

Health on the High Street: Running on empty (2018)

Appendix 1: List of 70 UK towns and cities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen • Ayr • Bath • Bedford • Birmingham • Blackpool • Bolton • Bournemouth • Bradford • Brighton and Hove • Bristol • Cambridge • Canterbury • Cardiff • Carlisle • Chelmsford • Cheltenham • Chester • Colchester • Coventry • Darlington • Derby • Doncaster • Dundee • Eastbourne • Edinburgh • Exeter • Glasgow • Grimsby • Guildford • Harrogate • Hereford • Huddersfield • Ipswich • Leamington Spa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds • Leicester • Lincoln • Liverpool • Luton • Maidstone • Manchester • Middlesbrough • Newcastle Upon Tyne • Northampton • Norwich • Nottingham • Perth • Peterborough • Plymouth • Preston • Reading • Salisbury • Scarborough • Sheffield • Shrewsbury • Southampton • Southport • Stockport • Stoke-On-Trent • Sunderland • Swansea • Taunton • Tunbridge Wells • Wakefield • Walsall • Wolverhampton • Worcester • Worthing • York
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Appendix 2: Limitations

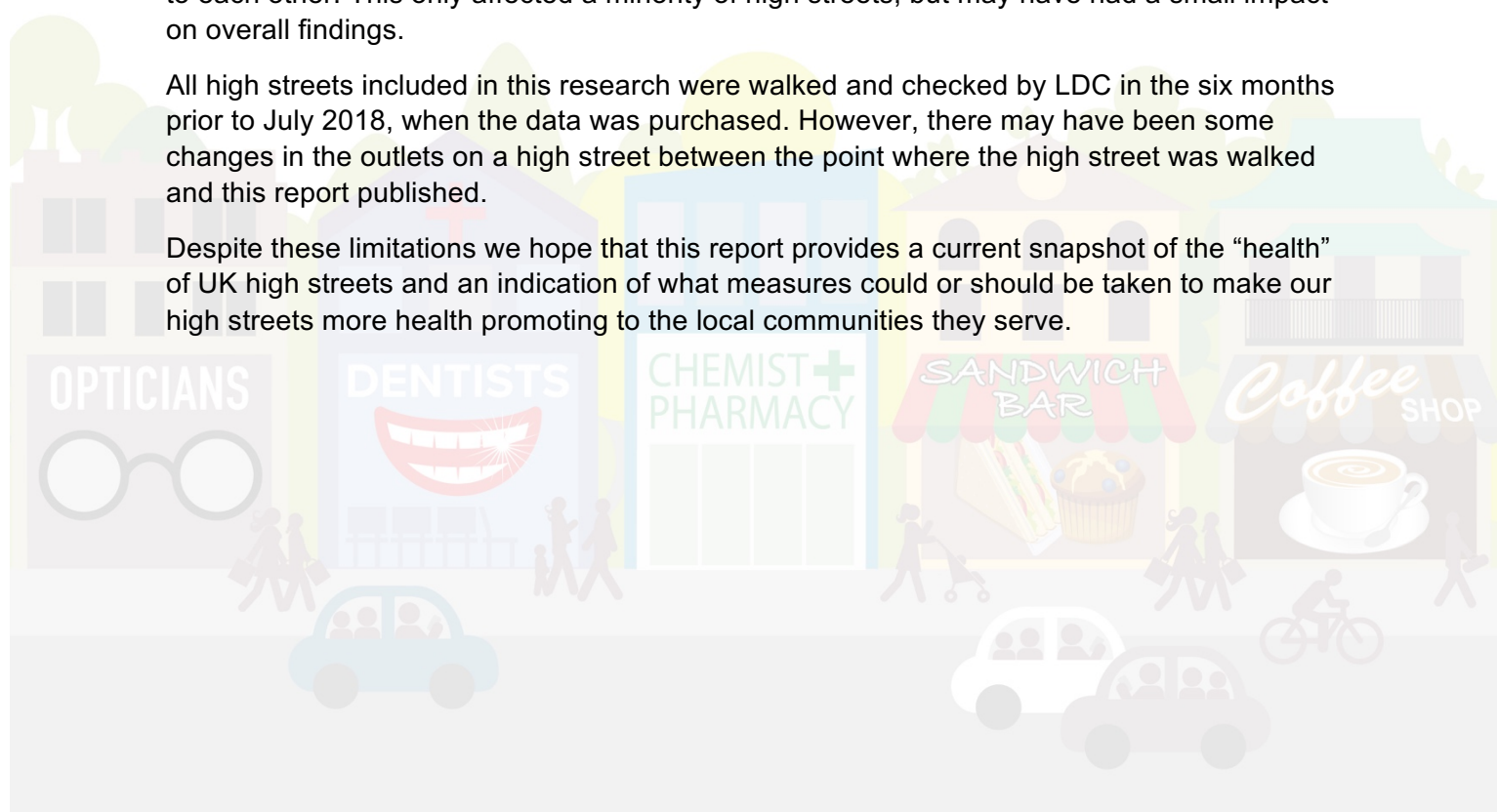
The data purchased from the Local Data Company (LDC) is based on LDC category definitions and while every attempt was made to align their categories with our own, there were some difficulties. One of these was that the LDC categories did not distinguish between tanning salons with only spray tans and those with sunbeds as well or instead. It was also not possible to ascertain exactly which products were for sale in each outlet, and we had to base our scoring on the products sold in the majority of outlets. This means that convenience stores that do not sell tobacco or alcohol, cafes that have solely healthy items for sale or fast food outlets that have made healthy changes to their products will all be scored in the same way as less healthy establishments.

