

# September 2021. 29 Aug 2021 - 02 Oct 2021 Monthly Performance Report for: Cambridge

Please Note: This report contains all available data. Some of the data usually available has been impacted by Covid-19 and therefore unable to be included

Springboard Benchmarks - YoY

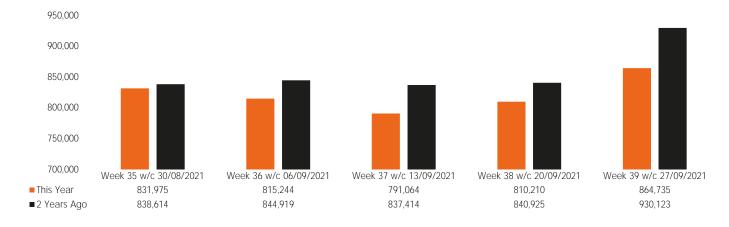
 Shopping Centre Index
 High Street Index

 Cambridge
 -23.4%
 -4.2%

 East
 -23.4%
 -17.4%

 UK
 -23.6%
 -20.3%

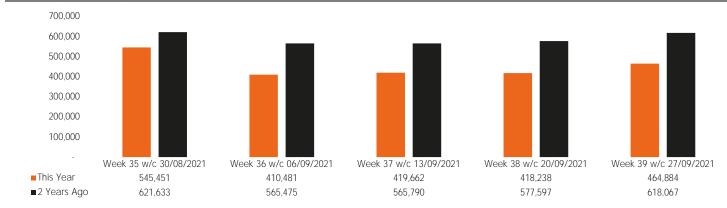
## Cambridge City Centre Footfall



The Weekly Average Total for September 2021 was 822646 The Weekly Average Total for September 2019 was 858399

The Weekly Average Total for September 2021 was -4.17% compared to 2019

## Cambridge Shopping Centre Footfall



The Weekly Average Total for September 2021 was 451743 The Weekly Average Total for September 2019 was 589712

The Weekly Average Total for September 2021 was -23.40% compared to the 2019

## Note:

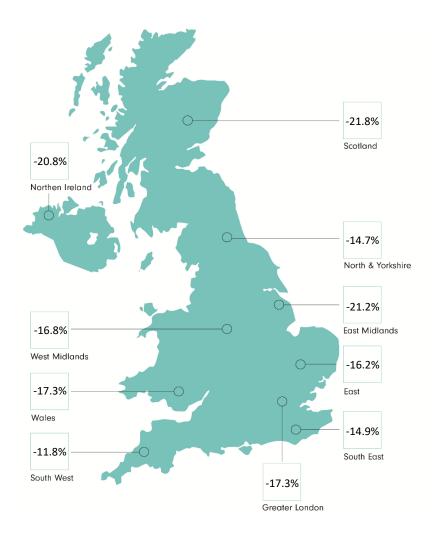
Numbers of visitors recorded by footfall cameras in Grand Arcade, Lion Yard and The Grafton



 Total Retail Footfall
 High Street
 Retail Park
 Shopping Centre

 September 2021
 -17.4%
 -20.3%
 -4.6%
 -23.6%

 July - September
 -20.0%
 -24.7%
 -3.7%
 -25.9%



Region 3 Month Average
Weighted UK -20.0%
Scotland -22.3%
Nothern Ireland
Wales -18.7%

#### Springboard Insights

Diane Wehrle, Insights Director at Springboard, said:

"Retail footfall continued to strengthen in September, narrowing the gap from 2019 to -17.4% from -18.6% in August. Although this is the most marginal improvement of any month in 2021, this result is more positive than it first appears. This month's results go against the long term footfall trend for September, which traditionally is a month in which footfall levels off or declines from the year before as schools go back and spending for the festive period is yet to start.

The improvement in footfall emanated from high streets and shopping centres, and it was only in retail parks where customer activity worsened. The month benefitted from the inclusion of August bank holiday which occurred during August in 2019, and which will have boosted high street footfall in particular with the popularity of daycations and staycations over the summer months. This is further evidenced by the gap from 2019 narrowing to -20.3% in September from -23.5% in August. Over the two weeks that spanned the bank holiday weekend, high street footfall improved to -19.1% below 2019, versus -26.3% in the week before.

Whilst much of the decline in footfall from 2019 is accounted for by the loss of office workers and tourists in retail destinations due to the ongoing pandemic, we must also recognise the accelerating impact of online on bricks and mortar retail that has been a feature of the past decade. The reduction of in-store browsing, together with a transition of some spending online has meant that over the past decade, footfall had already been declining by around -1.5% per annum. Therefore, regardless of the Covid-19 pandemic, retail footfall would likely have declined by -3% from 2019, and by circa -4% in high streets, implying that the true impact of Covid on footfall is around -14% to -16%.

As we move into the second month of Q4, we are anticipating a continued and steady increase in the return of employees to office working for at least part of the week together with the beginnings of the return of overseas tourists. The combination of which, will add further support to footfall in retail stores and destinations as we near the Christmas trading period."

