

CHECKOUT CHUCKOUT!



A D.I.Y. guide to stopping supermarket developments

July 2002 £ 1

Corporate Watch
and The Land is Ours

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Introduction

This guide was first compiled in 1998 to offer help, contacts and details of useful publications to people fighting supermarket developments. It was widely welcomed by campaigners. With the continuing expansion of supermarkets and the arrival of Wal-Mart in the UK, we felt it needed updating.

The new guide includes a brief overview of supermarket expansion policies and of the planning regulations that apply to them, details of useful contacts and resources and a directory of local groups campaigning against supermarket developments.

The directory is not definitive but gives details of a selection of past, present, successful and not so successful local campaigns. All the contacts listed are happy to share experiences and discuss tactics/strategies with other local groups campaigning against supermarkets.

Supermarket expansionism

Since the 1950s food retailing in the UK has undergone a radical shift from high street and district centres comprised of specialist food shops; grocers, greengrocers, bakers and butchers to the dominance of food retailing by the 'big four' supermarkets: Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury and Safeway.

This long term restructuring has accelerated with the huge increase in out of town superstores. The number of superstores increased from 457 to 1,102 between 1986 and 1997, whilst eight independent shops have closed every day during the same period. The number of convenience stores has declined by almost 40% in the eleven years from 1986 to 1997.¹

Whilst all the supermarket multiples threaten local communities and the local economy, different supermarkets seem to be pursuing different expansion strategies. Somerfield has the largest total number of stores, but these are mainly smaller stores in town centres. They have been selling off their larger stores in order to concentrate on their small neighbourhood stores.

In response to planning controls (see page 3) Tesco and Sainsbury have shifted their expansion programmes to focus on smaller format inner city stores such as Tesco 'Metro' and Sainsbury's 'Central'. Asda, on the other hand, whilst refurbishing and extending many of its stores, is planning to build 20 new out of town Asda/Wal-Mart supercentres of around 90,000 ft. Wal-Mart, which acquired Asda in 1999 for 6.7 billion pounds, is the world's largest retailer and is well known for its strategy of destroying the economic and social fabric of small towns all across America by building giant out of town superstores and selling goods at rock bottom prices.³

Consolidation in food retailing

We can expect to see further consolidation in food retailing over the next few years as the supermarket giants continue to battle for domination of the global market.⁴ Expansion across Europe and the US is the way supermarkets believe they will keep profitable and stay competitive, either through acquiring foreign chains, or by moving in. In the UK, along with Wal-Mart, the giant German discounters, Aldi and Lidl, have already moved in, as has the Danish chain Netto. Carrefour, the French multinational and the largest grocery retailer in Europe, and Dutch multinational Royal Ahold have stated that they would like to enter (in Carrefour's case, return to) the UK grocery sector.

Supermarkets are increasingly focusing on non-grocery goods, which will impact on the size, and siting of supermarket developments. Tesco is already the largest petrol retailer in the country, and all the supermarkets are eagerly becoming chemists, newsagents, DIY and garden suppliers, travel agents, banks...in fact taking over the entire high street. The success, or otherwise, of Internet shopping could affect supermarket expansion plans. Internet shopping may mean fewer people buying directly from supermarkets, but would also mean more lorries on the road delivering from dedicated distribution centres or from the stores themselves.

A supermarket is a self-service grocery store that sells food, beverages and other goods. It is usually located on urban high streets or in shopping malls, covering an area of between 4 - 12,000 ft. During the last 10 - 15 years, new branches have opened on the edge of towns or out of town.

A superstore is a retail outlet specialising in grocery sales, although not exclusively selling food of between 25 - 50, 000 ft.

A hypermarket, is a superstore over 50,000 ft. These are always out of town or on large out of town complexes, and offer extensive car parks. They offer a larger range of non-food products, such as DIY and garden products and electrical goods. French and US hypermarkets can be around 90,000 ft.

Definitions from Keynote Report on Supermarkets and Superstores, 2001.²



Supermarket planning controls

The growth of out of town retailing has been damaging to town centre and local economies, damaging to the countryside and has increased traffic.⁵

This damage was recognised by the Conservative Government in 1993 when it introduced Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 on Transport (PPG13) which required the consideration of locally accessible shops in planning decisions. The Conservatives also revised Planning Policy Guidance Note 6 on Town Centres and Retail Development (PPG6) to protect town centres against out of town developments in 1993 and then again in 1996 when they required local authorities to use a 'sequential approach', and to only grant planning permission for out of town sites where there were no viable alternatives firstly in the town and secondly on the edge of town.⁶

In 2000, the Environment Committee of the House of Commons criticised the Office of Fair Trading's (OFT) proposals to relax planning controls on supermarkets.⁷ It also condemned the OFT for referring supermarket development matters to the Competition Commission without taking evidence either from planning experts or from the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

The Environment Committee said relaxing planning controls would be disastrous and called for supermarkets to be built on town centre sites to revitalise communities and curb traffic congestion caused by out-of-town shopping malls. In historic towns, it called for supermarkets to be sited on the edge-of-town, rather than damaging the character of town centres. Whilst the new planning guidance has not prevented all new store development, there has been a sharp decline in new planning approvals for out of town superstores.⁸ The New Labour government has so far continued to uphold and to some extent has even strengthened the guidance.