The list of outlets included in the report captures the majority of outlets on the high street, and were chosen because of their high numbers and impact on health. Despite this, we acknowledge there remain other 'outlets' that were not included because of limitations on the data available, for example, street markets and community centres.

The drawing of London high street boundaries was another difficulty encountered. High street boundaries were checked multiple times against ward and borough maps and other online resources, but there was a level of subjectivity about where these boundaries started and finished, particularly in very urban areas where multiple high streets were situated next to each other. This only affected a minority of high streets, but may have had a small impact on overall findings.

All high streets included in this research were walked and checked by LDC in the six months prior to July 2018, when the data was purchased. However, there may have been some changes in the outlets on a high street between the point where the high street was walked and this report published.

Despite these limitations we hope that this report provides a current snapshot of the "health" of UK high streets and an indication of what measures could or should be taken to make our high streets more health promoting to the local communities they serve.



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Appendix 3: Comparison with 2015 findings

In order to provide a direct comparison with 2015, below are rankings based on the outlets included in 2015 and excluding the new ones introduced the 2018. For those areas that were in the top 10 healthiest or unhealthiest in 2015, their position has been included in brackets.

The least healthy towns and cities based on the 2015 list of businesses:

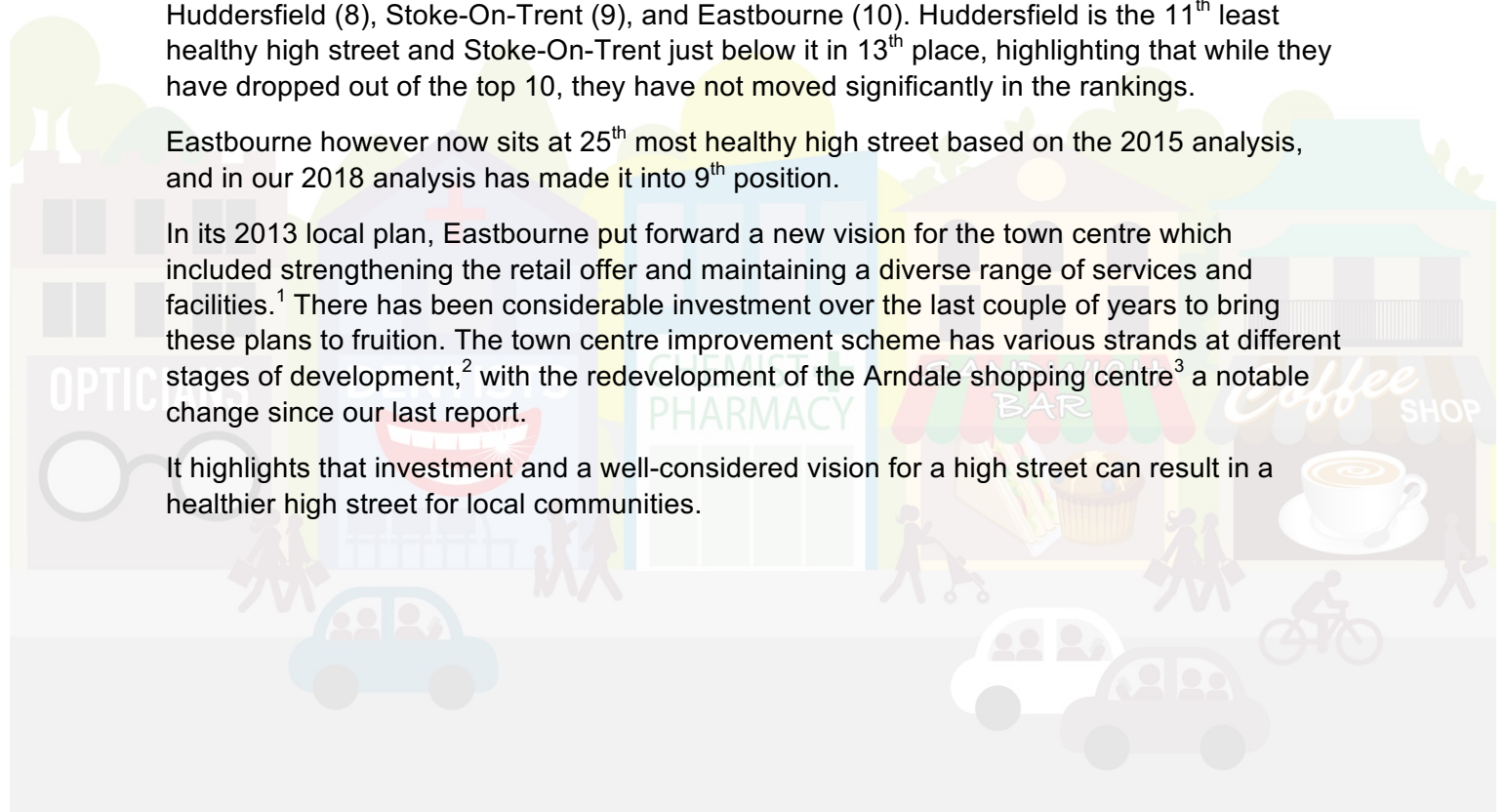
1. Coventry (3)
2. Northampton (5)
3. Blackpool (4)
4. Wolverhampton (6)
5. Sunderland
6. Grimsby (7)
7. Preston (1)
8. Scarborough
9. Colchester
10. Middlesbrough (2)

