as a new Council House could be provided and this will allow the public easier access to the Council and other services in a modern and accessible environmentally friendly building. Providing new public sector facilities in the Town Centre will not only ensure the Council's ability to provide accessible services is maintained but it will also keep a significant number of employees in the Town Centre which adds to the overall vibrancy and vitality. The Council announced in October 2011 that they will be relocating over the next two years into the currently unused Parkside School building in the town centre.

Housing

- 4.39 Town Centre residential development can be accommodated in a number of different ways although it is envisaged that capacity can be provided;
- In the conversion of vacant spaces above shops on the High Street and surrounding areas,
 - Within mixed use development schemes identified in the Draft Town Centre AAP
 - And on Recreation Road in a dedicated retirement living complex, as highlighted in the Draft Town Centre AAP
- 4.40 Any new residential development in the town will provide a welcome addition to the overall housing offer and as such should reflect the needs of the District. New housing should focus on the provision of smaller affordable units, and housing suitable for the elderly, although more aspirational housing will also be welcomed in appropriate schemes and locations.

Community, leisure and Cultural uses

- 4.41 Town Centres are generally considered as the principal locations for entertainment and cultural activity. In Bromsgrove, evening activity is largely limited to public houses and some restaurants. Improving the opportunities to eat and drink is important to residents and visitors to the Town Centre, although a balance is required between traditional pub and restaurant culture and other social activities. In order to accommodate other much needed social facilities, the provision of meeting places for members of the community such as the young or old, who can't or don't want to use more traditional meeting places like pubs and restaurants will be supported by the Council as potential uses on key development sites. Opportunities to encourage more active uses of public areas for street cafes will be supported as it is important that a public realm is developed which supports the creation of safe and desirable outdoor areas to enjoy throughout the year but particularly in the summer months.
- 4.42 Other evening activities will be developed such as twilight shopping or similar events and activities. A cinema is a potential use which could form part of development on the historic market site. Improvements to pavements and lighting along School Drive, as well as improved signage and lighting of the Artrix itself, will help connect it more successfully with the centre of Town. Evening parking charges will be reviewed and additional taxi and bus services instigated to improve the accessibility of the Town Centre in the evening.
- 4.43 All community groups need their Town Centre to be one that they can use and enjoy. The design of the public realm and open spaces will incorporate room for evening and day time events. These include Farmers Markets, Specialty Markets, Christmas Events, Street Theatres, and Park Programmes etc., which bring many visitors into the vicinity of the Town Centre at certain times.

Retailer Representation

- 4.44 According to the Goad Category Report (2008), a multiple retailer is defined as 'being part of a network of nine or more outlets'. National multiples identified as major retailers by Goad are considered most likely

to improve the consumer appeal of a centre. These national multiples are put under five categories, department stores, mixed goods retailers, supermarkets, clothing and other retailers. In Bromsgrove town centre, there are no major retailers present in the department stores and supermarkets categories. In the mixed goods retailers' category, Argos, Boots and WH Smith are represented. In the clothing category, Burton, Dorothy Perkins and New Look are represented. In the other retailer's category, Carphone Warehouse, Clintons, Phones 4 U and Vodafone are represented.

- 4.45 Some other well known convenience retailers which are not considered as national multiples in the Goad Category Report but are represented in Bromsgrove town centre are: Asda in Market Street with 5,360m² floorspace and Co-Op (formerly Somerfield) on Birmingham Road with 1,370m² floorspace. An application for a Sainsbury's supermarket development of 4,700m² was passed in 2010 on the current site of Co-Op, Lush Furniture and Focus on Birmingham Road.
- 4.46 Several financial and business services like national banks and housing societies also have their branches in the High Street. These include NatWest, Barclays, Santander, Lloyds, Halifax, West Bromwich Building Society and Nationwide Building Society. Other comparison and service retailers that are represented in the Bromsgrove town centre include Knights Pharmacy, Bodycare, Mothercare, F Hind, Claires Accessories, Halfords, Focus, Going Places, Co-op Travel, First Choice, Thomas Cook, Orange, Iceland, Subway, Pizza Hut, Prezzo, Pizza Express, Wetherspoon, The Slug and Lettuce and many more.
- 4.47 Despite the presence of all these multiple retailers, 83% of respondents in the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008) still considered the range of shops in Bromsgrove as very poor or poor, only 16% considered them as adequate or good and none considered it as excellent. The top choices which respondents considered would make the town centre a better place to shop are:
1. More small independent and specialist shops (63%)
 2. A department store (59%)
 3. More national chain stores (53%)
 4. Regular farmers markets (44%)
 5. A high quality national food store for the Market Hall site (39%)
 6. Occasional special markets such as a French street market (39%)
- 4.48 The major retailer that respondents most wanted to see in Bromsgrove is Marks and Spencer (41%). In regards to the range of eating and drinking

places in Bromsgrove, 61% considered it as adequate, good or excellent and 38% considered it as poor or very poor. The top choices that would be most likely to attract respondents into the town centre in the evening are:

1. A safe environment (59%)
2. Theatre or cinema (56%)
3. Restaurants and cafés (55%)

Proportion of vacant street level property

4.49 One important indicator of a town's health is the proportion of vacant shops. The distribution of vacant units and other associated uses (i.e. charity and other outlets with rate rebates) provide an indicator of the attractiveness of an area to new business, although it should be noted that vacancies in outlets occur not only when an area is economically unattractive to potential businesses, but also due to redevelopment, building renovation or changeovers between tenants.

4.50 As of May 2012 the British Retail Consortium on UK high streets showed the West Midlands have one of the worst 'shop vacancy rates' in the country. The national town centre vacancy rate in the UK was 11.1% in April 2012, whereas, the West Midlands had one of the highest vacancy rates, at 12.9%.

"Double digit declines in shopper numbers in April in almost every part of the UK and stubbornly high shop vacancy rates confirm how tough conditions are for customers and retailers. Essentially consumers' lack confidence, disposable incomes are still dropping and fewer people are shopping for anything that isn't essential." (Stephen Robertson, British Retail Consortium Director General, 2012)

4.51 The negative outlook on vacancy rates was also supported by The Local Data Company (LDC) who published results in May 2012 indicating the national shop vacancy rate at 'the highest level ever recorded'. Over the last year, shop vacancy rates have soared, stabilising in the second half of 2011 at 14.3 per cent before rising from 14.5 per cent in January 2012 to 14.6 per cent in February, where it has remained at a plateau. However, three months leading to May 2012 have shown a slight improvement to no change in town centre vacancy rates. There has been a reduction from the significant rate of 14.6 per cent to 14.5 per cent. According to the LDC report, coupled with an increase in online

shopping, there is a glimmer of hope that retail is recovering from the worst of the economic crisis and that it could remain stable for the next few months. However, the LDC has found that 23,406 shops are still empty in 650 town centres across the country according to its index which visits over 2,700 towns, cities, retail parks and shopping centres to collect its data.

- 4.52 The Goad Category Report (April 08) shows that there were 24 units (9.68%) of vacant retail & service outlets in the Bromsgrove town centre, which were 8% lower than the UK average. In terms of floorspace, the total floorspace recorded vacant was 49,300sq ft. (9.01%), which was 3% higher than the UK average. This indicates that vacancies occurred mostly in bigger units. The Goad Report is somewhat outdated and the ground floor use survey conducted in house by the strategic planning team is more recent, and actually showed the number of vacant units decreased from 2009 across Bromsgrove Town centre, however it has remained the same in 2012. As mentioned previously in the document, there was a decrease in vacant units from 46 to 38 units in 2011, which is equivalent to a 17.4% reduction, but for this years study it remained at 38 units. It must be noted that due to the increase in the overall number of units in the town centre, the vacancy rate has actually decreased from 11.1% to 10.9%. Although the PSA remained consistent in the number of vacant units, the SSA reduced from 10 to 8 units and the 'other' areas increased by 2 units. Bromsgrove's vacancy rate is considerably lower than other centres in the region. The West Midlands average vacancy rate is 14.6%; and other centres include; Birmingham 23.8%, Walsall 26.6%, Wolverhampton 25.3% and Dudley 29.4%.

Shopping rents & Commercial yields on non-domestic property

Shopping rent

- 4.53 The area to the front of the shop is normally referred to as 'zone A'. Zone A rent refers to the rental value for the first 6 metres depth of floorspace in retail units from the shop window and it is the most valuable area of the shop. Normally the rate per square metre drops as it moves towards the rear of the shop. Due to commercial sensitivity, data of zone A rent is very hard to acquire.
- 4.54 According to the West Midlands Retail Market Overview (Autumn 2008), prime in-town retail rents in the West Midlands fell on average by -0.6% and well below the UK average of 1.1% during May 2007 to May 2008.

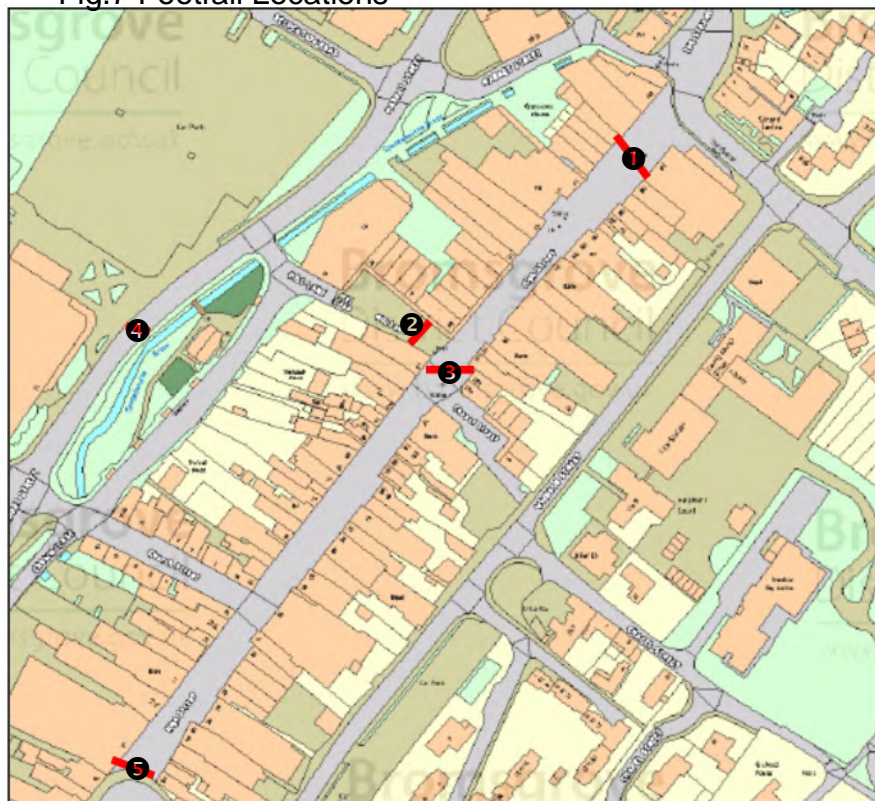
This places the region last in the regional ranking for 2007/08. The region experienced a real rental fall of -4.7% compared to -3.1% during the same period. Birmingham has achieved the top rent in the region although its zone A rent has remained static at £325 per square foot. Ranked number ten is Wolverhampton with its zone A rent at £130 per square foot. Detailed figures of Bromsgrove's rent were not available at the same period, but in July 2009, the High Street zone A rent is thought to be around £50 to £60 per square foot.

Commercial yields

4.55 The commercial yields on non-domestic property shows the capital value of the non-domestic properties in relation to their expected market rents. The level of yield broadly represents the market's evaluation of the risk and the long term profitability of the centre for retail, office and other commercial developments. Broadly speaking, low yields indicate that a town is considered to be attractive and as a result be more likely to attract investment than a town with high yields. In 2009, the yield for shops in Bromsgrove is thought to be around 6%. For comparison purpose, the yield of Barnsley, Doncaster, Huddersfield, Leeds & Wakefield in 2007 were 7.25%, 5.50%, 7.00%, 4.25% & 6.75%. In other words, among these centres, Leeds centre in general was seen by investors as having the lowest market risk and higher long term profitability for retail, office and other commercial developments.

Pedestrian Flows (Footfall)

Fig.7 Footfall Locations



- 4.56 Measuring the flow of pedestrians provides a basic measure of town centre usage and involves counting the number of people passing specific points over a particular period of time. The counts could be influenced by such factors such as location of car parks, public transport interchanges and the most popular retailers, etc.
- 4.57 The use of this indicator is more useful over time as it can be used to identify trends both as a result of local and national influences. For example the opening of a new retail unit may encourage more people to visit a certain area so the level of footfall rises. The pedestrian flows were first recorded in 2009, so the data collected annually can be compared and analysed in relation to the original data.
- 4.58 The pedestrian count was carried out at five points in the morning, midday and afternoon peak on a non market day, a market day in the week and a market day on a Saturday. The survey points were chosen as they are the main entry/exit points for visitors to the High Street (see map above) due to the different locations of car parks and public transport stops. However, as there are a number of potential developments across the town centre, in future year's further points will be considered to examine the impact of these developments.
- 4.59 To the north of the High Street are 4 car parks, Parkside, Stourbridge Road, Dolphin Centre and School Drive. They provide 329 spaces and 24 spaces for the disabled. Visitors parking at these car parks will likely to enter/ leave the town at the top of the High Street and pass by counting point 1.
- 4.60 To the east of the High Street is the Windsor Street car park which provides 65 spaces and 4 spaces for the disabled people. Visitors parking here are likely to enter/ leave the town from Chapel Street and pass by counting points 3 or 4.

- 4.61 To the south of the High Street are the New Road and Hanover Street car parks. They provide 194 spaces and 13 spaces for the disabled. Visitors parking here are likely to enter/ leave the town at the bottom of the High Street and pass by counting point 4. The site that was formally Market Hall is also currently being used as a temporary car park.
- 4.62 To the west of the High Street lies the two largest car parks in the Centre. They are Recreation Road South off street car park and the Churchfields multi-storey car park by Asda. There is also a small car park further away Recreation Road North. They provide 627 spaces and 41 spaces for the disabled. Visitors parking at these car parks are likely to cross at the Asda crossing and enter/leave the town from Mill Lane, i.e. counting points 2 and 5. The bus station and taxi stand located at Clown Close near the Asda crossing, hence visitors taking public transport are also likely to enter/ leave the town from Mill Lane.
- 4.63 Although it is more meaningful to compare pedestrian count over time, the surveys done on market days and non market day could be served as a general indicator of the attractiveness of the outdoor market introduced in Bromsgrove High Street. It is important to note though, weather by itself is one of the major factors affecting pedestrian footfall. The pedestrian survey counts are attached in appendix D for 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- 4.64 The graph (Fig. 17) below highlights the Pedestrian footfall during the 2012 survey, which can be compared with the information in appendix D for the 2009, 2010 and 2011 data. Consistent with previous years, the 'lunchtime' counts exceed both morning and afternoon recordings. Figure 18 illustrates the total footfall over the four surveyed days at each location point in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Fig. 8: Pedestrian Footfall 2012

