

RETAIL PROPERTY: KEY CONTRIBUTOR TO UK ECONOMY

BCSC has recently updated its periodic, comprehensive market analysis of *The Retail Property Industry: Its Contribution to the UK Economy 2008*.

Key findings include:

- Investment within UK shopping centres has more than doubled since 2000
- Town centre developments have seen the most marked

growth in the last two years over out-of-town schemes

- 500,000m² of retail floorspace will be built in 2008 with a further 486,000m² in the pipeline each year between 2009-2012
- 7.6 million people are currently employed in the UK retail property industry, an increase of 37% since 1995

- Retail-led employment within the UK is set to grow by 3% over the next decade

- Overseas investors have increased the value of their property purchases in the UK from £5bn to £20bn since 2000

To download a copy of the full report please visit the BCSC MP portal: www.bcs.org.uk/mpportal

INDUSTRY LEADERS AND MPS ENDORSE BCSC SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER

www.bcs.org.uk/sustainability

On 9 July 2008, BCSC held the Parliamentary launch of the BCSC Sustainability Charter in the House of Commons. The Charter sets out accessible benchmarks on **energy and water use, waste management and community engagement**, and outlines the core commitments of key stakeholders - owners, developers, centre managers, landlords, tenants and customers - in a practical framework that helps them address their impact on the environment.

British Land, DTZ, Gardiner & Theobald, Grosvenor, Hammerson, Hermes, John Lewis Partnership, Land Securities, Liberty International PLC, Marks & Spencer, Morley, PRUPIM, Dransfield and The Mall have now pledged their support for the Charter.



Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Alan Duncan MP and Environment Minister Phil Woolas MP spoke at the event, congratulating BCSC and their members for taking the initiative and tackling the contribution of the retail property industry to climate change.

Retailers and retail centres account for around 40% of the energy consumed in the UK and they generate thousands of tons of waste every year. The

Sustainability Charter offers practical guidance on measuring consumption, performance thresholds, and good practice solutions to enable both landlords and tenants to attain basic environmental standards.

The Charter, its supporters and their case studies are on the BCSC Sustainability Portal: www.bcs.org.uk/sustainability

BCSC encourages the retail property industry to maintain a sustainable approach to its activities and to engage with government, helping to develop the policies that make this possible. BCSC submits evidence to relevant government consultations and produces comprehensive research and guidance advising stakeholders about sustainable good practice.

BCSC MP portal

Your online resource for retail property news and related government activity

BCSC's online resources offer up to date information on all that's happening in the retail property industry: pipeline projects, ongoing developments, BCSC responses to government consultations and events.

The BCSC MP portal has links to research projects, papers and reports undertaken by BCSC such as:

- *Climate Change: What This Means for Retail Property*
- *Energy, Water and Waste: Sustainable Technologies, Materials and Costs*
- *Wireless Technologies In Retail Environments (2008) and*
- ten major research reports covering topics such as future modes of transport, changing demographics and the impact of online shopping, all part of *The Future of Retail Property* - the most in-depth study to date on likely trends in this industry.

www.bcs.org.uk/mpportal

BCSC in Westminster

BCSC is the organisation representing retailers, developers, landlords, architects, agents and local authorities - all sections of the industry with an interest in the managed retail environment. BCSC activity includes reviewing legislation, disseminating information and developing policy appropriate for this industry.

www.bcs.org.uk

To make contact with the retail property industry in your locality, to discuss the impact of legislation on shopping centres large or small in your area, or to understand the retail economy and the people it serves in your constituency, please contact BCSC on 020 7222 1122.

BCSC backs new planning policy proposals

BCSC welcomed the government's continuing commitment to its 'town centres first' approach, in the proposals for reforming Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6). BCSC also supports the government's intention to ensure that there is a more thorough assessment of proposed locations for new retail developments.

The retention of the sequential approach to selecting sites and the assessment of need should still be an integral part of a revised impact test that will take into consideration a wider range of issues. The inclusion of economic, social and environmental

criteria will enable local authorities to better assess the positive and negative impacts of new developments on the town centre.

BCSC is pleased that after two years of policy uncertainty, the revised PPS6 will restore the confidence of both investors and developers in town centre development. BCSC have constantly championed the retention of the town centre first approach to planning and will continue to make the case for a robust assessment of 'impact' in PPS6 as part of our response to this consultation.

SECURING SUCCESS IN SMALLER CENTRES

On 3 October 2008, BCSC and Warwickshire County Council will hold a day of seminars and events exploring the issues facing local authorities seeking to develop their small and medium-sized town centres.

Taking place in Stratford-upon-Avon, this event will examine the success of the town's own regeneration programme which will provide the basis for discussions about the effectiveness of different development strategies. Seminar sessions will focus on Masterplans and Area Action Plans, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and BCSC's recent ten-part research project investigating likely trends over the next decade: *The Future of Retail Property*. The

event will provide platforms for speakers from the public and private sectors to discuss the views of local authorities, BIDs and regeneration companies, retailers and BCSC.

This is the first in a series of regional seminars that BCSC is organising to build closer relationships between our members and local authorities

across the UK. BCSC is committed to the 'town centres first' approach to planning which is reflected strongly in our responses to the Barker report, the Competition Commission Groceries inquiry and subsequent government consultations on the Planning Bill, PPS4 and PPS6. BCSC believes that closer partnerships among developers, retailers and local authorities will

bring about a better understanding of the specific needs of small and medium-sized town centres whose regeneration can lead the way to more vibrant communities.

There is no charge for this event.

For more information about this event or to book a place please contact Scarlett Hancock on 020 7227 3462 or scarlett.hancock@bcsc.org.uk



LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO CREATE EXHIBITION SPACE AT BCSC CONFERENCE & SHOWCASE

CREATE

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF BCSC

BCSC CONFERENCE & SHOWCASE

ACC, LIVERPOOL

MON 10-WED 12 NOV 2008

As part of BCSC's growing partnership with the public sector, local authorities and public organisations are invited to exhibit at BCSC's annual Conference & Showcase at

the ACC, Liverpool from 10-12 November 2008.

This year, BCSC celebrates 25 years of creativity behind the vibrant retail environments that

deliver economic, social and cultural benefits to the UK.

Over 3,300 top industry professionals - developers, retailers, financial consultants, architects, designers and public sector managers, among others - attended this widely anticipated annual event in 2007.

For the first time, public sector organisations are invited to be part of a dedicated exhibition space. This is a unique

opportunity to feature your town centre developments and an exciting platform to discuss retail-led regeneration plans with stakeholders and experts from across the retail property industry.

To find out more about exhibiting at CREATE, please contact the BCSC Events team at scarlett.hancock@bcsc.org.uk

www.bcsc.org.uk/conference