

**From:** Tim Murphy [mailto:]  
**Sent:** 09 February 2014 11:49  
**To:** Tim Oldham  
**Subject:** RE: SoJ Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel - Retail Review

Hi Tim

.....I have tried to get some response and opinion from other retailers in the west centre area but only had a small amount of input from Grant at Drivers .

The town centre as I see it ,faces various threats . Having read some of the other submission I have some of the same views .  
Parking and lack of it in the west centre area (I am requesting this week a look at a plan for parking for the next 5 years)  
Internet sales . Ease of shopping online and price .  
West centre is suffering due to the shift in offices and shops towards the waterfront .  
Out of town shopping .At present we only have the J.E.C on queens road and I hope it stays that way , With the arrival of Sports Direct very soon this will greatly affect some of the town sports shops. in turn more empty units .

On a personal note .I feel that certain Politicians are doing everything in there power to push the waterfront and seem to stop at nothing to make that area work. Again I will stress this is a personal view. And obviously this is having any effect on other parts of town .

On a positive note, I do think Richard McKenzie (Town manager) and Simon Crowcroft are doing a good Job in trying to revitalize ailing town areas.

In a nut shell . Town has to be more than a place where commerce is done . It needs to have ease of parking and a lot more entertainment going on in the way of buskers and street acts .If people feel good they will spend money.

Tim Murphy