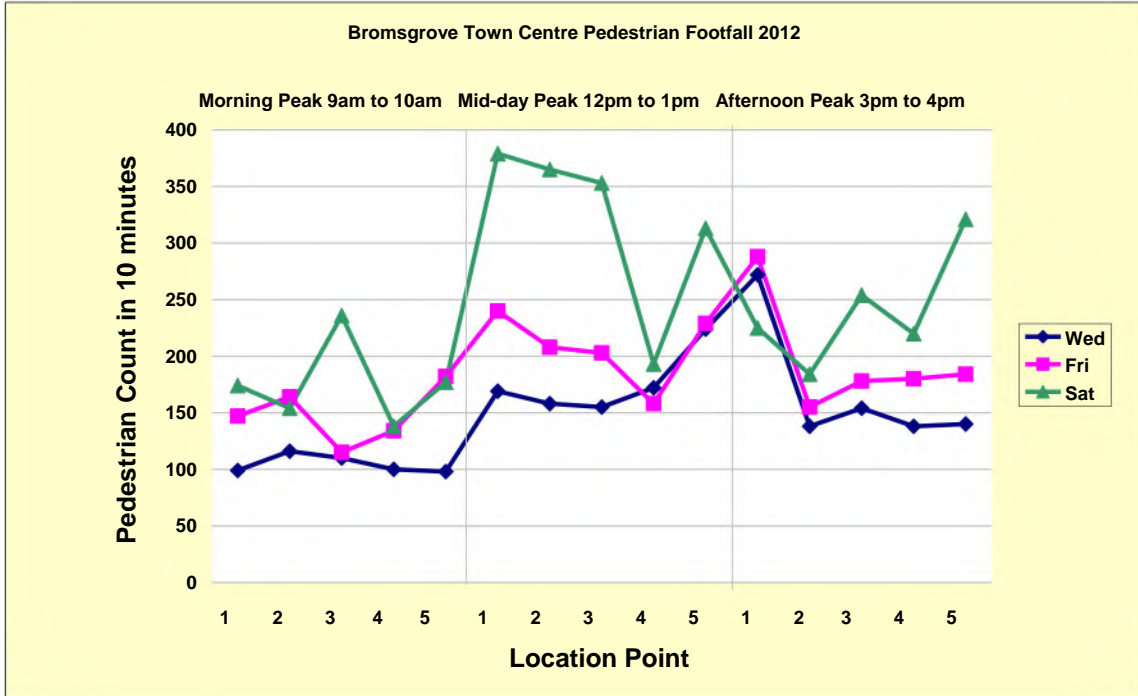
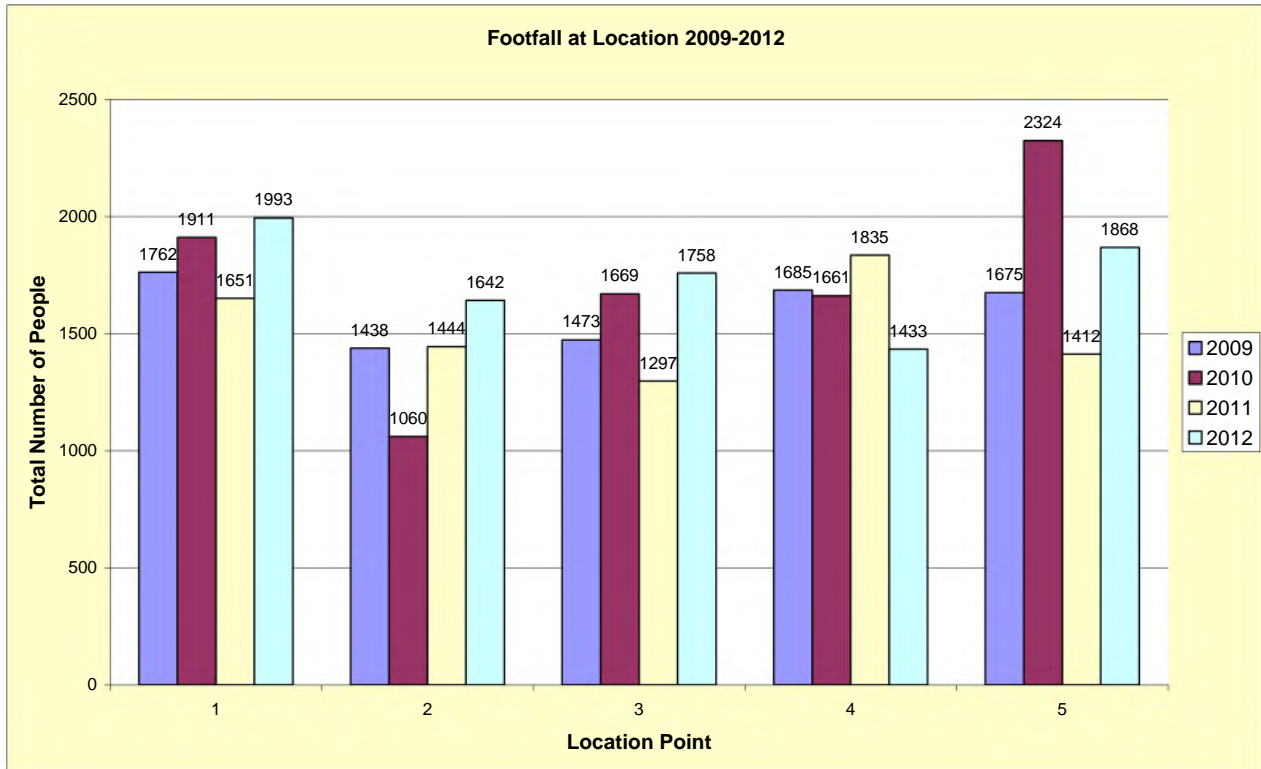


Fig. 19: Pedestrian Footfall at location 2009 to 2012



- 4.65 As mentioned previously, each year from 2009 to 2012, the pedestrian flow was surveyed on a non-market weekday, a market weekday, and a Saturday market day (which happened to be the Saturday farmers market in 2009, 2010 and 2011). One of the major differences was that both the 2009 and 2010 pedestrian counts were conducted in June, whereas due to other LDF commitments, the 2011 and 2012 survey were not conducted until July.
- 4.66 Although there was an overall increase in the number of pedestrians from 2009 to 2010, this significantly decreased for the 2011 results. A total of 8033 pedestrians were recorded in 2009, with a rise of 7.4% in 2010 to 8625. However, in 2011 pedestrian footfall decreased 11.4% to a total of 7639 pedestrians over the three days surveyed. Although there was a significant decrease in pedestrians over the three days, the non market and market weekday were higher than 2009 and the market weekday in 2010. The most notable decrease in 2011 was the Saturday market day, which was 26.5% less than 2010 and 30.7% less than 2009.
- 4.67 This considerable decrease on the footfall during the Saturday Market day could be accounted for by two major factors. It was just a normal market day this year as opposed to a farmers market, which would have the extra incentive of attracting more people. The most noteworthy issue and prime cause of fewer pedestrians was down to the weather. The morning survey was during a time of heavy rain and very few people were about; and the rest of the day was also cloudy with some rain. The weather overall during the 2011 surveys was less favourable than previous years, which would have had a major effect on pedestrian numbers.
- 4.68 Based on last year's finding, it was decided to conduct the Saturday market pedestrian count on a farmer's market day in order to be consistent with the first two surveys. Below in Table X it can be seen how the total pedestrian count differed on each day over the past four years.

Table 15: Total number of pedestrians each day from 2009 to 2012				
	Non-Market Day	Market Day	Saturday Market Day	Total
2009	1930	2417	3686	8033

2010	2406	2741	3478	8625
2011	2147	2935	2557	7639
2012	2243	2765	3686	8694
Total	8726	10858	13407	32991

4.69 Every year the market day during the week had a higher footfall than the weekday without a market. This year there were 2243 pedestrians recorded on the non-market and 2765 on the market day in the week, indicating a difference 23.3%. This year's market day in the week was higher than the same days in 2009 and 2010, which were 2417 and 2741 respectively, but was less than the 2935 conducted last year. The difference in non-market days in contrast to market days was consistent over the four year data sets, which indicates the market has a positive effect on pedestrian numbers.

4.70 The 2012 survey indicates that the busiest location over the three days was location point 1 by Argos. This differed from both the 2010 and 2011 results, but was the same as 2009. In 2010 the busiest part of the shopping area was near the bottom of the High Street (Location Point 5) followed by location point. This could be accounted for by the opening of Poundland, which replaced the former vacant retail space that was once occupied by Woolworths. In 2011, the busiest location was by the Asda crossing (Location Point 4) followed by location point 1. Location point 1 has consistently been in the top two busiest locations every year.

4.71 The reason for location point 1 being the busiest this year is uncertain; however, it could be for a number of reasons. This location is particularly busy during the afternoon count on both weekdays, which is due to the finishing time of North Bromsgrove High School. Many students have to walk through this section of the town in order to get to the bus stops and further to the south Bromsgrove. Another possible reason is due to the close proximity of School Drive to this location, which offers free parking. Most other areas of the town centre require fees to park or have restricted roads for parking.

4.72 Overall, the pedestrian footfall was higher in 2012 than previous years. There were a total number of 8694 pedestrians counted over the three days, which was significantly higher than last year's 7639 (13.8%). Last

year's results were less reliable than previous years due to the weather; and have also made comparisons of the four years to become distorted. However, based on this year's result there appears to be a growing trend that the town centre is getting busier. The Saturday Farmers market was particularly higher than previous years. Points 1, 2 and 3 were also busier this year than the previous three years; however, point 4 was its quietest over the four years.

- 4.73 As the Town Centre AAP progresses and more regeneration/re-development takes place, pedestrian numbers are expected to increase as Bromsgrove town becomes more appealing. The provision of new retailers will increase the range of goods/products available to the public and subsequently increase footfall as the town centre is used more frequently. The footfall survey can be a useful monitoring tool to provide evidence on the impact the Town Centre AAP on pedestrian numbers. It is felt that from next year, more survey points should be added to the pedestrian count in order to give a true reflection of footfall across the whole of the town centre.

Accessibility

- 4.74 Accessibility is very important if people are to be attracted to an area. This covers a number of issues including cost, frequency and proximity of parking or public transport in relation to final destination. It is also important that movement within the town centre is simple by providing a co-ordinated network of facilities that are well signposted and user friendly. Visitors can access Bromsgrove town centre via a variety of means: train, bus, taxis, on foot, bicycle and car.

Rail

- 4.75 The town is served by Bromsgrove station in Aston Fields. It is around 1 mile away from the town centre. However, connection between the town centre and the train station is quite poor. There is no frequent bus service connecting the two and normally there is no taxi waiting at the taxi rank to take passengers. The station provides passenger services to Birmingham New Street to / from Hereford calling at University (Birmingham), Droitwich Spa, Worcester Shrub Hill, Worcester Foregate Street, Malvern Link, Great Malvern, Colwall and Ledbury.

- 4.76 A new rail station in Bromsgrove is proposed. The project involves replacing the existing railway station with a new station that will be built on the former goods yard, just to the south of the current railway station. The County Council is working in partnership with Network Rail, London Midland, Centro and Bromsgrove District Council in the relocation of Bromsgrove Station. However, the project was still only in the development stage. Phase two of the project is set to see the electrification of the line from Bromsgrove to Barnt Green between 2011 and 2014. This is expected to result in an extra three trains per hour on the Cross City Line serving the new station. The County Council is also talking to the bus companies to ensure that frequent bus service to the town centre is secured in the future.
- 4.77 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), 56% of respondents considered a new regular bus link between the town centre & the train station would help them get around Town.

Bus

- 4.78 The bus station in Bromsgrove is located in Market Street, which is just 10 metres away from the High Street. The bus shelters were all replaced in 2009. A range of local bus services within Bromsgrove provide access to the town centre from residential areas within the town like Charford and nearby area such as Alvechurch, Barnt Green, Belbroughton, Catshill, Cofton Hackett, Fairfield, Lickey, Lickey End, Marlbrook, Rednal, Rubery, Merryhill, Halesowen, Birmingham, Redditch, Droitwich, Worcester, Cotteridge, Stourbridge, Kidderminster and Stourport. The services are provided by different bus operators: Ludlow's, Clearway, Dudleys Coaches, M.R.D. Ltd, First, Diamond, A Touch of Class and Hansons of Wordsley and the bus fares vary from operators.
- 4.79 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), 52% of respondents considered the current location of the bus station as good and would like to see it remains at its current place.

Taxi

- 4.80 Currently taxis are highly concentrated around the Bus Station area, causing congestion. It has been highlighted by police in Bromsgrove District that there is currently a shortage of taxis operating in the Town

Centre in the evening. The AAP proposes new ranks will be introduced in suitable locations throughout the Town Centre to enable customers to arrive closer to their chosen destination and reduce waiting times. Access to taxi services at other locations such the Railway Station and business parks will also be improved to help support the movement strategy in the AAP.

Walking and Cycling

- 4.81 The town centre is readily accessible to pedestrians and cyclists as significant residential areas lie close to the town centre. The flat topography of the town (apart from area to the east) could also be considered an aid to the promotion of walking and cycling. The cycling map in Bromsgrove shows national cycle route 5 passing through the town from the southeast to the southwest. There is also a local cycle route that leads to the town centre from the northeast near Elm Grove by the Princess of Wales Community Hospital.
- 4.82 Cycle parking are available in the Centre for free, for example at High Street (near Argos and near Weatherspoon), at Church Street and by the Market Hall. However, during the footfall surveys each year, there only appears to be a limited number of cycle stands in use. The reasons could be that the cycle stands are very basic and have no shelter. Facilities for pedestrians include benches and the public conveniences. Benches are available around the primary and secondary shopping areas and they are popular among visitors. The public toilet by the bus station was refurbished in 2009 and part of it opens 24 hours. The refurbishment was done in response to the comments received from the AAP Issues and Options consultation.
- 4.83 Market Street, St John Street, Hanover Street, New Road and the Strand all have very busy traffic. Pedestrians can only cross these roads at designated points and these roads become major physical barriers to pedestrians/ visitors. Unfortunately, the crossing facilities are poor and have not assisted substantially in alleviating the impact of the barriers.
- 4.84 Signage is only available in the town centre such as at the Strand, New Road and Market Street. Signage with estimated distance to destinations in a wider area will encourage visitors to walk/ cycle to town. With the closure of the Tourist Information Centre on Birmingham Road, signage is particularly important to help visitors get around Town.

- 4.85 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), respondents considered that opening up, de-cluttering pedestrian routes into the High Street (57%), and improving signage and extend the network of cycle and pedestrian routes leading into the town centre (43%) would help them get around Town. The public consultation questionnaire also identified that a high proportion of shoppers walk into Town from the residential areas surrounding it. This is a very positive feature which shows the Town Centre really does serve those who live in Bromsgrove. The AAP strives to make the Town Centre more accessible to those who live a little further away, by providing them with improved walking, cycling and bus routes into their Town Centre.
- 4.86 The large numbers of people who walk into the Town Centre will continue to be encouraged and will be complemented by a similar approach to cycling. As previous mentioned; Bromsgrove sits on the national cycle route network, with route 5 passing through the Town Centre. The County wide transport policies contain a strong aspiration to extend national route 46 from Droitwich to Bromsgrove. These national routes are currently supplemented by local cycle routes 1 and 2, providing a strong basis for a wider network of cycle routes accessing the Town Centre.
- 4.87 The cycle path network will be designed to make all cycle trips for local residents as convenient as possible and routes will therefore be designed to be direct; continuous; of a high quality; safe for both pedestrians and cyclists and improved signage will give distance and time to the Town Centre and other key locations. On arrival anywhere in the Bromsgrove Town Centre a cyclist must be able to travel without unnecessary risk, secure their cycle and leave it without concern of theft or interference. New, safe, secure, lockable cycle storage will be provided and will be located at car parks, the Bus Station and/or other key gateways and locations within the Town Centre.

Car

- 4.88 The town centre is located approximately 1 mile from junction 1 of the M42, 3 and 4 miles from junctions 4 and 5 of M5. There are 9 pay and display car parks and 2 pay on foot car parks in the town centre zone. In total there are 500 short stay and 779 long stay parking spaces. Among them, there are 87 disabled parking spaces. They are all within a couple

of minutes walking distance to the town centre and all have CCTV coverage.

	Bromsgrove		West Midlands		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
No car or van (Households)	4,686	13%	576,484	27%	5,488,386	27%
1 car or van (Households)	13,971	40%	923,743	43%	8,935,718	44%
2 cars or vans (Households)	12,783	36%	521,452	24%	4,818,581	24%
3 cars or vans (Households)	2,749	8%	101,086	5%	924,289	5%
4 or more cars or vans (Households)	977	3%	30,907	1%	284,453	1%
Total cars or vans (Vehicles)	52,104		2,406,815		22,607,629	
All Households (Households)	35,166		2,153,672		20,451,427	
Average number of cars/ vans per household	1.48		1.11754		1.11	

Source: Office of National Statistics (2001)

- 4.89 The car ownership levels in Bromsgrove are 87%. Among them, 40% have 1 car/van, 36% have 2 and 11% have 3 or more. Compared with the regional and national average, which both have a car ownership of 73%, Bromsgrove's car ownership is significantly higher than the regional and national average. Together with the rural nature of the district, it is therefore not surprising that car is the main mode of transport for local residents visiting the town centre.
- 4.90 Although parking is within a short walking distance to the town centre, visitors from all car parks, except the Parkside car park near Knights Pharmacy, need to cross the roads to reach the High Street. This can cause inconvenience and safety concerns to visitors especially those with disabilities and young children.
- 4.91 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), respondents considered that improvements to the junction of Stourbridge Road and

Birmingham Road, and increased provision of short stay car parking spaces in the town centre would help car users to get around Town.