Commenting on the Cambridge Monthly Performance Report, Cambridge BID added:

"The September 2021 Cambridge Performance Report compares September 2021 with September 2019.

High Street footfall during September 2021 was only 4.2% down on September 2019 which is very encouraging and significantly ahead of the UK average which was 20.3% down. Shopping Centre footfall in Cambridge was 23.4% down on 2019 levels which is almost exactly the same as the UK average of 23.6% down.

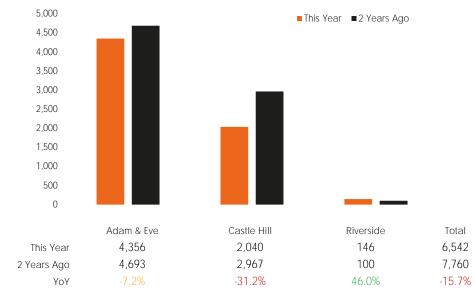
The data continues to show that car parks (surface and multi-storey) are trending much closer to 2019 levels than public transport. Overall multi-storey car park usage in Cambridge in September 2021 was only 9.3% down on 2019. Grand Arcade Car park was itself only 2.9% down in September 2021 when compared to 2019. Surface car parks overall, were 15.7% down in September 2021 against September 2019.

Park & Ride passenger numbers saw September 2021 43% down on September 2019 and Guided Busway passengers numbers were similar showing a 42.2% decrease compared to September 2019. Passenger numbers are generally increasing month on month but the gap between 2021 and 2019 still remains much larger than in car parks, for example.

With regards to the Cambridge BID data, fewer visitor welcomes were made in September 2021 compared to September 2019 which is to be expected. A higher number of business visits were carried out as the Ambassador Team delivered the Cambridge BID Annual Report and AGM invite. They also reported a similar number of commercial waste issues and environmental concerns in September 2021 compared to September 2019 – continuing to be reliable eyes and ears on the street for reporting concerns that impact on the perception of Cambridge."

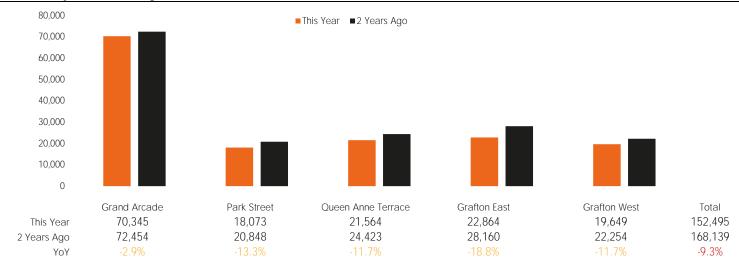


## Suface Car Park Usage

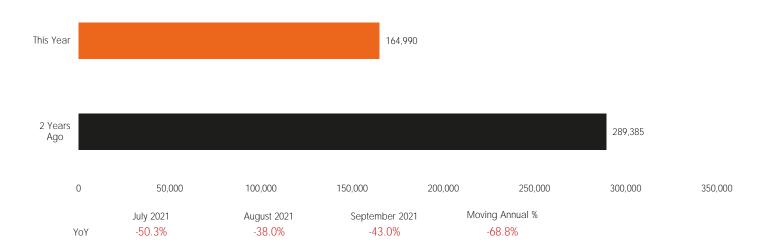


 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  Castle Court car park holds 299 spaces and is only available for the public to use on Saturdays and Sundays (9am - 7pm)

## Multi Storey Car Park Usage

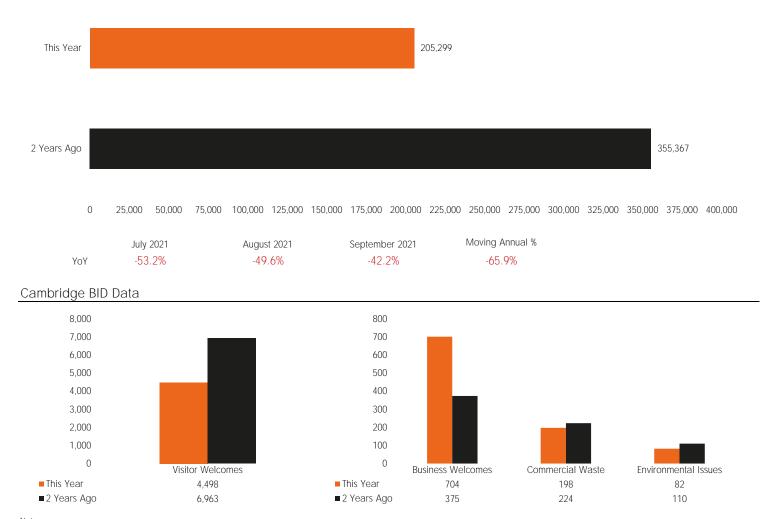


### Park & Ride Usage





## Guided Busway Usage



Note:

MA – 'Moving Annual' is the annual % change in sales/visitors for the last 52 weeks, compared to the same period last year YoY – 'Year on Year' is the % change in sales/visitors from the same period in the previous year WoW - 'Week on Week' is the % change in sales/visitors from the previous week