Down but not out

The supermarkets will of course continue to lobby for out-of-town stores as this is where they can get the economies of scale they say they need to support their profits and the acres of free car parking which gives them an enormous competitive advantage over city centre stores. Whether they have Tony Blair's sympathetic ear is not clear yet. He met supermarket lobbyists before the 1997 General Election (the meeting was set up by Lord Sainsbury) and after the Election he met Wal-Mart representatives before the US giant took over Asda.⁹ Planning policy was apparently discussed on both occasions. But so far there has been no change.

In the meanwhile the supermarkets have responded to the tougher planning regulations by development at both ends of the size spectrum. Firstly by adding extensions to their current out of town stores (Asda) and secondly by developing new smaller formats in towns; city centre convenience stores (Tesco Metro and Sainsbury's Central), neighbourhood convenience stores (Sainsbury's Local) and petrol forecourt shops (Tesco Express/Esso, Safeway/BP Connect).

Out of town development may have slowed but all supermarket developments pose a threat to local communities. Whether they are on the high street, in shopping malls or out of town, they are attempting to bring what the entire high street can offer, under one roof. Supermarket development compromises the economic viability of small independent retailers, increases traffic and destroys the social role that small shops provide in bringing together communities and fostering trust about the products supplied.

WARTH MALL

Bulldozing protest

In December 2001, the Government released a planning 'green' paper outlining new proposals for planning legislation. Whilst it seems as though New Labour's agenda is to fast track major infrastructure development projects, changing rules for public inquiries on new roads, nuclear power plants, airports and the like, it seems unlikely that in their present form these proposals will water down supermarket planning legislation.

A third party right of appeal would help give real clout to the campaigns of those objecting to supermarket developments. Currently, only the applicant i.e. the supermarket, can appeal against a planning decision if it goes against them. Objectors have no right of appeal. Despite widespread support for this right of appeal and the fact that the lack of such a right appears to contravene article 6 of the Human Rights Act the green paper has not taken the opportunity to give third parties (eg the opponents of supermarket developments) the right of appeal.

Number of Supermarkets and Superstores 2000 ²

Somerfield/Kwiksave	1325
Tesco	568
Safeway	500
Sainsburys	440
Asda	240
Marks and Spencer	297



Launching your campaign

Stage 1 - Know your enemy

Check the supermarket's own web site, also see the Corporate Watch web site for more information on major retailers www.corporatewatch.org.uk

Stage 2 - Build local support

Contact local traders, residents, environmental and community groups. Use the local press and distribute leaflets. You might want to contact some of the groups listed on page 8 for ideas for text for leaflets and other communications.

Stage 3 - Be clear about the planning process

When are the committee meetings; who are the committee members and which might be sympathetic to what arguments; which officers deal with the application; can you influence the full council meeting? It might help to draw a diagram of who makes decisions at various stages, and how they can be influenced. Often strong local opposition to a development, together with sound arguments, can persuade the planning committee to reject it.

Stage 4 - Dealing with Appeals and Public Enquiries

All too often the supermarket developers will go to appeal, and possibly a public enquiry. They don't like to be told 'no' and will use their financial muscle to get the best lawyers. If it gets to this stage you will probably need expert representation and advice - some useful planning and legal contacts are listed on page 11.

Stage 5 - And if they win

Even if the store gets permission, the access roads could be refused, meaning that the store would not be viable. In several cases stores have been designed specifically to allow expansion at some later date (often despite assurances to the contrary) so be ready to fight again. Develop a campaign to support your local shops/reinvigorate the town centre, see the 'Loyalty to Leominster' campaign on page 5.

A few campaign tips

Economic impact of out of town stores

The following extract from Lucy Nichol's briefing 'How can planning help the local food economy? A guide for planners'¹⁰ may be useful to persuade your local planner that out of town stores, whether urban or rural can be opposed under planning policy guidance if they can be shown to damage the local economy.