Shop-mobility

- 4.92 Shop-mobility is a service that helps all people who consider themselves to have mobility problems (whether through disability, illness or injury) to continue to get around the town centre independently, with freedom, confidence and dignity. In the town centre, there are parking for the disabled, the main shopping streets are pedestrianised, the shops have ramps for wheelchair users, and the pedestrian crossings have special tiles for the visually impaired.
- 4.93 The Draft AAP highlights that those with mobility issues will be further assisted with the new public realm designed with appropriate footway surfaces that can be easily used by motorised vehicles. The scheme will also ensure adequate provision of dropped kerbs and other requisite access measures and the design will include necessary provision for those with visual impairment. Physical access to the shop mobility service will also be made easier.

Customer and residents' views and behaviour

- 4.94 Regular surveys will help the Council in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of town centre improvements and in setting further priorities. The last survey to collect resident's views, and form the evidence of this health check, was conducted in 2008 as part of the AAP Issue and Options consultation. There were also a number of responses to the Draft Town Centre AAP, which were analysed in the summer 2012 by the Strategic Planning Team and are awaiting publication. The 2008 survey received a total of 1198 responses and helped inform the next stage of the AAP process. The consultation on the Draft Town Centre AAP received a total of 238 individual responses, ranging from a variety of stakeholders, including members of the public, developers, interest groups and service providers.
- 4.95 From the 2008 survey, the main reason people visit the town centre is for shopping or bank/building society purposes. A total of 70% of respondents come to Bromsgrove to do High Street shopping, 60% for super market shopping and 74% to visit the bank or building society. In terms of the range of shops and the range of eating in Bromsgrove, half (51%) of the respondents considered the range of shops as very poor

and 64% considered the range of eating and drinking as either poor or adequate.

- 4.96 The survey results also showed that Bromsgrove was the most popular centre for residents, with 34% shopping in Bromsgrove the most, 21% in Redditch and the remainder scattered among numerous other settlements. Bromsgrove was also the most popular place in terms of socialising, with a total of 48% of respondents socialising most in Bromsgrove, 16% in Birmingham and 10% in Worcester.
- 4.97 Respondents considered that more independent and specialist shops (63%), a department store (59%), more national chain stores (53%), regular farmers markets (44%), occasional special markets such as French Street Market (39%) and a high quality national food store for the Market Hall site (39%) would help improve the attractiveness of the town centre as a shopping location. Marks and Spencer (41%) is the retailer that most respondents want to see represented in the town.
- 4.98 In terms of the town's attraction in the evening, the most likely choices to attract respondents were a safe environment (59%), restaurants and cafes (55%) and a theatre or cinema (56%). A massive 97% of respondents stated they were more likely to shop and socialise in Bromsgrove if the changes selected were implemented.
- 4.99 Locationally, most respondents prefer to see shops and restaurants spreading along the length of the High Street. Such arrangement would improve opportunities for natural surveillance along the whole street at different times of the day, create a sense of vibrancy and reduce the possibility of crime.
- 4.100 In terms of travelling to the town centre respondents would rather use their car over any other mode of transport. Though walking was rated fairly highly, the use of bus was not; the highest figure gained was 20% of respondents using a bus to get to school. Less than one in ten would cycle to work. Taxis are only used for socialising and eating/drinking purposes (11% and 6% respectively). Motorbikes, community transport and train are rarely used.
- 4.101 In terms of what actions would benefit residents in getting around the town, over half (56%) desire an improved bus link between the town

centre and the train station, with a third (35%) requested improved walking/cycling routes and a third (31%) requested improved signage. For car users, almost two-thirds (61%) want improvements to the junction of Stourbridge and Birmingham Roads, and almost half (47%) want more short stay car parking spaces. Almost a quarter (23%) want to see a one-way system in Windsor Street, while a fifth (20%) would like to see roads such as the Strand opened to traffic. A fifth (19%) also want to see a linking road between the town centre and the A38. Approximately a sixth of consultees (16%) want new multi-storey car parks, while less than one in ten (7%) want to see traffic reinstated on the High Street.

- 4.102 Over half (57%) stated that the pedestrian routes into the High Street should be de-cluttered, while almost half (43%) want extensions to existing walking/cycling routes and signage improved. A third (35%) want to see traffic calming measures within the town centre, but only one in nine (15%) want to see Market Street closed, with just one in ten (11%) stating that car parking spaces should be reduced. Approximately a half (52%) want bus stops retained in their current location, while a fifth (19%) would like to see the bus station move to Windsor Street.
- 4.103 The survey also highlighted what people highlighted as actions to make the town centre a nicer environment to visit. Prioritising works to enhance the historical heritage of Bromsgrove was the most popular response; namely shop frontages blending with local architecture (65%) and improving the appearance of historic buildings (55%). Half of the respondents (52%) selected new paving and landscaping, and half again (50%) chose more frequent litter patrols. Also factoring highly was the removal of bollards (42%), improved seating (38%) and more squares and open spaces (37%). Respondents did not consider improved lighting and increased public art to be a priority.
- 4.104 In regards to working and living in the town centre; over three quarters of respondents (80%) desired more people living in Bromsgrove and the majority of consultees (88%) desired more people working in Bromsgrove. 74% of respondents stated that they wanted to see several smaller new employment sites compared to 26% preferring larger employment sites.
- 4.105 Once the responses from the Draft Town Centre AAP have been published, the key points raised will be summarised and added to this section of the Health Check.

Perception of safety and occurrence of crime

4.106 Bromsgrove town centre lies within the St. Johns ward and is served by the Bromsgrove St. Johns Local Policing Team of West Mercia Constabulary North Worcestershire Division.

4.107 Compared to the crime figures of Bromsgrove town centre in 2008-09, there was an overall reduction in the total number of crimes committed across the town centre. Total crime is made up of the seven comparator crime types, e.g. criminal damage and any other miscellaneous crime categories such as arson and shoplifting. As the table below shows, there was a fall in criminal damage and theft from a vehicle, but a rise in most other offences. Anti-social behaviour is recorded on separately from the other crime types by West Mercia Constabulary's OIS database, and shows a significant reduction since 2008-09. St. Johns ward has remained the worse (rank 1) ward in terms of total crimes across the District. This is fully expected as this is the most urban and frequently used ward, especially late at night where people go to socialise and are subjected to alcohol.

	2008-09 (Count)	2009-10 (Count)	2010-11 (Count)	Change in % (2008-11)
Criminal Damage	186	145	130	-30%
Assault w/o injury	32	46	52	62%
Assault with injury	120	123	151	26%
Burglary Dwelling	15	8	21	40%
Burglary Other	34	36	47	38%
Theft from vehicle	27	22	23	-15%
Theft of vehicle	2	6	6	300%
Drugs	28	20	38	36%
Total Crime	874	770	831	-5%
Rank in Bromsgrove (Wards)	1	1	1	0%
Anti-social behaviour	1155	339	803	-31%

Source: West Mercia Constabulary (2011)

- 4.108 There are 20 CCTV cameras in the town centre area and they operate 24 hours. The cameras are designed to create a “net” over the centre in which they operate. The idea is that a person cannot enter or leave the main shopping areas without passing at least one camera. They record and are monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They have the ability to identify an offender by their face and by their clothes at a fair distance. The police can view incidents as they occur, track a person’s movement and direct officers to the location of an incident.
- 4.109 The cameras play a vital role against crime by addressing specific problems such as alcohol related violence in the town centre, acting as a deterrent to potential offenders and by reducing the fear of crime amongst the local community.
- 4.110 All car parks run by the Council in Bromsgrove town centre are also covered by CCTV cameras and this helps reduce the risk of car related crime. All CCTV cameras are governed by very strict operating guidelines that work in line with the latest data protection code to prevent breaches of privacy and civil liberties. Even though there is already a good use of CCTV across the town centre the AAP will provide opportunities to maximise the safety of the Town Centre by encouraging active uses, natural surveillance, and the creation of an effective CCTV network within public realm proposals.
- 4.111 The High Street in Bromsgrove town centre is a pedestrianised area and it creates a strong sense of enclosure. Although this creates a nice shopping environment, it affects the perception of safety to pedestrians after dark. The high enclosure means that pass-by traffic is unlikely to see what is going on in the street. The upper floors of shops currently are mainly used as shop storage or offices and there is a lack of natural surveillance outside shops’ trading hours and office hours.
- 4.112 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), respondents (59%) considered that a safe environment is the most important thing that will attract them into Bromsgrove Town Centre in the evening.

State of the town centre environmental quality

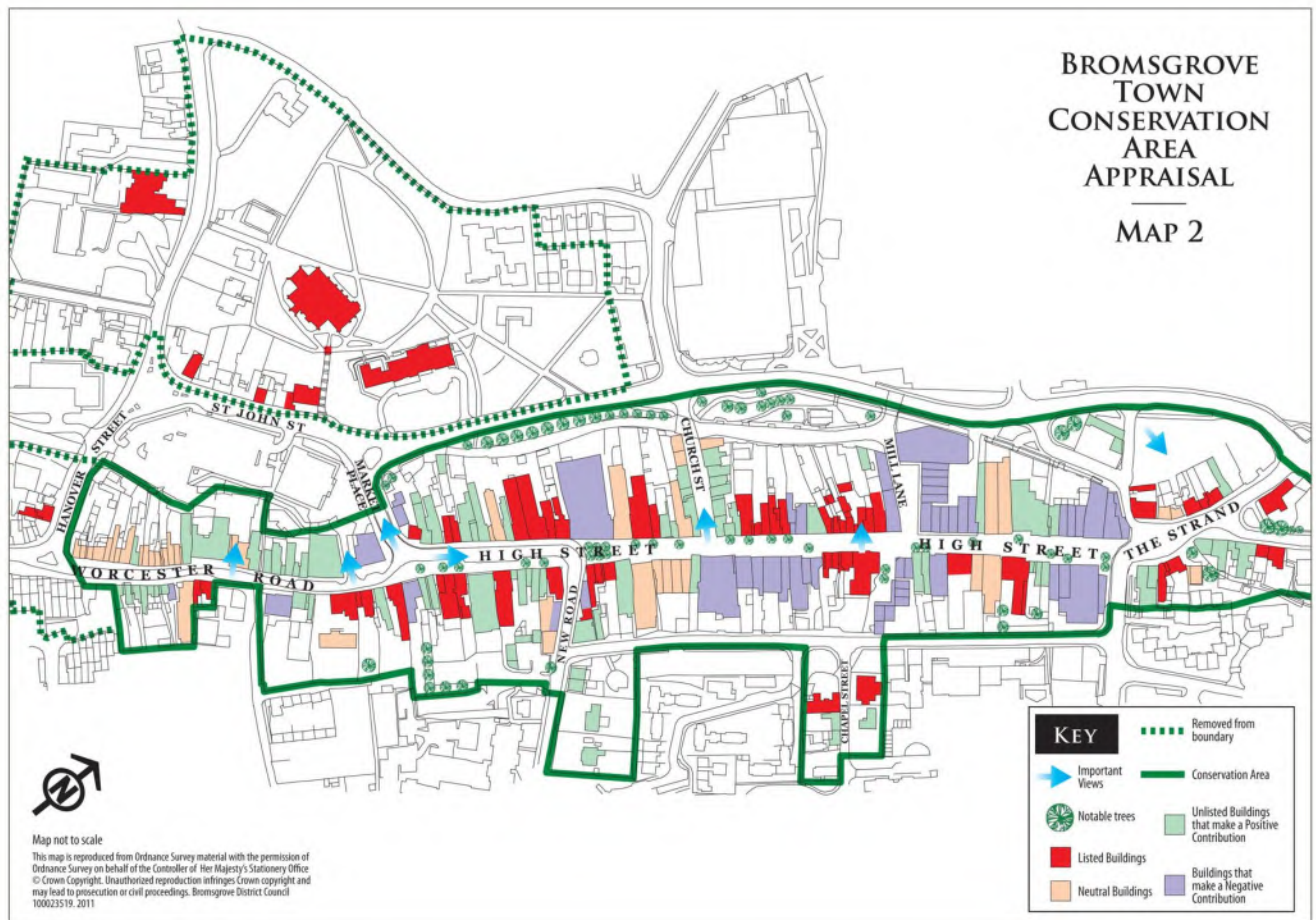
Environment

- 4.113 The major transport routes such as Birmingham Road, Kidderminster Road, Worcester Road, Stourbridge Road entering Bromsgrove are all poorly defined. There are no gateway features to inform people their entrance to Bromsgrove town centre. The image of the town to the pass-by traffic is bad. It is dominated by the rear views of the High Street such as Crown Close and Windsor Street. These areas are mainly the backs of buildings used for parking and have poor boundary treatment. Similarly, there is a lack of enclosure to the town centre car parks and the streetscape is often left open and poorly defined. The connecting routes that link the car parks and surrounding roads to the High Street are enclosed by poor quality buildings and blank side elevations.
- 4.114 The traditional High Street with deep plots and narrow commercial frontages contribute to a strong character in the town centre. Whilst this character is typically at odds to the scale and form of development sought by many modern retailers, it is this character that is one of the town's core and key strengths, contributing strongly to the attractiveness of the town.
- 4.115 In the Bromsgrove Town Centre AAP survey (2008), the top five choices of respondents that would make the town centre a nicer environment to visit are: 1) making the look of shop fronts and signs in keeping with historic architecture (56%); 2) New paving (54%); 3) more frequent litter patrols (52%); 4) more landscaping and trees in the High Street (48%); and 5) improved appearance of historic buildings (47%). In regards of The Recreation Ground in front of Asda, respondents would like to see the landscaping, planting and facilities on the site be improved (42%).

The Historic Environment

- 4.116 The town centre has a variety of building styles, with no one style dominating. All of these add to the character of the town. The following map is extracted from the Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area Appraisal 2011. It outlines the boundary of the town centre conservation area and buildings that are protected, or are making positive/negative contribution to the area.

Fig. 10: Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area



4.117 A new St. John's Conservation Area was designated on 1st June 2011 by the Council's Cabinet incorporating part of the Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area, Bromsgrove Cemetery and some additional properties on Church Lane, Church Road and Crown Close. Formal amendments were also made to the Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area boundary to remove properties to the west of Hanover Place and the section of St. Johns which was transferred to the new St. Johns area.

4.118 Bromsgrove town centre contains an assortment of notable historic buildings dating from predominantly the 18th and 19th centuries but with some earlier surviving timber framed buildings. A range of architectural styles is represented from English vernacular, to restrained Georgian and more elaborate Victorian Gothic buildings. This variety of elevational treatments and styles demonstrate high quality construction and craftsmanship, giving a rich texture to the town centre, and are tangible reminders of the town's past prosperity.

