



Trafford's Town and Retail Centres

Policy TC1: Hierarchy of Centres

- A. Trafford's retail hierarchy, as defined on the policies map, is as follows:
- i. Main Town Centre:
 - Altrincham
 - ii. Other Designated Town Centres:
 - Sale
 - Stretford
 - Urmston
 - iii. District Centres
 - Hale
 - Sale Moor
 - Timperley
 - iv. Local Centres (see Appendix 1)
 - v. Neighbourhood Centres (see Appendix 1)
- B. Loss of retail units for non-commercial, business and service uses (as defined within national regulations) will only be supported in exceptional circumstances (for example where there are clear public benefits, a justified need for another appropriate use or other significant material considerations)

Places for Everyone Links

JP-Strat12

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO6

- 7.5. Trafford has a range of strong, vibrant centres which meet the needs of the local community, as well as visitors. The town centres provide an opportunity to create successful, walkable neighbourhoods and serve as community hubs, offering a variety of services that are essential to meet residents' everyday needs. As shopping habits change and the rise in



home working, it will be important for town centres to embrace change and provide a diverse offering.

- 7.6. New commercial development will be directed to the town centres, and any new “town centre” uses should be of a scale and nature that support each centre and allows it to serve its proper function.
- 7.7. The local and neighbourhood centres also play a vital role. They form a network of local hubs that complement the larger centres, helping to meet residents' everyday needs and reducing the need to travel.

Main and other designated Town Centres

- 7.8. Places for Everyone (PfE) seeks to direct development to the most sustainable areas, including town centres, taking advantage of the services and facilities on offer in these locations.
- 7.9. PfE Policy JP-Strat 12: Main Town Centres identifies Altrincham as one of eight main town centres in the PfE plan area. The growth of Altrincham, alongside the other designated town centres in Trafford (Sale, Stretford and Urmston), will be supported where it complements existing businesses and services in the town.
- 7.10. There is a significant opportunity to increase the number and variety of homes in the vicinity of the town centres, alongside improved infrastructure, amenities, and green spaces. Housing development along key public transport routes and close to services and facilities will be supported, helping to diversify the uses in these areas.
- 7.11. The growth of the main town centres in Trafford will be carefully managed so that it preserves and enhances their character, as well as natural and historic assets.

District Centres

- 7.12. Trafford's ‘district centres’ are Hale, Sale Moor and Timperley. These have an important role as a focus for activity and identity in the wider community and provide access to shops and services. These centres will be protected and enhanced.



- 7.13. Place Plans for Hale and Sale Moor centres have been produced, which provide a vision for their future use and identify improvements. These will be considered as part of the planning application process.

Local and Neighbourhood Centres

- 7.14. Local and neighbourhood centres serve as vital hubs for community services, retail, and social activities. Local centres are larger than neighbourhood centres and may include more extensive retail offers, such as supermarkets, while neighbourhood centres tend to focus on smaller-scale retail and services. Both types of centres are important in providing easy access to essential amenities, and in helping to minimise car journeys in the borough. They typically offer a variety of essential goods and services, such as convenience stores, pharmacies, cafes, and other small retailers, which cater to the daily needs of the community.
- 7.15. All local and neighbourhood centres identified on the policies map will be maintained and protected. This includes the two new local centres at the PfE Davenport Green (Timperley Wedge) and New Carrington allocations.

Consultation Question 7-1

Do you support Policy TC1? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.

Consultation Question 7-2

Do you agree with all of the proposed boundaries for the Town, Other Designated, Local and Neighbourhood centres as shown on the policies map?