

# **The National Retail Planning Forum**

**[www.nrpf.org](http://www.nrpf.org)**

- To improve understanding between public and private sector interests (A Charity);
- Broad representation across retail sector;
- To stage events with a view to sharing knowledge about retail planning matters;
- To undertake research to fill any gaps in knowledge in the field of retail planning;
- To develop a knowledge base on retail planning matters for practitioners.

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- **EVENTS** eg. Bi-annual review, regional events
- **PARTNERSHIPS** eg. LGA, BITC, RTPI, POS
- **RESEARCH GROUP** – bi-monthly meetings
- **RESEARCH PROGRAMME**; ESRC project, Retail Floorspace Trends, Before and After Studies, Regional Planning/LDF, Retail Data & Definitions, Independent Retailers, Accessibility
- **KNOWLEDGE BASE/WEBSITE** + New feature on Town Centre Statistics
- **NEWSLETTER**

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- **THE WEBSITE – a growing resource**
- Comprehensive Knowledge Base; news, events, research reports, government policy process, bibliography
- Annual update of bibliography by Stirling University
- Web links base
- The Planners bookshelf
- Briefing notes
- Search facility using Adobe Acrobat

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## **ANNUAL UPDATE**

- **Commentary**
- **General Texts**
- **Theoretical Work**
- **Retail Formats**
- **Retail Locations**
- **Retail Planning Practice**
- **Consumer Culture**
- **Urban Environment**
- **Literature on retail planning from USA & Europe**

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**BRIEFING PAPERS; Key research findings; key research contacts, websites, key reports & articles;**

- **Farmers markets**
- **Clone towns**
- **Food deserts**
- **Neighbourhood retailing**
- **Retail planning & food retailing**
- **Competition issues**
- **The needs test**
- **The sequential approach**
- **Retail statistics**

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## **WAYS IN WHICH THE KNOWLEDGE BASE CAN HELP RETAIL PLANNING**

- Up to date information on retail planning issues
- Information on key trends - economic and policy
- Research Gaps
- Knowledge base as a tool for dialogue
- Policy development
- Knowledge store – a memory