- 4.119 The High Street and immediate vicinity clearly exhibit a number of medieval elements. The churchyard lies immediately to the West of the town on an area of raised ground overlooking the main road. This area may have been the site of an earlier Anglo Saxon Church, but the earliest remnants in the existing Church date from the 12th century. The street system in and around the High Street is very clearly medieval, consisting of the main South West /North East route between Worcester and Birmingham which is the High Street itself. From this road two roads go off to the West (Kidderminster Road and Stourbridge Road) and one to the East (Stratford Road). These roads are probably of medieval date along with Hanover Street and St John Street, which lead to the Church.
- 4.120 The elongated pattern of development within the town centre means that it is not possible to view the Conservation Area in its entirety from any one point. Views of the Grade I listed St John's Church are also possible from gaps between the buildings on Worcester Road and from the Market Place. Unfortunately, the poorly landscaped area on Mill Lane detracts from views through to the Spadesbourne Brook. The view from High Street to Market Place has been spoilt by the loss of the old Town Hall in the 1930s and its replacement with a bulky modern office building.
- 4.121 The original medieval burgage plots resulted in a number of narrow units, with significant ancillary accommodation to the rear, some now in unconnected uses. The rear workshops were originally part of the nail-making industry in Bromsgrove. The upper floors of some buildings (particularly at the Southern end of the High Street) are relatively grand indicating that they were originally constructed as houses for wealthy merchants. Unfortunately many of the ground floors have been altered extensively and often unsympathetically to accommodate modern retail uses. The buildings within the Bromsgrove Town Conservation Area are now predominately in retail use with a mixture of A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5 uses - traditional retail, financial institutions and some pubs and cafes. Some upper floors are in ancillary use, office space and storage; many others are vacant which has led to some condition and maintenance problems. Worcester Road is very much a secondary street to the High Street, with smaller local retail units.
- 4.122 Three other areas within the Conservation Area boundary are notable for their amenity value as a result of their possession of both some tree cover together with seating areas. These are the area adjacent to Strand House and Cupitts Jewellers, a small area on the corner of Market Place and Market Street, and the High Street itself. At the two sites at The

Strand and the Market Place, the presence of large mature trees provides a contrast with the built environment and shading and cooling effect on hot summer days. The trees also contribute significantly to improved local air quality. The amenity of all three sites suffers considerably however, from traffic noise & dust as a result of their close proximity to major roads through the town centre.

- 4.123 Along the High Street itself, a number of trees were planted over the last 30 years as part of past improvements. Although earlier in 2012 they were all removed, in order for pedestrian improvements to take place. New trees will be planted in more strategic locations so they can contribute to the amenity of the area by providing shading and improved air quality in summer, a medium for Christmas lights in winter, and visual amenity all year round. The trees that have been removed caused a number of problems, such as the obscuring of site lines for both amenity value and CCTV purposes, maintenance and issues of encroachment close to nearby buildings, and the effects of roots on paving and surfacing. For the most part, these problems are the consequence of poor planning, design and tree species selection in previous years which has resulted in incompatible positioning of trees, CCTV cameras and other street furniture. Unsuitable positioning and surfacing around trees has directly led to trees damaging paving and also tree loss. All of these problems can be reduced or avoided by correct selection, siting and design of new replacement trees, which are expected when the pedestrian improvements take place.

Trees and landscaping

- 4.124 The town centre only has one significant green space around the Bus Station area and the adjacent section running along Crown Close/Market Street to the Market Place junction. Whilst this area is of considerable amenity value relative to the built environment of the rest of the town centre, the effect is reduced considerably at times due to the close proximity of the busy traffic running along Market Street and the considerable noise and dust that results.
- 4.125 The Spadesbourne Brook runs along the whole length of the Conservation Area from the rear of properties on The Strand down to Hanover Street in the South-East. The larger part of the brook course has been heavily canalised and culverted with several sections disappearing completely. Despite this, the brook still retains considerable value for biodiversity and provides an essential wildlife corridor through the town centre for a number of species including Brown Trout and

Water Voles, both of which have been recorded where the course passes through the Bus Station site.

- 4.126 Only about 10% of the channel within the town centre is naturalized and of both wildlife and amenity value. 30% of the course is hidden within closed culverts beneath roads & buildings and 60% in steep sided canal sections providing little opportunity for wildlife habitat other than that 'passing through'. Within this, the naturalized area at the Bus Station site provides an important 'stepping stone' for wildlife using the corridor but this 1km section still forms fairly hostile territory for most species. Naturalization of additional sections of the brook course would greatly improve this situation and increase the biodiversity value both locally and for wildlife habitats further up and down the brook. In particular, aiding and allowing Water Vole colonies to intermix can be a vital factor in their survival.

Air pollution

- 4.127 The Council has been monitoring the air quality in the District against several health based air quality objectives. As of June 2011, there are now a total of four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) across Bromsgrove. The first is located at Junction 1 of the M42 at Lickey End in Bromsgrove, the second is located at Kidderminster Road, Hagley and the third is located at Redditch Road, Stoke Heath. Each of these AQMAs has been declared as a result of measured or predicted exceedences of the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide due to road traffic emissions. Other pollution sources, including commercial, industrial and domestic sources, also make a contribution to background pollution concentrations.
- 4.128 The fourth and most recent AQMA is designated within the town centre and stretches from Hanover Place at the bottom of the centre along Worcester Road (as evident in Fig. X). A 2008 progress report identified exceedences in nitrogen dioxide in a number of areas across the town centre. As a result of the report findings a continuous monitoring site was installed at Worcester Road and a detailed traffic survey within Bromsgrove town centre was undertaken.

Fig. 11: Worcester Road AQMA



4.129 The Detailed Assessment was completed in July 2010 and concluded that the air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide was being exceeded in Worcester Road. The report has been accepted by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) as satisfactory. The Detailed Assessment concluded that there are predicted exceedances of the annual mean nitrogen dioxide Air Quality Strategy objective of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at sensitive ground floor and first floor receptors along the Worcester Road. The maximum modelled annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentration in 2009 was $51.5\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Annual mean nitrogen dioxide contour plots show that where receptors fall outside of the $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ contour at ground-floor level, they tend to fall within the $36\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ contour. There is some uncertainty surrounding both the measured and modelled concentrations. An AQMA was then declared to include, as a minimum, those residential properties that lie within the $36\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ contour to be precautionary, and approved by members in June 2011.

4.130 Birmingham Road in Bromsgrove town centre is a potential location for future Detailed Assessment. However, the Council has been monitoring nitrogen dioxide using diffusion tubes at three worst-case locations on Birmingham Road. The results show that the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide has been met there for the last three years. Bromsgrove District Council will continue to monitor nitrogen dioxide concentrations

on Birmingham Road and will proceed to a Detailed Assessment if exceedances of the annual mean objective are measured in the future.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The 2012 Bromsgrove Town Centre Health Check follows on from the 2009, 2010 and 2011 documents, monitoring vitality and viability through the consideration of economic, environmental and social factors. Bromsgrove District Council has identified that a holistic approach to the redevelopment of the town centre is required, that takes into account the prime sites for regeneration and includes systematic consideration of other opportunities. The annual Town Centre Health Checks are a vital component to this regeneration process and a useful evidence based tool for the Bromsgrove Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) and Core Strategy.
- 5.2 In 2011 the Town Centre AAP progressed with a Draft document published and consulted on from January to March. The AAP gave a clear insight in to the Council's spatial plan for the town centre identifying not only the long term vision for future regeneration but also provided detailed policies to guide smaller scale development in the town centre. Clear aims and objectives were set, including the type and scope of developments; enhancements to the public realm, the economy, public services and transport initiatives. As the AAP evolves further, it is anticipated to have many advantages for the town centre and will subsequently improve vitality and viability. The Health Check will be used to monitor this progress.
- 5.3 In the town centre, 159 units (45.7%) of the groundfloor use are for retail (A1) purposes, which is the predominant use in the centre. These figures have remained high since the first Health check survey in 2009, which is a generally positive notion across the town centre. However, despite the high percentage of the amount of retail floorspace, half of Bromsgrove's respondents to the 2008 survey, considered the range of shops as very poor but the range of eating as adequate/good. This survey also showed that Bromsgrove was the most popular destination for residents with a third using Bromsgrove as their main shopping centre.
- 5.4 Respondents considered that more independent and specialist shops, a department store, more national chain stores, regular farmers markets, occasional special markets such as French Street Market and a high quality national food store for the Market Hall site would help improve the attractiveness of the town centre as a shopping location. Marks and Spencer is the retailer that most respondents want to see represented in the town.
- 5.5 The use in the town centre has only seen minor changes since last year's survey. The number of retail units (A1) only increased by 2 units, the number of A2 increased by 2 units; D1 units increased by 2 units and B1 units also increased by 1 unit. In terms of decreasing uses; there was a reduction in A4 use by 1 unit and A3 use by 1 unit. Vacant units remained

the same at 38 units. However the vacancy rates have improved significantly since 2009, with the number of vacant shops has falling from 46 units (13.3%) to 38 units (11.1%) last year, as well as a decrease in 2010 from 50 to 46 units, reflecting a positive in terms of town centre regeneration. The Shop Vacancy Report - Mid Year 2010 (The Local Data Company, 2010) highlights that the vacancy rate in Bromsgrove by is 12.9%, which is considerably lower than other centres in the region. Although the reductions in vacant units is encouraging and a negative correlation exists from the baseline survey in 2009; there are still a number of vacant units which need to be put in to constructive use. The AAP will be a fundamental tool in achieving this.

- 5.6 The publication of the Draft Town Centre AAP in 2011 highlighted the potential capacity for growth across Bromsgrove Town. A total of 10 sites were proposed as development opportunities, whether they were retail prospects, employment, housing or community, leisure and cultural uses. Overall, a number of regeneration possibilities exist which can improve Bromsgrove.

- 5.7 Regarding pedestrian movement (footfall), there was an increase from 2009 to 2010 from 8,033 pedestrians to 8,625. However, there was a radical decrease in last years overall figures. Unfortunately, some of this 2011's results were less reliable than previous years due to the weather and as a result has also made comparisons to become distorted. However, the 2012 survey indicates a dramatic increase on 2011, and had an overall pedestrian count higher than all of the previous three year's surveys. The 2012 survey indicates that the busiest location over the three days was location point 1 by Argos. This differed from both the 2010 and 2011 results, but was the same as 2009. In 2010 the busiest part of the shopping area was near the bottom of the High Street (Location Point 5) followed by location point 1. This could be accounted for by the opening of Poundland, which replaced the former vacant retail space that was once occupied by Woolworths. In 2011, the busiest location was by the Asda crossing (Location Point 4) followed by location point 1. Location point 1 has consistently been in the top two busiest locations every year. Based on this year's results there appears to be a growing trend that the town centre is getting busier. The Saturday Farmers market was particularly higher than previous years. Points 1, 2 and 3 were also busier this year than the previous three years; however, point 4 was its quietest over the four years.

- 5.8 Bromsgrove remains an accessible location by as visitors can access the town centre via train, bus, taxis, on foot, bicycle and car. The proposed new railway station and more frequent services will enhance the numbers of people accessing the centre, especially with improved links from the

centre to the station as illustrated in the Draft AAP. The AAP will strive to make the Town Centre more accessible to those who live a little further away, by providing them with improved walking, cycling and bus routes into their Town Centre.

- 5.9 Since 2008/09 there has been an improvement in terms of crime and perception of safety across the town centre, as the number of crimes has reduced.
- 5.10 Overall, the Town Centre Health Check 2012 has a very positive outlook on the town centre and is showing progressive improvement year on year. The increase in footfall shows more people are using the town centre, which can act as a catalyst for regeneration. The more people in the centre, means businesses make more and other businesses are attracted to Bromsgrove. Other positive outcome of the 2012 Health Check was the vacancy rate staying the same, as well as the numerous potential growth locations identified.
- 5.11 The Town Centre Health Check demonstrates that Bromsgrove is still a reasonably vital and viable town centre and has growth potential. Nevertheless, Bromsgrove is a strong competing sub-regional centre which should be able to successfully attract and accommodate retailers. The ongoing regeneration opportunities across the town centre, including the BHI Parkside Medical Centre will assist with this, although further development is also required in order to improve the town centre's performance. At the moment discussions are underway for elderly housing opportunities across Recreation Road and a mixed use scheme at the former Market Hall site. The local planning authority and its regeneration partners have provided a very good starting point for this process within the suite of projects outlined in the Draft AAP.
- 5.12 From the indicators established and reviewed regarding vitality and viability, the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats are identified in a SWOT analysis for Bromsgrove town centre:

Strengths

- National multiples present (mixed goods, clothing and other retailers) - although limited
- Good bus station location
- Pedestrianisation of the main shopping areas
- Town centre conservation areas

- Regular street markets
- Good network of CCTVs
- Relatively flat topography of the town
- Draft Town Centre AAP published
- Shopmobility scheme
- New Car Parking methods at ASDA car park
- Leisure Facilities at Dolphin Centre
- Access to schools
- Low unemployment levels

Weaknesses

- Limited retail and food offer
- Closure of the Tourist Information Centre
- Insufficient short stay parking
- Poor and irregular connections to the train station
- Busy and poor crossings to the main shopping areas
- Poor facilities for cyclists
- Busy traffic at the Stourbridge Road and Birmingham Road junction
- Littering
- Poor quality façades, especially shops on Worcester Road
- Poor rear view and function of High Street
- Poor image of town centre to pass-by traffic
- Limited natural surveillance at night time

- Limited focal points across centre
- Lack of residential accommodation in town centre
- Number of vacant units
- State of Public realm

Opportunities

- National multiples (department store and supermarket) and retail and food offer at the potential development sites
- More frequent farmers' or specialised markets
- Pedestrianisation of Market Street
- New link road to connect the town centre and A38
- New train station
- Regular connections with the new train station
- Improved signage and walking/cycling network to encourage sustainable travel
- Environmental improvement at the Spadebourne Brook and High Street
- More frequent litter patrols
- Night time economy
- Efficient use of rear areas of main shopping areas
- More quality shops to meet the potential demand of the relatively high income residents
- To build on the strong services growth in the region
- New shop frontages
- Town Heritage Initiative
- Close proximity to Sanders Park
- Number of vacant units

- Potential development sites located in the AAP
- Re-opening of Bromsgrove Museum and tourist information
- Public realm improvements
- Involve young people in developing and improving services

Threats

- Town Centre AQMA designation
- Potential increase of crime levels
- Number of A5 uses concentrated around Worcester Road
- Funding mechanisms
- Proximity and competition from other centres
- Insensitive development
- Strain on infrastructure
- Traffic congestion
- Out-of-centre development

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 The Bromsgrove town centre health checks are scheduled to be carried out annually and there are various recommendations that would ensure that the next report improves and builds upon the initial 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 'baseline' reports. In subsequent years, comparisons will be able to be made within Bromsgrove over a period of time.
- 6.2 One of the survey data, diversity of uses, focused on the different uses of commercial properties in and around the town centre. The data analysed property use class, however, this data was only based on the ground floor of properties and did not take into consideration any businesses that were situated on the upper floors. In order to give a more accurate picture of the use class of the town centre, these other floors would have to be considered. Another area that would benefit the Health Check report would be the location and quantity of residential properties in the town, although this may be difficult to monitor, especially above existing commercial uses.
- 6.3 The Health Check should be used as an informed evidence base document for the Town Centre AAP, and should where possible update the majority of information on a yearly basis. However, some statistics and data are difficult to obtain annually, or have large costs to acquire, such as the town GOAD Plan. Where possible, surveys should be conducted as frequently as possible to ensure the most relevant and up to date evidence to inform the Local Development Framework (LDF). However, the current GOAD Plan is somewhat outdated and based on figures recorded in 2008. Future Health Checks should be informed by more current data and an up-to-date GOAD Plan should be purchased to provide a true representation of the Town Centre.
- 6.4 Pedestrian flows analysed the footfall counts that had taken place within the town. As they had taken place on a 'normal' weekday, a market day and a Saturday market day, it was not possible to estimate a weekly footfall count without including a footfall on a Sunday, which could be considered next time. There is also the possibility of assessing footfall in the evening to determine the main uses of the town during the night-time economy. Due to other LDF commitments, this years footfall was also conducted at a different time of year, albeit one month, than 2009 and 2010. For consistency the surveys should be carried out at the same time annually to provide more comparable data. As a number of regeneration opportunities are in locations not currently surveyed in regards to footfall, more locations should be included for pedestrian counts. This could include further up Birmingham Road and further down Worcester Road, in order to get a true representation of footfall across the centre. Points 2 and 3 are also only counted in one direction. In future years it would make

more sense to count from both directions in order to be consistent with other points. These two areas are extremely busy, but appear to have fewer pedestrians than other points as only one direction is counted.

- 5.5 There could also be more in depth information acquired concerning the accessibility of the town centre. This could include more information on public transport links, especially bus frequencies and locations. Possible maps could indicate the main access points of the centre.
- 5.6 As investment and regeneration takes place across Bromsgrove town centre, details of future proposals and developments can be analysed. The perception of town centre shoppers should be reviewed during updates to this report in order to see if their opinions indicate positive changes to the area. The current 2008 survey is becoming outdated and should be revised to indicate how residents/shoppers perception of Bromsgrove Town Centre Changes over time.