"Council planners can resist granting permission for developments that will undermine the local economy. While small independent shops often stock local products, supermarkets rarely do, and their centralised distribution systems mean that 'local' products may be transported hundreds of miles to depots and then back to local superstores. Research by the DETR (The Impact of Large Foodstores on Market Towns and District Centres, 1998) and the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee (Second Report: Environmental Impact of Supermarket Competition, 2000), found that new out-of-centre supermarkets have a serious adverse impact on existing independent shops in villages and town centres, resulting in their decline and sometimes their closure. The ramifications will go beyond the shopkeeper and have a negative effect on the local rural economy.

Resisting new supermarkets on this basis could be justified with reference to Planning Policy Guidance Note 6: Town Centres and Retail Development (1996) paragraph 1.16, which states that proposals for new out-of-centre superstores should be judged not only on their likely impact on the vitality of town centres, but also on the impact on the rural economy. However a recent survey by the Planning Policies Research Group has found that few planning authorities are using this tool, perhaps because there is no established methodology for measuring the impact on the rural economy. Any assessment of this should include the impact on local food producers; both those that sell directly to the public through farm shops and farmers' markets, and those who rely on local shops to sell their produce."

Finally, enjoy your campaign.
Good luck!

Office of Fair Trading inquiries into the siting of new stores

The Competition Commission report on Supermarkets made a recommendation that might be useful ammunition to support campaigns against some supermarket developments.

The Competition Commission proposed that the Office of Fair Trading should assess the development of large new stores on competition grounds framed in terms of drive time between stores. So if a supermarket wished to build a new store over a certain size (suggested 1,000sqm) within 15 minutes drive of one of their existing stores or significantly extend the grocery retailing of one of their existing stores, they would be required to apply to the Director General of the Office of Fair Trading for consent.

Nonviolent direct action

A useful tactic, which can be used throughout the campaign, is **nonviolent direct action. This has been effective in stopping other developments around the country.**

It gives a community the chance to impose direct financial costs on the corporation that has ignored its views. An early threat of direct action might also put the developer off, draw some unwelcome publicity for the corporation and boost your support among the local community.

Once one store has a foothold in a town or community, its rivals will be watching very closely, eager to pounce too. Towns rarely stop at just one major store. So even if direct action doesn't stop the store it's targeting, the next developer may not want to face that kind of opposition. Get in touch with your local Earth First! Group, see page .



Directory of local campaigns

ASDA/WAL-MART

Chesterfield-Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Friends of the Earth

Contact: Simon Reading email: campaigns@chesterfieldfoe.org.uk

Chesterfield FoE are backing up the local Council which turned down an application for a new Asda store. The applicant went to Appeal over the definition of the site as 'in town' or 'out of town'. This was because although it is close to the town centre it is only accessible via a dual carriageway. The site is also zoned industrial land and the council didn't want it re-zoned. As an outcome of the appeal, a public enquiry was held in July 2001. Decision awaited still.



Conwy-Conwy Friends of the Earth

Contact: Christopher Draper
tel: 01492 547590

Conwy FoE have been campaigning against plans to move a local school on to a contaminated waste site and build a Wal-Mart/Asda store on the existing school ground. Asda have just been granted planning permission despite fierce local opposition including the Parents Group. Conwy FoE claim that Wal-Mart were behind the school moving and that the Council have constantly misled the public and councillors. Despite council claims the Welsh Environment Agency does not support the scheme.

The Children's Commissioner for Wales has stated that the school move 'should not go ahead'. FoE and the Parents Group asked the Minister for the Environment for Wales for a revocation and to call in the application. The minister has refused to call it in and work has started.

Walsall - Walsall Friends of the Earth
Contact: Gerald Kells, 55 Folly House Lane, Walsall, WS1 3EL. tel: 01922 636601

Gerald presented the case against ASDA at a Public Enquiry in mid 1997, and has experience of public enquiries generally (he has done 6 or 7, some of them successfully, including against the expansion of Merry Hill shopping centre). He can advise groups about public enquiries, the planning process and campaign strategy. Can give advice over the phone or send copy of proof of evidence for the ASDA application.

He is currently campaigning against Tesco plans to replace their town centre store, which serves people without cars, with a smaller Tesco Metro, and build a big new store on the edge of town. Opponents say it is an 'out of town' store but the council argues that it is 'in town' because the site is included in the town plan. Still awaiting the outcome of a public enquiry held in September 2001.

MORRISONS

Sheffield-Tyzack Site Action Group
Contact: Jenny tel: 0114 258 7073
email: jenny.patient@talk21.com

In November 1998, Sheffield Council refused planning permission for a Morrison's superstore. The developers lodged an appeal. In August 1999 the developer submitted a completely new planning application for a health and fitness club and medium sized supermarket. This proposal still had the same traffic implications as the previous one, but did include offices and light industry. In February 2001, the Council gave permission for the development, it was called in by the Secretary of State because another application for a supermarket in a more favourable location had also been submitted. The developers then put in a further application minus the supermarket and in July 2001 were given outline planning permission.