Three towns and cities that were in the 10 most unhealthy list from 2015 have dropped out: Huddersfield (8), Stoke-On-Trent (9), and Eastbourne (10). Huddersfield is the 11th least healthy high street and Stoke-On-Trent just below it in 13th place, highlighting that while they have dropped out of the top 10, they have not moved significantly in the rankings.

Eastbourne however now sits at 25th most healthy high street based on the 2015 analysis, and in our 2018 analysis has made it into 9th position.

In its 2013 local plan, Eastbourne put forward a new vision for the town centre which included strengthening the retail offer and maintaining a diverse range of services and facilities.¹ There has been considerable investment over the last couple of years to bring these plans to fruition. The town centre improvement scheme has various strands at different stages of development,² with the redevelopment of the Arndale shopping centre³ a notable change since our last report.

It highlights that investment and a well-considered vision for a high street can result in a healthier high street for local communities.



The most healthy towns and cities based on the 2015 list of businesses:

1. Shrewsbury (1)
2. Cheltenham (8)
3. Ayr (2)
4. Carlisle (6)
5. Tunbridge Wells
6. Taunton
7. Hereford (5)
8. Salisbury (3)
9. Edinburgh
10. Wakefield

Four towns and cities that were in the 10 most healthy list from 2015 have dropped out: Perth (4), Cambridge (7), York (9) and Bristol (10). None of these cities moved into the bottom half of the table.

References

¹Eastbourne Borough Council., 2013. Eastbourne Core Strategy Local Plan. Available at <http://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/216964.pdf> (accessed 3/10/18).

² East Sussex Highways., 2018. Eastbourne Town Centre Improvement Scheme (ETCIS). Available at <https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/works/eastbourne-town-centre-improvement-scheme-etcis> (accessed 3/10/18).

³ Eastbourne Arndale Centre., 2018. Development. Available at <http://www.eastbournearndaleshopping.co.uk/development.html> (accessed 3/10/18).