Appendix A: Glossary

Term	Definition
Commercial yield	The commercial yields on non-domestic property shows the capital value of the non-domestic properties in relation to their expected market rents. Broadly speaking, low yields indicate that a town is considered to be attractive and as a result be more likely to attract investment than a town with high yields.
Comparison shopping	Comparison retailing is the provision of items not obtained on a frequent basis. These include clothing, footwear, household and recreational goods.
Convenience shopping	Convenience retailing is the provision of everyday essential items, including food, drinks, newspapers/magazines and confectionery.
Economically active	People are considered to be economically active if they are aged 16 and over and are either in work or actively looking for work.
Edge of centre	For retail purposes, a location that is well connected to and within easy walking distance (i.e. up to 300 metres) of the primary shopping area.
Gross value added (GVA)	Gross value added is the value of goods and services produced by an area, sector or producer minus the cost of the raw materials and other inputs used to produce them.
House affordability	The house affordability ratio is a measurement of the average annual income to the average house price.
Index of multiple deprivation	The Index of Multiple Deprivation combines a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. This allows each area to be ranked relative to one another according to their level of deprivation.
Major retailer	Among all the multiple outlets, Goad has further identified 30 retailers that are most likely to improve the consumer appeal of a centre and named them as Major Retailers.
Multiple retailer / national multiple	A multiple retailer/ national multiple is defined as being part of a network of nine or more outlets. The presence of multiple outlets can greatly enhance the

Term	Definition
	appeal of a centre to local consumers.
Primary shopping area	The defined area where retail development is concentrated. It is likely to include a high proportion of retail uses.
Secondary shopping area	Secondary shopping area is usually contiguous and closely related to the primary shopping area. It provides greater opportunities for a diversity of uses.
Shop-mobility	Shop-mobility is a service that helps all people who consider themselves to have mobility problems (whether through disability, illness or injury) to continue to get around the town centre independently, with freedom, confidence and dignity.
Use Class	The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 puts uses of land and buildings into various categories by the way in which land or buildings are used. Planning permission is not needed for changes of use within the same use class.
Zone A rent	Zone A rent refers to the rental value for the first 6 metres depth of floorspace in retail units from the shop window and it is the most valuable area of the shop. Normally the rate per square metre drops as it moves towards the rear of the shop.

Appendix B: Street Surveys record of Bromsgrove town centre (2012)

Primary shopping area			
Business Name	No	Street	Class
Phone Club	3	Chapel Street	A1
Scruples salon	7	Chapel Street	A1
Bromsgrove Sports	1	Church Street	A1
Spex 4 U	1	Church Street	A1
Cartridge World	3	Church Street	A1
Clippers salon	4	Church Street	A1
The Bromsgrove Cobbler	6	Church Street	A1
Aubrey Bernard salon	7	Church Street	A1
K Bassam Jewellery	8	Church Street	A1
Cheque Centre	9	Church Street	A1
Country Kasuals	11	Church Street	A1
M & M's hair Shack	11	Church Street (Coronation House)	A1
The Korner Kitchen	12	Church Street	A1
School Days	13 to 15	Church Street	A1
Urban Angel	10	High Street	A1
Primrose Hospice	12	High Street	A1
Holland & Barrett	15	High Street	A1
Poundland	37 to 41	High Street	A1
Eyedeals Eye Care	38	High Street	A1
UK Barber Shop	42	High Street	A1
Bromsgrove Standard	44	High Street	A1
British Heart Foundation	50	High Street	A1
Hallmark	51	High Street	A1
Leigh Jones Butchers & Delicatessen	53	High Street	A1
W H Smith	54 to 56	High Street	A1
Smash n Grab	55	High Street	A1
Twenty One	58 to 60	High Street	A1
F Hinds	59	High Street	A1
Max Spielman	63	High Street	A1
Boots Optician	64	High Street	A1
Glitz accezzorie	65	High Street	A1
Waterstones	66 to 68	High Street	A1
Oswald Bailey	67	High Street	A1
Phones 4 U	69	High Street	A1
Claire's	71	High Street	A1
Blunts	75	High Street	A1
Betel International Furniture	76	High Street	A1
Card Factory	77 to 79	High Street	A1

Boots	78	High Street	A1
Carphone warehouse	80	High Street	A1
Edinburgh Woollen Mill	81 to 83	High Street	A1
Elements Fashion Jewellery	85	High Street	A1
French Connection Baguette	87	High Street	A1
Clinton Cards	88 to 90	High Street	A1
Nails 4 U	89b	High Street	A1
Thomson	91	High Street	A1
Shiny gift shop	91a	High Street	A1
Thomas Cook	92	High Street	A1
The Works	94	High Street	A1
Ryman Stationery	95	High Street	A1
Martin's local shop	96	High Street	A1
New Look	97	High Street	A1
Card Party	99	High Street	A1
Oxfam book shop	101	High Street	A1
Chapmans opticians	103	High Street	A1
Savers	105 to 107	High Street	A1
The Peer Group	106	High Street	A1
Madaboutsweets	108	High Street	A1
Acorns	109	High Street	A1
Hoyti-Toyti	110	High Street	A1
Sporting Barbers	112a	High Street	A1
Timpsons	112a	High Street	A1
Greggs	112b	High Street	A1
Dorothy Perkins (Burtons on first floor)	113	High Street	A1
The Orange Shop	114	High Street	A1
M & Co	115	High Street	A1
The Money Shop	116	High Street	A1
Post Office	117 to 121	High Street	A1
Foto Factory	123	High Street	A1
PDSA	125	High Street	A1
The Blue Cross	127	High Street	A1
Specsavers	131	High Street	A1
Subway	131a	High Street	A1
Imperial Cancer Research	132 to 136	High Street	A1
Chapters Hair	133	High Street	A1
Mothercare	138	High Street	A1
Sports Direct	138 - 140	High Street	A1
Argos	140	High Street	A1
Sweetz	140	High Street	A1
Peacocks	120,120a	High Street	A1
YMCA shop	27 to 29	High Street	A1

Salvation Army	33,35	High Street	A1
Bodycare	43 to 45	High Street	A1
Midlands Co-op Travel	2	Mill Lane	A1
Fresh Flowers	4	Mill Lane	A1
Thompsons	6	Mill Lane	A1
Extra Care	8	Mill Lane	A1
Johns Fruit & Veg	10	Mill Lane	A1
Iceland	12	Mill Lane	A1
Spains	2	New Road	A1
GB hairdressing	4	New Road	A1
Alberto Policarpo Hair Salon	5	New Road	A1
Touch of Beauty	6 and 10	The Strand	A1
Cupitts	16	The Strand	A1
Michael Stewart Photography	16	The Strand	A1
Hair Art	16	The Strand	A1
Arty Facts Studio	18	The Strand	A1
Midland Water Life	20 to 24	The Strand	A1
Big Shake	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A1
Strand Nails	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A1
Phone Locker	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A1
Happy Feet	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A1
Bromsgrove Computer Centre	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A1
Blockbuster	2	Worcester Road	A1
Block 98	4	Worcester Road	A1
KR Solar	6	Worcester Road	A1
Loopy Ladies Craft	8	Worcester Road	A1
K K Mart	16	Worcester Road	A1
KSH O Carpet & Flooring	18	Worcester Road	A1
CV Firminger & Co financial advisor	6a	Church Street	A2
A Plan Insurance	6 to 8	High Street	A2
Betfred	17 to 21	High Street	A2
Allan Morris	18	High Street	A2
Dixons Countrywide	31	High Street	A2
HSBC	47	High Street	A2
West Bromwich Building Society	48	High Street	A2
Nationwide	52	High Street	A2
Robert Oulsnam & Co	61	High Street	A2
Ladbrokes	82	High Street	A2
Santander	93	High Street	A2
Lloyds TSB	112	High Street	A2
Barclays	118	High Street	A2
Natwest Bank	124	High Street	A2
Premiere People	129	High Street	A2

Halifax	122,122a	High Street	A2
William Hill	140	High Street	A2
MFC solicitors	1 to 3	High Street (& 2 to 6 Market Place)	A2
Your Move	1 to 3	New Road	A2
Andrew Grant	5	New Road	A2
Hansons estate agent	6	New Road	A2
Judith Hitchin	26,26a	The Strand	A2
Arden Estate Agents	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A2
Ladbrokes	3	Worcester Road	A2
Lemon tree café	1	Chapel Street	A3
Plaza Coffee	5	Chapel Street	A3
The Art Café	9	Chapel Street	A3
Shimla Peppers	1	George Street	A3
Indian Spice	7	High Street	A3
Pizza Express	25	High Street	A3
The Regency	40	High Street	A3
Pizza Hut	14 to 16	High Street	A3
Prezzo	22 to 24	High Street	A3
Coffee 2	74	High Street	A3
Costa	84 to 86	High Street	A3
Langtrys café	89a	High Street	A3
Strand Café	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	A3
Bujon Indian	1	Worcester Road	A3
Maekong Thai	12	Worcester Road	A3
Golden Cross Hotel Weatherspoon	20	High Street	A4
The Red Lion	73	High Street	A4
The Grape Vine	11 to 13	High Street	A4
The Slug and Lettuce	126 to 130	High Street	A4
Dominos	133a	High Street	A5
Market Plaice Fish Bar	26	Market Street	A5
Wok Kitchen	10	Church Street	A5
Ocean Fish Bar	12	The Strand	A5
Bromsgrove Advertiser	5	High Street	B1
Careforce Ltd	12a Holland House	High Street	B1
Bromsgrove Printing Co	14	Worcester Road	B2
Bromsgrove Community Hall	14	The Strand	D1
Shipleys	111	High Street	SG
Planet Tattoo	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	SG
Vacant	2 to 4	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	9	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	23	High Street	Vacant

Vacant	49	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	46	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	62	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	87a	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	The Coach House	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	Vacant
Vacant	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	Vacant
Vacant	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	Vacant
Vacant	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	Vacant
Vacant	2 to 4	The Strand, The Strand Centre	Vacant
Vacant	98 to 100	High Street	Vacant
Vacant	102 to 104	High Street	Vacant

Secondary shopping area			
Business Name	No	Street	Class
Knights Chemist	36	Birmingham Road	A1
YMCA Furniture	54a	Birmingham Road	A1
Co-Op	54b	Birmingham Road	A1
Kash Kwik	17	The Strand	A1
Strand Barbers	19	The Strand	A1
Cake Magic	21	The Strand	A1
Ann Marie	17	Worcester Road	A1
Hairs & Graces	19	Worcester Road	A1
drive Safe & Legal	21	Worcester Road	A1
The cork screw wine	38	Worcester Road	A1
Manhattan nails & spa	40	Worcester Road	A1
Capillago	41	Worcester Road	A1
The sandwich lady and sons	42	Worcester Road	A1
Eileen Bicknell Interiors	48	Worcester Road	A1
The Sugarcraft Emporium	56	Worcester Road	A1
Snipz	59	Worcester Road	A1
Parkes Hair & Beauty	62	Worcester Road	A1
Instruments for You	64	Worcester Road	A1
Denise Lesley salon	78	Worcester Road	A1
Bromsgrove Carpets & bedding warehouse	28 to 32	Worcester Road	A1
Zig-Zag Hair	42a	Worcester Road	A1
The Sweet Shop	45	Worcester Road	A1
Serendipity Flowers	46	Worcester Road	A1
Worcester Road News	52 to 54	Worcester Road	A1
Oakley Independent Mortgage Advisors	48	Birmingham Road	A2
Citizens Advice Bureau	50 to 52	Birmingham Road	A2
Ormerod Rutter accountants	25	The Strand	A2

Mitre House financial planning	27	The Strand	A2
Thomas Holton Solicitors office	The Strand House	The Strand	A2
Simply Lets	11	Worcester Road	A2
Pinfields Accountants	57 & 61	Worcester Road	A2
Bombay Mix	33-35	Worcester Road	A3
On the Rocks	44	Worcester Road	A3
Spice Valley Balti	74	Worcester Road	A3
The Rovers Cafe	34	Birmingham Road	A3
Queen's Head	1	The Strand	A4
Dog & Pheasant pub	24 to 26	Worcester Road	A4
Papa Johns	32	Birmingham Road	A5
China Wok	30	Birmingham Road	A5
Wing Lee	3,3a,3c	Hanover Street	A5
Antonio's pizza	34	Worcester Road	A5
Anarkali Indian Takeaway	55	Worcester Road	A5
Charlies Kebabs	58	Worcester Road	A5
New Orient	60	Worcester Road	A5
Darr's fish & Chips	68	Worcester Road	A5
Ruby	76	Worcester Road	A5
Gough Bailey Wright	5	Worcester Road	B1
Commercial Credit Service Group	7	Worcester Road	B1
Bromsgrove Conservative Association	37	Worcester Road	B1
School of Music	10	Worcester Road	D1
Adrian Kriss & Associates	47 to 49	Worcester Road	D1
Davenal House Surgery	28	Birmingham Road	D1
Texaco petrol station and auxillary shop	38 to 46	Birmingham Road	SG
Hi Q Autos	3a,3c	Hanover Street	SG
Neales Garage - Hyundai	2 to 12	Station Street	SG
The Maxx (Tattooists & Body Peircing)	36	Worcester Road	SG
Love 2 Love	39	Worcester Road	SG
Vacant	54	Birmingham Road	Vacant
Vacant	43	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	13 to 15	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	50	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	51	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	53	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	70 to 72	Worcester Road	Vacant
Vacant	1	Hanover Street	Vacant

Other areas

Business Name	No	Street	Class
Benesseie hair & beauty	68	Birmingham Road	A1
Geeves dry cleaner	104	Birmingham Road	A1
Costello	106	Birmingham Road	A1
The Wine Cabin	108	Birmingham Road	A1
Halfords	114	Birmingham Road	A1
Speeds	70,72,72a	Birmingham Road	A1
Townsend Textiles	74 to 76	Birmingham Road	A1
Wills Wigs hairdresser	49	Birmingham Road	A1
Hamptons Optical Ltd.	9	Crown Close	A1
BSS Office Supplies	12	Hanover Street	A1
Knights Pharmacy	18	Market Street	A1
Asda Stores Ltd.	21	Market Street	A1
Just for pets	20 to 22	Market Street	A1
Harveys	The Well House	Market Street	A1
Chemist (Alliance)	1	Perry Lane	A1
George Davis salon	14	St John Street	A1
Bromsgrove Fireplaces	8	Stourbridge Road	A1
Jame Giles & Sons Funerals	22a	Stourbridge Road	A1
Lloyds Pharmacy	BHI	Stourbridge Road	A1
Eyecare Opticians	Parkside BHI	Stourbridge Road	A1
Meridian health & beauty clinic	Parkside 2	Windsor Street	A1
Bromsgrove Domestic	124	Worcester Road	A1
Broadstreet DIY	128	Worcester Road	A1
Jewsons DIY	106 to 116a	Worcester Road	A1
Phoenix Carpet & Bed Sales	94 to 96	Worcester Road	A1
Britannia House Hair & Beauty	165	Worcester Road (Britannia House)	A1
Hollies Solicitor	60	Birmingham Road	A2
G R Brickstock & Assocaites - accountant	10	Hanover Street	A2
RSL Associates	5	Hanover Place	A2
Fisher German Estate Agent	8	New Road	A2
Charles Howell Estate Agent	13	New Road	A2
JP Dillon	13	New Road	A2
Kenneth Morris Accountants	9 to 11	New Road	A2
Holt & Sellars - Solicitors	10	St John Street	A2
A Victor Powell	12	St John Street	A2
Pattmans solicitors	16	St John Street	A2
J Haskey: architect	18	St John Street	A2
Harrison Priddy & Co - accountants	22	St John Street	A2

