



PRESS RELEASE

Does Phillip Hammond's Budget Save The UK High Street? SaveTheHighStreet.org Asks Phillip Hammond – What High Street do you want?

[9 March 2017 London] In the wake of Phillip Hammond's newly announced budget there is mounting concern for independent shops and the future of the communities they serve. SaveTheHighStreet.org has been running a digital national outdoor advertising campaign since December 2016 asking people everywhere 'what high street do you want?' The campaign is designed to directly engage the community, and so far 10,000s have registered their support.

On behalf of SaveTheHighStreet.org independent retailers and supporters:

SaveTheHighStreet.org asks Phillip Hammond - What high street do you want?

- SaveTheHighStreet.org calls for the Chancellor to define a clear plan, approach and timeline around how to Save The High Streets being hit the hardest by the rates hikes?
- SaveTheHighStreet.org asks Hammond and the councils for a clear communications plan to insure that independent shops can take full advantage of the £300million fund for councils to give discretionary help to the hardest hit by the hikes?
- Phillip Hammond how do you plan to protect the diversity and character of the nation's high streets going forward?

Shopkeepers Are Being Hit From Every Angle

Many independent shopkeepers say they are already being hit from every angle, and in addition to rates; rents, inflation, rising minimum wage, trade prices, road works, parking and increased competitive pressures from online global giants like Amazon, it is increasingly hard to set up and succeed as a local shopkeeper. Unprepared to deal with these challenges shopkeepers are evaluating their options, risking mass flight of independent business from the high street.

SaveTheHighStreet.org Empowers Independent Shops

To empower local shopkeepers in this period of substantial and rapid change, SaveTheHighStreet.org are designing new industry standards 'by the retailer for the retailer' for successful modern retailing together with Industry Leaders and our Retailer Advisory Board comprised of 100+ shopkeepers nationwide.

Tell us 'What high street you want?' on Instagram [@savethehighstreet](https://www.instagram.com/savethehighstreet) #savethehighstreet or email info@savethehighstreet.org.

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SaveTheHighStreet.org stands for a diverse, thriving, and independent high street for generations to come

High Streets are what bring our communities to life. They are a place to gather, shop, have lunch and sip coffee. They are where businesses are born, children grow up and people grow old. Today's high streets need to stand for what people want, positive experiences, thriving businesses and bustling communities. They will not be the high street of the past, but a better-connected, digitally enabled high street of the future. We need to support our local shopkeepers during this transition and throughout this journey.

About SaveTheHighStreet.org

SaveTheHighStreet.org is a coordinated industry-wide movement to support and empower every local shopkeeper nationwide, accelerating the whole high street's transition to a better connected, digitally enabled and more sustainable high street. [SaveTheHighStreet.org](https://www.savethehighstreet.org), the voice of independent shopkeepers, is designing best in class industry standards 'by the retailer for the retailer' together with Industry Leaders and our Retailer Advisory Board comprised of 100+ shopkeepers nationwide. These standards provide independent shopkeepers the necessary information to succeed on today's high street and for generations to come. Industry standards outline [10 categories](#) around successful modern retailing.

[Read The Connected Digital High Street Manifesto](#)