

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Facing Beyond
Programme

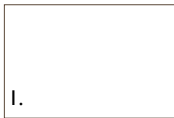
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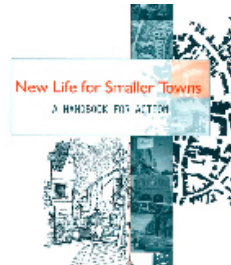
vital and viable town centres :
meeting the challenge

Town Centre Research

- Vital and Viable Town Centres** Influential report for the Department of the Environment and one of the main good practice guides supporting the government's policies on town centres.
- New Life for Smaller Towns** The first practical handbook on how to tackle the challenges facing market and smaller towns.
- Town Centre Partnerships** How to organise and resource town centre improvements for the Association of Town Centre Management and DETR.
- The Renaissance of Post-war Town Centres** Report of a symposium in 2000 on the issues facing town centres built or redeveloped in the last 50 years.
- My Kind of Town** This symposium sponsored by the Building Centre Trust brought together leading urban thinkers on the implementation of the Urban Task Force's report.
- Towards Successful Suburban Town Centres** URBED produced three reports for UCL on High Barnet, Surbiton and South Norwood. We brought together local business representatives, councillors and planners to discuss the areas' character, economy, and future prospects.
- Over the Edge** This report for the North and West London Strategic Alliances takes a fresh look at the health of the major and metropolitan town centres in north and west London, evaluating their success against the Outer Metropolitan.



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Retail and leisure trends are threatening the vitality and viability of many town centres. URBED were commissioned in the mid 1990s to produce the Government's ongoing good practice guide, *Vital and Viable Town Centres*, which supports PPS3. We have developed a strong research base in town centres with ongoing research into special problems faced by smaller and suburban towns.