Holt & Sellars - Solicitors	12a	St John Street	A2
Mint Lounge	31 to 33	Birmingham Road	A3
Tandoori	11	Crown Close	A3
Thai Lotus	147a	Worcester Road	A3
Hop Pole	78	Birmingham Road	A4
The Crabmill Inn	116 to 122	Birmingham Road	A4
The Wishing Well	16	St John Street	A4
The Turk's Head	147	Worcester Road	A4
Ideal	110	Birmingham Road	A5
Oriental Royal	112	Birmingham Road	A5
Independent	49,49a	Birmingham Road (1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 Holt Studios)	B1
Independent	49,49a	Birmingham Road (1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 Holt Studios)	B1
Independent	49,49a	Birmingham Road (1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 Holt Studios)	B1
Office	14	Hanover Street	B1
WRWS	9	Kidderminster Road	B1
Mark England Garden Design	11	Kidderminster Road	B1
Office	Shire House	Paradise Row	B1
Register Office		School Drive	B1
Homestart	20	St John Street	B1
County Council Office		Windsor Street	B1
Vinci Construction	86	Worcester Road	B1
Handy Print	118	Worcester Road	B1
Office	122	Worcester Road	B1
Kay-Bee engineering	Unit 4	Station Street	B8
Elisa Smile Centre	66	Birmingham Road	D1
All saints church		Burcot Lane	D1
Nursery		Shenstone Close	D1
St John's Street Surgery	BHI Parkside	Stourbridge Road	D1
Churchfields Surgery	BHI Parkside	Stourbridge Road	D1
Parkside Dental Practice	BHI Parkside	Stourbridge Road	D1
Catherine Adam's Physiotherapy	BHI Parkside	Stourbridge Road	D1
Castle Nursery	BHI Parkside	Stourbridge Road	D1
The Dolphin Centre		School Drive	D1
North Bromsgrove High School		School Drive	D1
Library		Windsor Street	D1
Bromsgrove Football Club		Birmingham Road	D2
The Artrix		School Drive	D2
Well Fit	Unit 8	Station Street	D2

Altered Images fitness	80	Worcester Road	D2
Imagination Street	31	Birmingham Road	D2
All Saints Garage (Vauxhall)	125 to 137	Birmingham Road	SG
Bromsgrove car & commercial sales	container office by 31	Birmingham Road	SG
Tan & Tone Centre	Rear of 43	High Street	SG
Bromsgrove Dog Beauticians	1	Little Lane	SG
Neales Garage	Garage	Station Street	SG
KW Autos	Unit 6	Station Street	SG
Parkside Motors	8	Stourbridge Road	SG
Tyre Centre	2	Stratford Road	SG
Age Uk	51	Windsor Street	SG
Tyrecare (Midlands) Ltd.	NN	Windsor Street	SG
Fire Station		Windsor Street	SG
Police		Windsor Street	SG
Kwik-fit	126	Worcester Road	SG
Vacant	26	Birmingham Road	Vacant
Vacant	29	Birmingham Road	Vacant
Vacant land	88 to 92	Birmingham Road	Vacant
Vacant	49,49a	Birmingham Road (4 & 5 Holt Studios)	Vacant
Vacant	49,49a	Birmingham Road (4 & 5 Holt Studios)	Vacant
Vacant	7	Kidderminster Road	Vacant
Vacant	5	Kidderminster Road	Vacant
Vacant (Dragon Paradise)	2 to 4	Recreation Road	Vacant
Vacant	The Clinic	Recreation Road	Vacant
Vacant	Drill Hall	Recreation Road / Market Street	Vacant
Vacant	Basby House	Recreation Road	Vacant
Vacant (Parkside Middle School)	1,1a	Stourbridge Road	Vacant
Vacant	14 to 22	Stourbridge Road	Vacant
Vacant	5	Windsor Street	Vacant
Vacant	141 to 143	Worcester Road	Vacant

Appendix C: Goad Category Report (2008)



Goad Category Report

Bromsgrove

Survey Date: 07/04/2008



Nearest Centres and Major Retailers

Bromsgrove



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Nearest Location	Distance KM
Rubery	7.06
Redditch	8.59
Droitwich	9.56
Birmingham - Northfield	10.83
Hagley	10.99

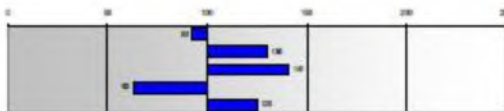
Major Retailers Present		
Department Stores		
BHS	0	
Debenhams	0	
House of Fraser	0	
John Lewis	0	
Marks & Spencer	0	
Mixed Goods Retailers		
Argos	1	
Boots the Chemist	1	
T K Maxx	0	
W H Smith	1	
Wilkinson	0	
Supermarkets		
Sainsbury's	0	
Tesco	0	
Waltrose	0	
Clothing		
Burton	1	
Dorothy Perkins	1	
H & M	0	
New Look	1	
Next	0	
Primark	0	
River Island	0	
Topman	0	
Topshop	0	
Other Retailers		
Carphone Warehouse	1	
Clarks	0	
Clintons	2	
H M V	0	
O2	1	
Superdrug	1	
Phones 4 U	1	
Vodafone	1	
Waterstones	1	

Multiple Counts & Floorspace by Sector

Counts	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Comparison	43	43.43	42.10	103
Convenience	10	10.10	10.83	93
Retail Service	14	14.14	10.48	135
Leisure Services	16	16.16	21.38	76
Financial & Business Services	16	16.16	15.22	106
Total Multiple Outlets	99			



Floorspace Sq Ft	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Comparison	149,300	43.74	47.23	93
Convenience	89,900	26.34	20.24	130
Retail Service	24,500	7.18	5.09	141
Leisure Services	39,800	11.60	18.52	63
Financial & Business Services	38,000	11.13	8.92	125
Total Multiple Floorspace	341,300			

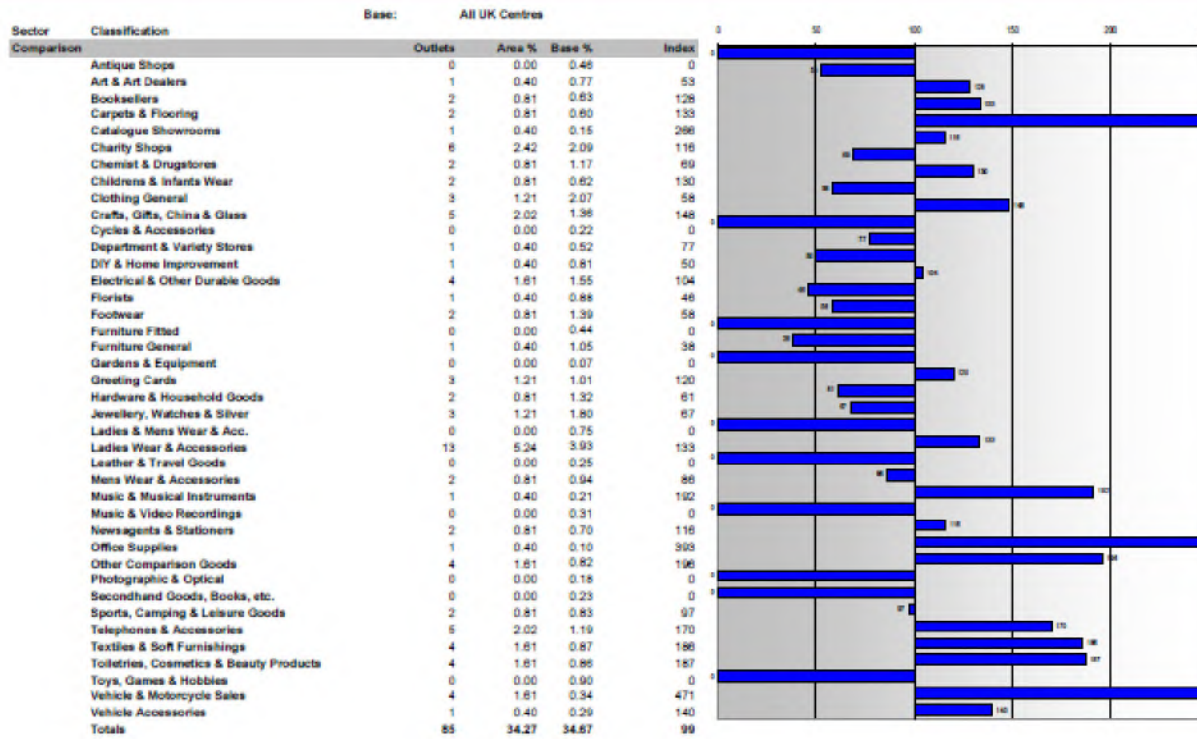


Outlet Counts

Centre:

Bromsgrove

Survey Date: 07/04/2008



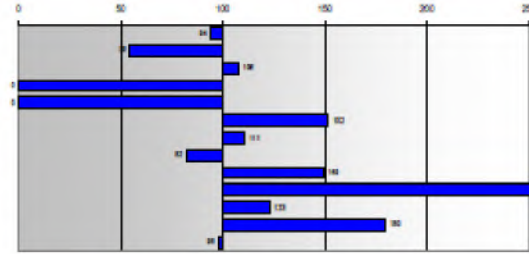
Outlet Counts

Centre:

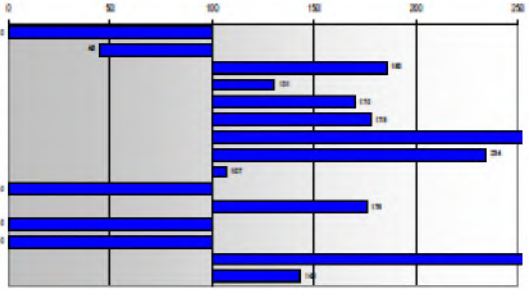
Bromsgrove

Survey Date: 07/04/2008

Convenience	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Bakers & Confectioners	4	1.81	1.72	94
Butchers	1	0.40	0.74	55
CTN	3	1.21	1.12	108
Convenience Stores	0	0.00	0.02	0
Fishmongers	0	0.00	0.12	0
Frozen Foods	1	0.40	0.27	152
Greengrocers	1	0.40	0.98	111
Grocers & Delicatessens	2	0.81	0.98	82
Health Foods	2	0.81	0.54	149
Markets	1	0.40	0.11	580
Off Licences	2	0.81	0.68	123
Shoe Repairs Etc	2	0.81	0.45	180
Supermarkets	2	0.81	0.82	98
Total Convenience	21	8.47	8.80	63



Retail Service	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Clothing & Fancy Dress Hire	0	0.00	0.09	0
Dry Cleaners & Laundrettes	1	0.40	0.90	45
Filling Stations	1	0.40	0.22	185
Health & Beauty	22	8.87	8.79	131
Opticians	8	2.42	1.42	170
Other Retail Services	2	0.81	0.45	178
Photo Processing	2	0.81	0.27	208
Photo Studio	1	0.40	0.17	234
Post Offices	1	0.40	0.38	107
Repairs, Alterations & Restoration	0	0.00	0.29	0
Travel Agents	5	2.02	1.15	178
TV, Cable & Video Rental	0	0.00	0.01	0
Vehicle Rental	0	0.00	0.08	0
Vehicle Repairs & Services	4	1.61	0.52	313
Video Tape Rental	1	0.40	0.28	143
Totals	46	18.55	13.00	143



Other Retail	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Other Retail Outlets	0	0.00	0.18	0



Outlet Counts

Centre:

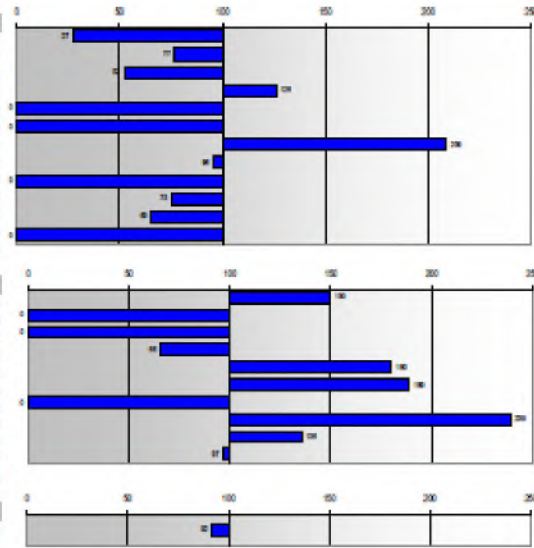
Bromsgrove

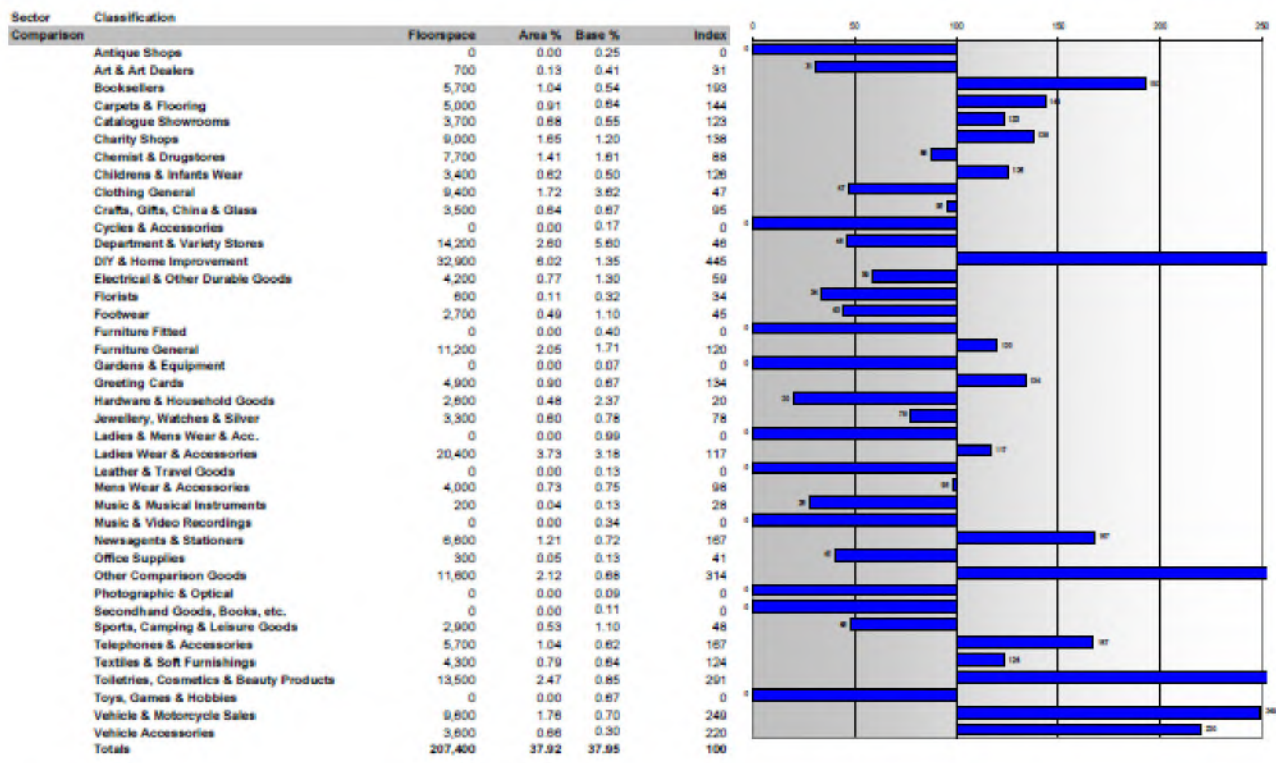
Survey Date: 07/04/2008

Leisure Services	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Bars & Wine Bars	1	0.40	1.48	27
Bingo & Amusements	1	0.40	0.52	77
Cafes	4	1.61	3.09	52
Casinos & Betting Offices	4	1.61	1.28	126
Cinemas, Theatres & Concert Halls	0	0.00	0.23	0
Clubs	0	0.00	0.80	0
Disco, Dance & Nightclubs	1	0.40	0.19	209
Fast Food & Take Away	13	5.24	5.49	96
Hotels & Guest Houses	0	0.00	0.57	0
Public Houses	6	2.42	3.22	75
Restaurants	7	2.82	4.31	65
Sports & Leisure Facilities	0	0.00	0.28	0
Totals	37	14.92	21.46	70

