

BCSC in Wales



Manai Centre, Bangor, Opened in 2006

Sustainability

BCSC's 2007 programme on sustainability includes such features as:

- Guidance Notes on energy use in the design of shopping centres, sustainability for the retail sector and green travel plans for staff and shoppers.
- *Focus report on Sustainability* which highlighted the green issues that different sectors of the industry are tackling.
- BCSC commissioned a major research project over 18 months on the *Future of Retail Property*, the last paper; *An Eye to the Future* is published in June 2007. Several reports in the series highlight environmental issues such as designing sustainable shopping places and reducing the carbon emissions of people travelling to them.
- Publication of the 2007 edition of *What's in Store Magazine* that is dedicated to sustainability in the built environment and social engagement in the retail industry.
- BCSC is also working with Business in the Community (BITC) on *The Exhibition* - a travelling set of exhibition stands that will be placed in different UK locations to highlight actions taken by individuals, centres and communities to address climate change and promote the importance of sustainable communities.

BCSC is a network of organisations at the heart of the retail property industry. It was established in 1983 to provide a forum for those engaged in retail and shopping centre development and management of all kinds. Since then, BCSC has built up a thriving membership, representative of virtually every aspect of retail property activity including owners, developers, managers, retailers, public sector managers and consultants.

BCSC works in all parts of the UK to provide local forums, meetings and activities to provide opportunities for local representatives to meet with BCSC members from all sectors of the shopping centre industry.

The main objectives of BCSC are:

1. To promote best practice in the development and management of the retail environment,
2. To bring together its members with a common vision through exchanges of information,
3. To use this information to meet the professional and commercial aims of the retail property industry as its centre of excellence.

In 2007, BCSC will be focusing on social engagement through retail-led regeneration in policy areas such as **crime, education, communities, sustainability and planning.**

Crime

BCSC has been working with the Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) looking at ways to reduce anti-social behaviour and criminal activity in town centres and retail outlets. BCSC has also produced guidance to members on Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and drug related issues and will continue working with its members to keep them informed on Government policy in this area.

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Education

- **Training:** BCSC is committed to a professional standard of training for shopping centre managers. In 2007 BCSC will continue to develop a practical level 2 retailing course for 16-19 year olds and returners to work; a mentor scheme for local planning officers with City Academy Bristol and accredited customer care trainers to implement professional training programmes.
- **Research:** BCSC undertakes research in a number of areas which are of interest to its broad membership base, producing several publications that have made a valuable contribution to wider debates about the retail industry. BCSC is currently producing a series of reports on *The Future of Retail Property* that have looked into issues such as what consumers want, online retailing, the future of brands, transport, and in-town vs out-of-town developments.
- **Best Practice:** The BCSC Gold Awards are the leading awards within the shopping centre and retail destination industry. They not only reward excellence in retail-led developments in the UK and Ireland but also recognise projects that generate improvements in the quality of the built environment and reward retail destinations within that environment. Other awards include the ACE awards which recognise good practice in customer care and the Town Centre Environment Awards which showcase well managed and developed new urban spaces.



Eagles Meadow, Wrexham, Opening 2008

Planning

BCSC continually engages with Westminster on issues affecting the retail development sector in order to contribute to the formation of public policy.

In 2007 BCSC will be submitting formal responses to the Government's draft Local Transport Bill and their White Paper on planning. BCSC is strongly in favour of consistency on the Government's town centres first policy and the continued close scrutiny of out of town development plans in the new impact test.



St Catherine's Walk, Carmarthen, Opening 2008