

Although our representations on policy PLP15 are not specifically about retail, it is important that we draw the Inspector's attention to our concern about town centres and the plan's lack of urban vision. This is particularly pertinent to employment allocations along the Leeds Road corridor in Huddersfield, and to discussions in earlier hearings about the regeneration challenges in Dewsbury and Batley.

Our representations focused on the principle that these locations should be the focus of mixed-use developments that would regenerate and bring vitality to town centres, as well as reducing the need for greenfield land allocations. However, on the basis of the Stage 1 hearings it is evident that work on Area Action Plans is under way, and in the light of this we consider the most important change is to integrate those AAPs within the Local Development Scheme and ensure that the potential of town centres for a full range of uses is properly harnessed.