A Review of District and Local Centres (February 2006)
Section Three: Summary

This section aims to draw together the overall findings of the district and local centre review (with respect of retail viability/ environmental quality) and to identify ways forward for each centre. In order to summarise the findings in a clear and concise way, a point scoring system has been devised to assess the centres on several key indicators - these are:

- Vacancy levels - Is there a problem with vacancy in the centre?
- Retail representation in the Protected Frontage – Are 50% of units in the protected frontage in (A1) Retail use? 50% is recommended by the UDP as the minimum level to ensure that the centre maintains and enhances its vitality and viability.
- Diversity of Uses – Does the centre adhere to the district and local centre characteristics set out in PPS6?
- Traffic Congestion – Is the level of traffic congestion in the centre acceptable and would it hinder the vitality and viability of centres?

The performance of each centre against these indicators has been scored using the following weighting:

- 1 Point   Poor
- 2 Points   Fair
- 3 Points   Good
- 4 Points   Excellent

Table 18: Evaluation of the performance of centres

Name of Centre	Vacancy Levels	Retail 50% or above in PF?	Diversity of uses	Traffic Congestion
Brierley Hill	1	3	3	1
Kingswinford	3	4	4	1
Lye	2	3	2	1
Sedgley	2	3	3	1
Amblecote	3	3	2	1
Cradley/ Windmill Hill	1	1	2	1
Gornal Wood	3	3	3	1
Netherton	3	3	2	2
Pensnett	1	2	3	1
Quarry Bank	1	3	3	1
Roseville	3	3	4	2
Shell Corner	1	1	1	1
The Stag	4	3	3	2
Upper Gornal	1	3	3	2
Wall Heath	4	3	3	2
Wollaston	3	4	4	2
Wordsley	3	2	3	1

Table 19: Summary of points scored

Name of Centre	Total Points Scored
Shell Corner	4
Cradley/ Windmill Hill	5
Pensnett	7
Brierley Hill High Street	8
Lye	8
Quarry Bank	8
Sedgley	9
Amblecote	9
Upper Gornal	9
Wordsley	9
Gornal Wood	10
Netherton	10
Kingswinford	12
Roseville	12
The Stag	12
Wall Heath	12
Wollaston	13

Shaded centres are identified as priorities for action.