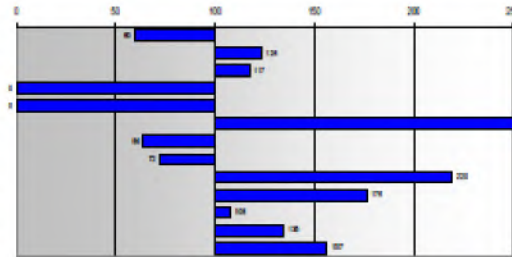
Financial & Business Services	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Building Societies	2	0.81	0.54	150
Building Supplies & Services	0	0.00	0.65	0
Business Goods & Services	0	0.00	0.04	0
Employment & Careers	1	0.40	0.61	66
Financial Services	7	2.82	1.57	180
Legal Services	5	2.02	1.07	189
Other Business Services	0	0.00	0.32	0
Printing & Copying	2	0.81	0.34	239
Property Services	12	4.84	3.57	136
Retail Banks	6	2.42	2.50	97
Totals	35	14.11	11.19	126

Vacant Outlets	Outlets	Area %	Base %	Index
Vacant Retail & Service Outlets	24	9.68	10.54	92
Total Number of Outlets	248			

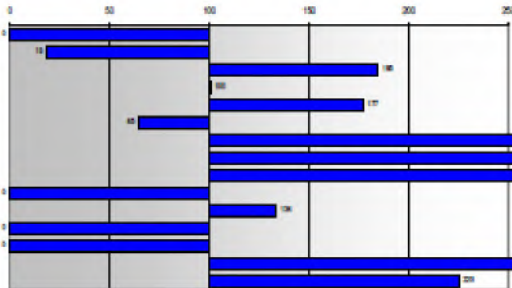




Convenience	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Bakers & Confectioners	2,700	0.49	0.83	80
Butchers	2,500	0.46	0.37	124
CTN	3,200	0.59	0.50	117
Convenience Stores	0	0.00	0.92	0
Fishmongers	0	0.00	0.05	0
Frozen Foods	9,200	1.68	0.67	253
Greengrocers	800	0.11	0.17	84
Grocers & Delicatessens	2,100	0.38	0.53	72
Health Foods	3,300	0.60	0.27	220
Markets	8,200	1.50	0.85	176
Off Licences	2,300	0.42	0.39	108
Shoe Repairs Etc	900	0.16	0.12	135
Supermarkets	72,500	13.26	8.46	157
Total Convenience	107,500	19.66	14.13	83



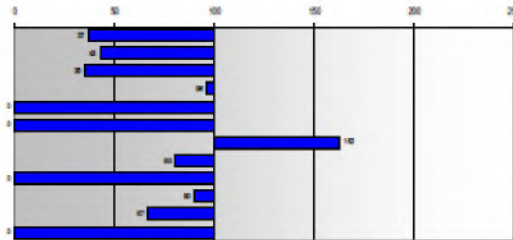
Retail Service	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Clothing & Fancy Dress Hire	0	0.00	0.04	0
Dry Cleaners & Launderettes	400	0.07	0.39	19
Filling Stations	1,100	0.20	0.11	185
Health & Beauty	16,800	3.04	3.02	100
Opticians	7,800	1.43	0.81	177
Other Retail Services	1,100	0.20	0.31	85
Photo Processing	1,800	0.29	0.10	295
Photo Studio	1,100	0.20	0.08	253
Post Offices	8,200	1.50	0.42	357
Repairs, Alterations & Restoration	0	0.00	0.10	0
Travel Agents	4,500	0.82	0.62	134
TV, Cable & Video Rental	0	0.00	0.00	0
Vehicle Rental	0	0.00	0.05	0
Vehicle Repairs & Services	9,800	1.79	0.68	256
Video Tape Rental	3,000	0.55	0.24	225
Totals	55,000	10.06	6.96	144



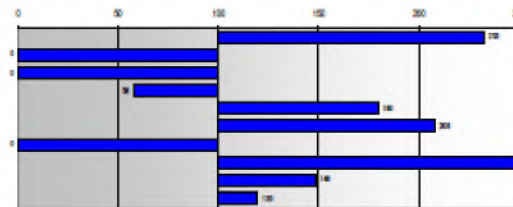
Other Retail	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Other Retail Outlets	0	0.00	0.12	0



Leisure Services	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Bars & Wine Bars	4,200	0.77	2.09	37
Bingo & Amusements	2,400	0.44	1.03	43
Cafes	3,200	0.59	1.66	35
Casinos & Betting Offices	5,000	0.91	0.95	96
Cinemas, Theatres & Concert Halls	0	0.00	1.48	0
Clubs	0	0.00	1.38	0
Disco, Dance & Nightclubs	4,100	0.75	0.48	162
Fast Food & Take Away	11,200	2.05	2.55	80
Hotels & Guest Houses	0	0.00	1.79	0
Public Houses	20,900	3.82	4.25	90
Restaurants	12,900	2.38	3.54	67
Sports & Leisure Facilities	0	0.00	1.50	0
Totals	63,900	11.88	22.68	52



Financial & Business Services	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Building Societies	5,300	0.97	0.42	233
Building Supplies & Services	0	0.00	0.60	0
Business Goods & Services	0	0.00	0.08	0
Employment & Careers	1,100	0.20	0.35	58
Financial Services	9,100	1.66	0.93	180
Legal Services	9,100	1.66	0.60	208
Other Business Services	0	0.00	0.39	0
Printing & Copying	3,500	0.64	0.21	299
Property Services	15,500	2.83	1.91	148
Retail Banks	20,200	3.69	3.09	120
Totals	63,800	11.87	8.76	133

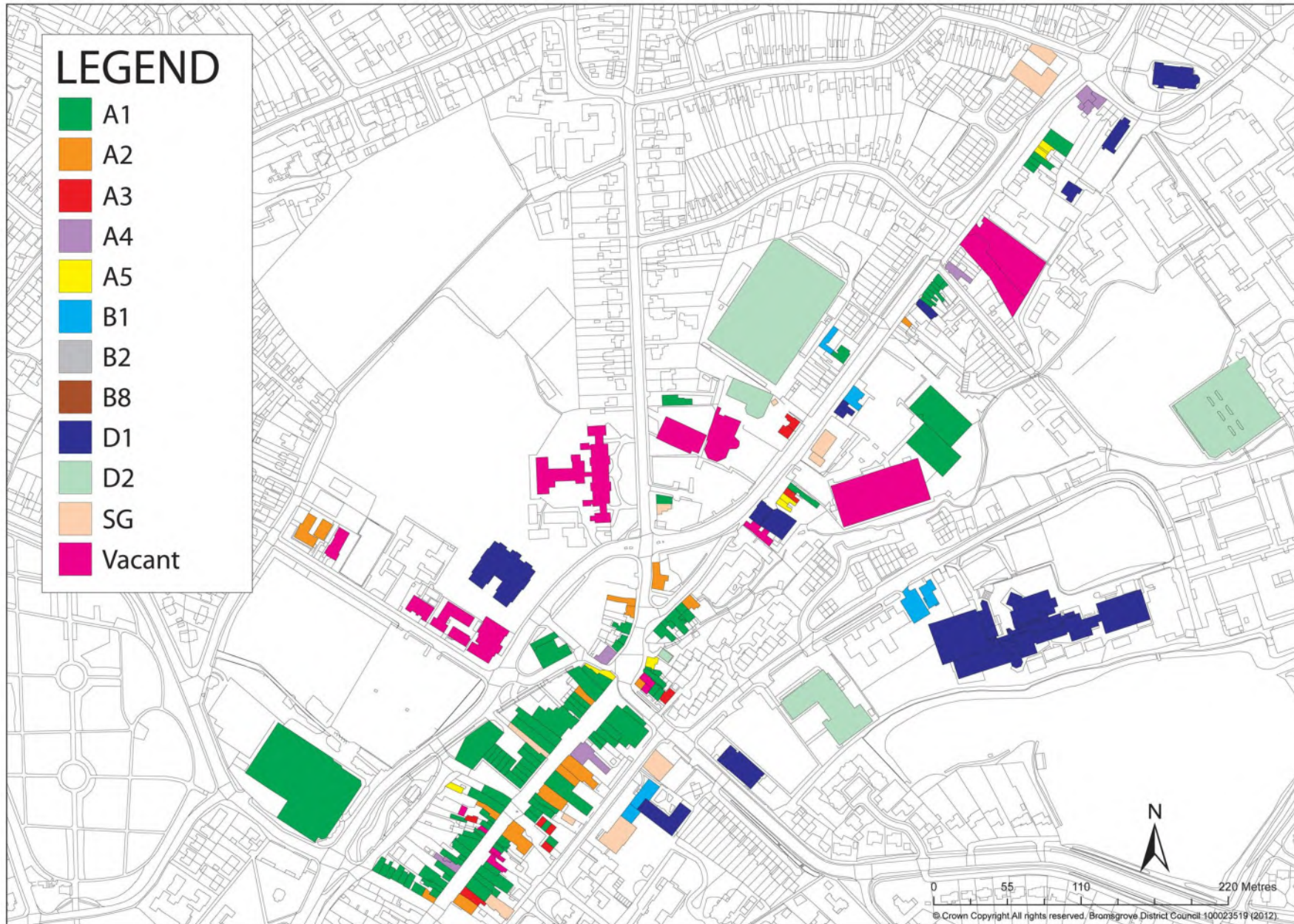


Vacant Outlets	Floorspace	Area %	Base %	Index
Vacant Retail & Service Outlets	49,300	9.01	8.77	103
Total Floorspace	546,900			

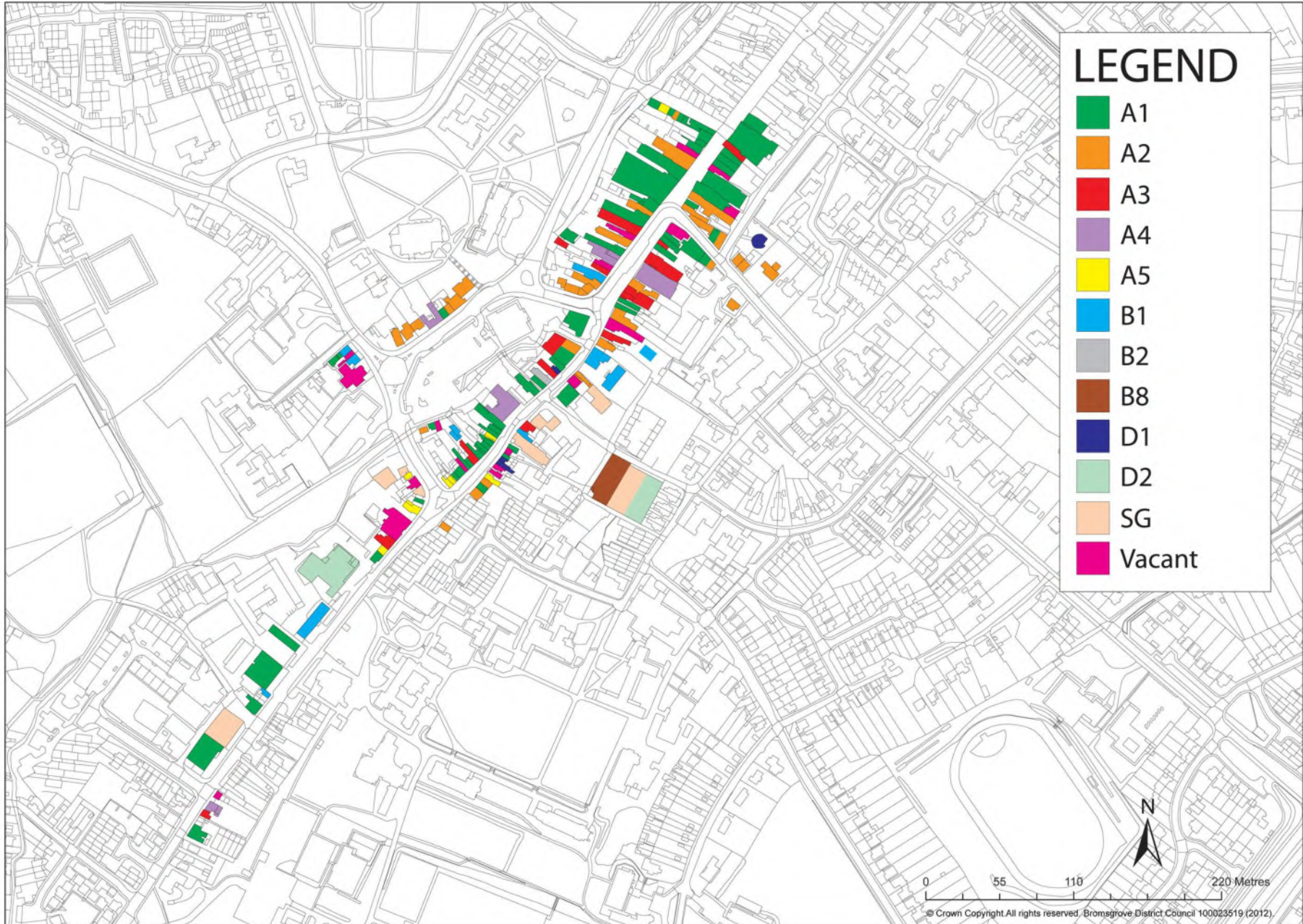


Appendix D: Town Centre Use Maps

North



South



Appendix E: Pedestrian Footfall

June 2009

Date	Day	Time	Weather	Location	Count from Top to Bottom	Count from Bottom to Top	Total
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	0913 to 0923	Sunny	1	64	51	115
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	0930 to 0940	Sunny	3	191	N/A	191
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	0930 to 0940	Sunny	2	125	N/A	125
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	0944 to 0954	Sunny	4	69	63	132
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	0958 to 1008	Sunny	5	65	76	141
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1220 to 1230	Rain	4	44	24	68
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1233 to 1243	Rain	3	86	N/A	86
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1233 to 1243	Rain	2	142	N/A	142
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1244 to 1254	Light Rain	1	70	81	151
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1256 to 1306	Sunny	5	60	55	115
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1533 to 1543	Sunny	1	88	86	174
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1544 to 1554	Sunny	3	94	N/A	94
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1544 to 1554	Sunny	2	129	N/A	129
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1557 to 1607	Sunny	4	68	96	164
11.6.09	Thursday, non-market	1608 to 1618	Sunny	5	66	37	103
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	0925 to 0935	Sunny	1	103	67	170
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	0936 to 0946	Sunny	2	197	N/A	197
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	0936 to 0946	Sunny	3	199	N/A	199
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	0949 to 0959	Sunny	5	78	122	200
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1004 to 1014	Sunny	4	114	94	208
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1206 to 1216	Sunny	1	220	176	396
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1218 to 1228	Sunny	3	345	N/A	345
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1218 to 1228	Sunny	2	341	N/A	341
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1237 to 1247	Sunny	4	158	143	301
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1253 to 1303	Sunny	5	213	187	400
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1502 to 1512	Sunny	1	128	103	231
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1513 to 1523	Sunny	3	174	N/A	174
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1513 to 1523	Sunny	2	173	N/A	173
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1524 to 1534	Sunny	5	93	69	162
13.6.09	Saturday, market day	1537 to 1547	Sunny	4	104	85	189
26.6.09	Friday, market day	0907 to 0917	Cloudy	1	60	36	96
26.6.09	Friday, market day	0918 to 0928	Cloudy	3	150	N/A	150
26.6.09	Friday, market day	0918 to 0928	Cloudy	2	109	N/A	109
26.6.09	Friday, market day	0943 to 0953	Cloudy	4	61	65	126
26.6.09	Friday, market day	0930 to 0940	Cloudy	5	82	82	164
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1258 to 1308	Rain	4	89	63	152
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1225 to 1235	Heavy rain	3	76	N/A	76
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1225 to 1235	Heavy rain	2	104	N/A	104
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1200 to 1210	Cloudy	1	134	119	253
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1213 to 1223	Cloudy	5	117	80	197
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1515 to 1525	Cloudy, Music band	1	267	93	360
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1529 to 1539	Cloudy	3	125	N/A	125
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1529 to 1539	Cloudy	2	151	N/A	151
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1555 to 1605	Cloudy	4	98	98	196
26.6.09	Friday, market day	1541 to 1551	Cloudy	5	74	84	158

June 2010

Date	Day	Time	Weather	Location	Count from Top to Bottom	Count from Bottom to Top	Total
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	0920 to 0930	Cloudy	1	59	58	117
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	0933 to 0943	Cloudy	2	90	N/A	90
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	0933 to 0943	Cloudy	3	144	N/A	144
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	0945 to 0955	Cloudy	4	104	92	196
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	0957 to 1007	Cloudy	5	105	121	226
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1201 to 1211	Cloudy	1	106	144	250
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1213 to 1223	Cloudy	2	128	N/A	128
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1213 to 1223	Cloudy	3	231	N/A	231
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1224 to 1234	Cloudy	4	113	76	189
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1237 to 1247	Cloudy	5	138	157	295
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1506 to 1516	Cloudy	1	92	88	180
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1517 to 1527	Cloudy	2	88	N/A	88
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1517 to 1527	Cloudy	3	211	N/A	211
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1529 to 1539	Cloudy	4	105	83	188
11.06.2010	Friday, market day	1542 to 1552	Cloudy	5	95	113	208
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	0922 to 932	Cloudy	1	59	96	155
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	0934 to 0944	Cloudy	2	131	N/A	131
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	0934 to 0944	Cloudy	3	179	N/A	179
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	0946 to 0956	Cloudy	4	124	80	204
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1000 to 1010	Cloudy	5	147	154	301
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1214 to 1224	Cloudy	1	185	181	366
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1225 to 1235	Cloudy	2	182	N/A	182
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1225 to 1235	Cloudy	3	291	N/A	291
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1237 to 1247	Cloudy	4	137	112	249
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1250 to 1300	Cloudy	5	139	163	302
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1507 to 1517	Sunny	1	97	143	240
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1519 to 1529	Sunny	2	142	N/A	142
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1519 to 1529	Sunny	3	210	N/A	210
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1534 to 1544	Sunny	4	88	102	190
12.06.2010	Saturday, market day	1547 to 1557	Sunny	5	138	198	336
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	0907 to 0917	Sunny	1	48	56	104
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	0919 to 0929	Sunny	2	117	N/A	117
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	0919 to 0929	Sunny	3	121	N/A	121
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	0933 to 0943	Sunny	4	72	42	114
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	0947 to 0957	Sunny	5	121	101	222
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1214 to 1224	Sunny	1	83	118	201
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1225 to 1235	Sunny	2	112	N/A	112
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1225 to 1235	Sunny	3	156	N/A	156
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1238 to 1248	Sunny	4	97	118	215
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1253 to 1303	Sunny	5	102	137	239
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1514 to 1524	Sunny	1	46	252	298
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1526 to 1536	Sunny	2	70	N/A	70
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1526 to 1536	Sunny	3	126	N/A	126
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1538 to 1548	Sunny	4	52	64	116
16.06.2010	Wednesday, non-market	1551 to 1601	Sunny	5	103	92	195

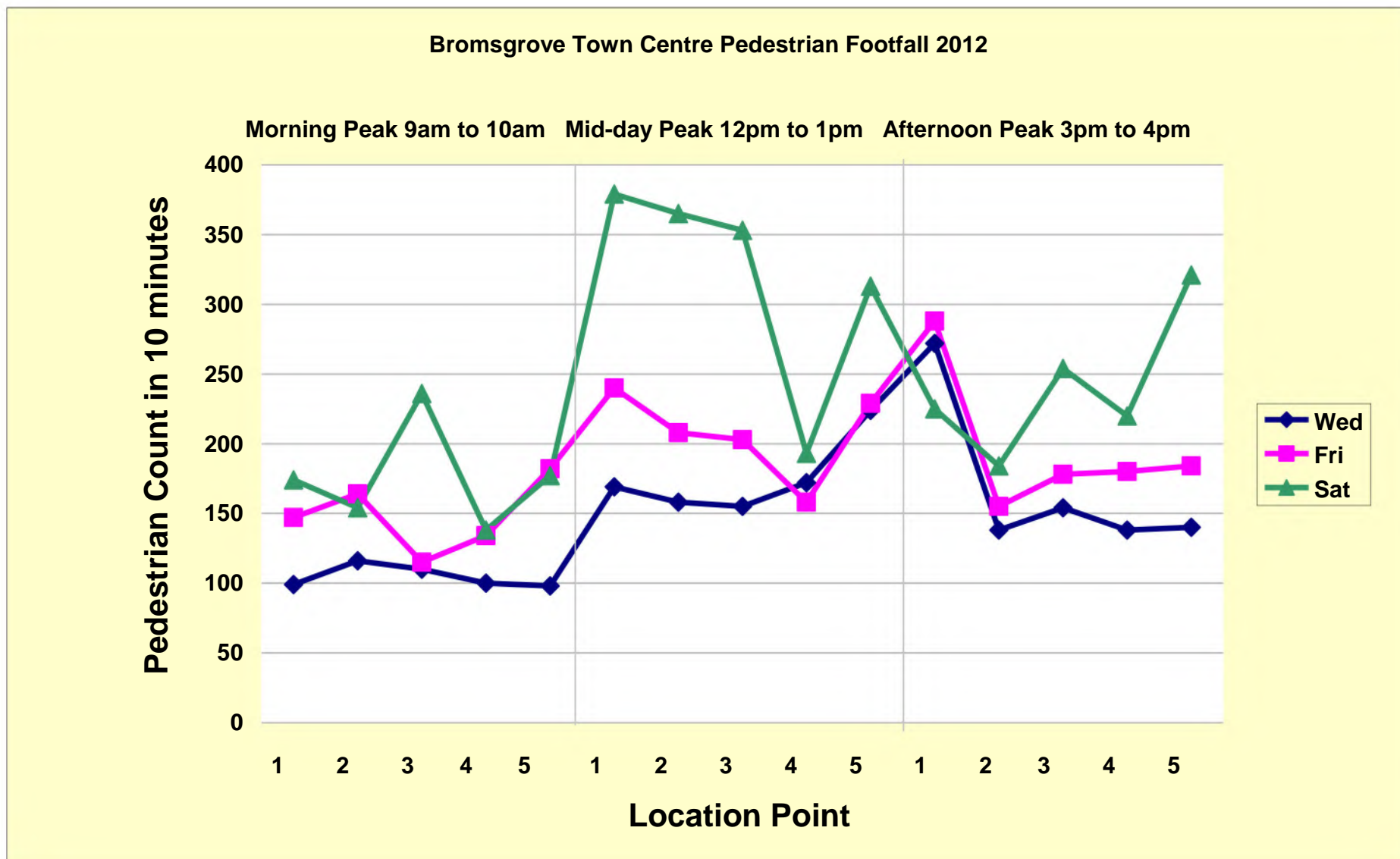
July 2011

Date	Day	Time	Weather	Location	Count from Top to Bottom	Count from Bottom to Top	Total
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	0900 to 0910	Cloudy	1	24	43	67
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	0913 to 0923	Cloudy	2	91	N/A	91
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	0913 to 0923	Cloudy	3	59	N/A	59
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	0925 to 0935	Cloudy	4	83	66	149
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	0938 to 0948	Cloudy	5	53	19	72
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1214 to 1224	Cloudy	1	79	75	154
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1226 to 1236	Cloudy	2	201	N/A	201
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1226 to 1236	Cloudy	3	170	N/A	170
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1238 to 1248	Cloudy	4	94	119	213
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1254 to 1304	Cloudy	5	91	89	180
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1513 to 1523	Cloudy	1	68	208	276
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1525 to 1535	Cloudy	2	104	N/A	104
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1525 to 1535	Cloudy	3	114	N/A	114
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1537 to 1547	Cloudy	4	79	88	157
13.07.11	Wednesday, non-market	1553 to 1603	Cloudy	5	68	72	140
15.07.11	Friday, market day	0904 to 0914	Cloudy	1	55	58	113
15.07.11	Friday, market day	0917 to 0927	Cloudy	2	178	N/A	178
15.07.11	Friday, market day	0917 to 0927	Cloudy	3	156	N/A	156
15.07.11	Friday, market day	0935 to 0945	Cloudy	4	110	133	243
15.07.11	Friday, market day	0950 to 1000	Cloudy	5	142	70	212
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1210 to 1220	Cloudy	1	113	140	253
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1222 to 1232	Sunny	2	219	N/A	219
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1222 to 1232	Sunny	3	202	N/A	202
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1235 to 1245	Sunny	4	92	129	221
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1250 to 1300	Cloudy	5	119	88	207
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1500 to 1510	Cloudy	1	66	119	185
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1512 to 1522	Cloudy	2	184	N/A	184
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1512 to 1522	Cloudy	3	163	N/A	163
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1525 to 1535	Cloudy	4	99	111	210
15.07.11	Friday, market day	1539 to 1545	Cloudy	5	69	120	189
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	0918 to 0928	Heavy Rain	1	50	70	120
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	0931 to 0941	Heavy Rain	2	118	N/A	118
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	0931 to 0941	Heavy Rain	3	81	N/A	81
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	0944 to 0954	Rain	4	53	53	106
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	0953 to 1003	Rain	5	58	51	109
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1208 to 1218	Cloudy	1	123	154	277
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1220 to 1230	Sunny	2	217	N/A	217
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1220 to 1230	Sunny	3	216	N/A	216
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1232 to 1242	Sunny	4	109	202	311
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1247 to 1257	Cloudy	5	77	88	165
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1501 to 1511	Light Rain	1	101	105	206
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1515 to 1525	Cloudy	2	132	N/A	132
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1515 to 1525	Cloudy	3	136	N/A	136
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1527 to 1537	Light Rain	4	98	127	225
16.07.11	Saturday, market day	1542 to 1552	Sunny	5	59	79	138

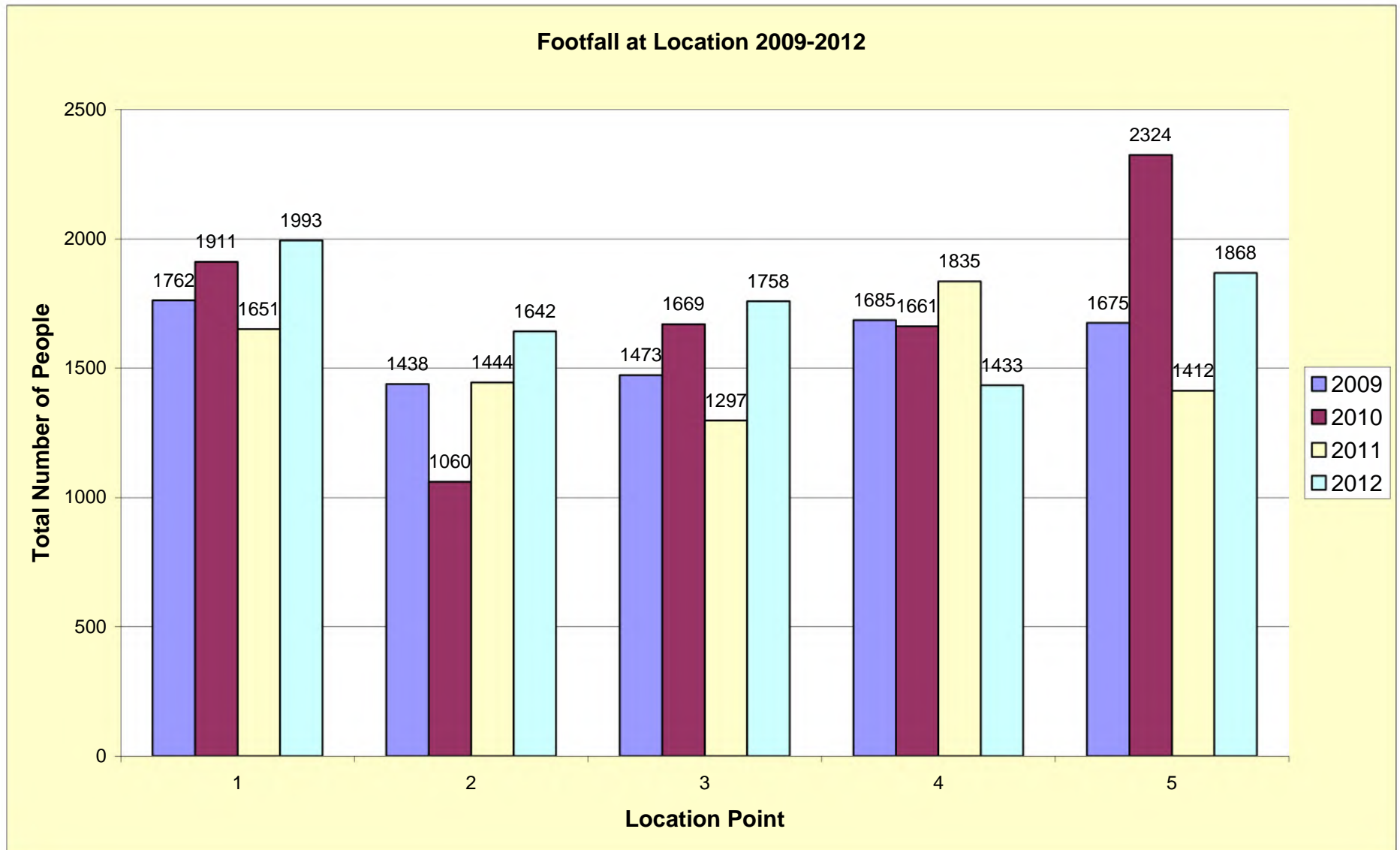
July 2012

Date	Day	Time	Weather	Location	Count from Top to Bottom	Count from Bottom to Top	Total
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	0912 to 0922	Sunny	1	58	41	99
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	0924 to 0934	Sunny	2	116	N/A	116
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	0925 to 0934	Sunny	3	110	N/A	110
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	0936 to 0946	Sunny	4	59	41	100
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	0950 to 1000	Sunny	5	51	47	98
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1223 to 1233	Cloudy	1	95	74	169
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1236 to 1246	Sunny	2	158	N/A	158
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1236 to 1246	Sunny	3	155	N/A	155
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1249 to 1259	Sunny	4	99	73	172
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1306 to 1316	Sunny	5	107	117	224
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1522 to 1532	Cloudy	1	79	193	272
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1534 to 1544	Cloudy	2	138	N/A	138
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1534 to 1544	Cloudy	3	154	N/A	154
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1547 to 1557	Cloudy	4	67	71	138
12.07.12	Wednesday, non-market	1601 to 1611	Light Rain	5	81	59	140
13.07.12	Friday, market day	0924 to 0934	Light Rain	1	97	50	147
13.07.12	Friday, market day	0937 to 0947	Cloudy	2	164	N/A	164
13.07.12	Friday, market day	0937 to 0947	Cloudy	3	115	N/A	115
13.07.12	Friday, market day	0950 to 1000	Cloudy	4	79	55	134
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1005 to 1015	Cloudy	5	90	92	182
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1232 to 1242	Cloudy	1	134	106	240
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1244 to 1254	Cloudy	2	208	N/A	208
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1244 to 1254	Cloudy	3	203	N/A	203
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1257 to 1307	Cloudy	4	80	78	158
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1312 to 1322	Cloudy	5	82	147	229
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1522 to 1532	Cloudy	1	184	104	288
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1535 to 1545	Sunny	2	155	N/A	155
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1535 to 1545	Sunny	3	178	N/A	178
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1548 to 1558	Cloudy	4	95	85	180
13.07.12	Friday, market day	1602 to 1612	Cloudy	5	78	106	184
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	0933 to 0943	Cloudy	1	98	76	174
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	0948 to 0958	Cloudy	2	154	N/A	154
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	0948 to 0958	Cloudy	3	236	N/A	236
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1000 to 1010	Cloudy	4	63	75	138
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1012 to 1022	Cloudy	5	79	98	177
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1242 to 1252	Sunny	1	157	222	379
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1254 to 1304	Sunny	2	365	N/A	365
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1254 to 1304	Sunny	3	353	N/A	353
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1307 to 1317	Cloudy	4	85	108	193
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1323 to 1333	Cloudy	5	125	188	313
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1500 to 1510	Cloudy	1	88	137	225
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1512 to 1522	Cloudy	2	184	N/A	184
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1512 to 1522	Cloudy	3	254	N/A	254
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1524 to 1534	Cloudy	4	123	97	220
14.07.12	Saturday, market day	1539 to 1549	Cloudy	5	130	191	321

Pedestrian Footfall 2012



Pedestrian Footfall at Location from 2009 to 2012





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Bromsgrove
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