SAFEWAY

Leominster

Contact: Felicity Norman, The Folly, Luston, Nr Leominster, HR6 0BX. tel: 01568 780886.

A Safeway store was built in Leominster in 1993-4. A last minute local campaign tried, and failed, to raise sufficient local opposition to the store. Local traders took little interest at the time, but after the store was built they really felt the impact. Research by the DETR, revealed that when Safeway opened the store, many of the town's small shops lost 30 per cent of their trade.⁵ A successful loyalty card scheme "Loyal to Leominster" was then launched to help raise awareness among consumers about the need to support local businesses.

SAINSBURYS

Brighton

Contact: Brighton Urban Design and Development (BUDD) & Stop the Store. Ben Messer, Sara Bragg or Keith Taylor, co-ordinators, tel: 01273 324198 / 681166 / 291165 respectively: email Ben on Ben@clevel.co.uk
www.buddbrighton.org/

BUDD formed in early 1997 to provide a forum for debate on a proposed development of the Brighton station site, focused around a Sainsbury's superstore and car park. BUDD aimed to raise awareness of the implications of the development, to explore community-related development options and to lobby the local planning authority. The Council was persuaded - in part by BUDD's efforts - to refuse the planning application, and after an extended public enquiry in 1998, the decision was upheld by the Secretary of State.



The Council then embarked on a public consultation process with a view to drawing up a new Planning Brief for the site. (Previously there was no such formal document). 500 people attended a Community Planning Event in October 1999, and overwhelmingly opposed any major retail uses (and associated car parking) for the site.

However, it soon became clear that Sainsbury's was intent on putting in a further application and the Council reluctant to continue its opposition organised a Working Group to develop a Planning Brief. The group, with representation heavily skewed to the interests of the landowner, Railtrack and Sainsbury's delivered a Planning Brief that explicitly allowed for a supermarket (only a few metres short of the official definition of 'superstore') on the site. This effectively ruled out any community-related and sustainable development options.

Meanwhile Railtrack, Sainsbury's and other developers formed the 'New England Consortium', and delivered a new application in September 2001 for a mixed-use development including housing, hotels, language schools as well as a supermarket with 200 space car park. The public has continued to express opposition, not least because the proposal does not address longstanding concerns about the effects of the supermarket on smaller local retailers, on traffic and pollution, on the character of the area, or adequately address the need for affordable housing locally. With refusal imminent the developers have asked for extra time to see if they can address the chief areas of departure from the planning brief. BUDD are waiting to see what amendments the developer will make, but if they are significant they will spark a new round of consultation on the new proposals. BUDD is asking the minister to call the application in for a public enquiry.

**Westbury-on-Trym-Westbury Residents Action Group (WRAG).
Contact: Denise Barwell tel: 0117 9508012
email denise@corporacare.co.uk.**

WRAG was formed in May 2001 after canvassing local residents and finding overwhelming local opposition to the development of a new Sainsbury's store. Westbury-on-Trym is an urban village currently well served by small local retailers and a small Somerfield. There are at least seven supermarkets within approx. four miles, including a very large Wal-Mart. The land in question is designated in the Local Plan as 'open space for recreational and leisure purposes'. The land is made up of individually owned allotments, some of which are subject to restrictive covenants.

Westbury-on-Trym is a conservation area. Sainsbury's have applied for planning permission to demolish three houses and to build a two storey store with a sales area of 15,000 square feet and an extension to an existing car park. The local planning officer asked for an environmental impact assessment several months ago that has not yet been supplied by Sainsbury's. There is a church dating to the Saxon period on the fringe of the proposed development, and the oldest inhabited house in Bristol is alongside the site. This is also an interdenominational house of prayer and meditation. There has already been some local media coverage regarding the affect on this house of a supermarket car park at the end of the garden. WRAG are currently undertaking a car survey.

**TESCO
Hadleigh, Suffolk-Campaign Against Another Supermarket in Hadleigh (CAASH) Contact: John Bloomfield, Hadleigh Society tel: 01473 822063**

The Campaign Against Another Supermarket in Hadleigh, (CAASH) was successful in stopping a Tesco superstore on the edge of the centre of Hadleigh, Suffolk.

The Hadleigh Society and other like-minded bodies teamed up in April 1999 to oppose proposals from two supermarkets to build on the site. In October 1999, local people voted in a referendum following which the Town Council rejected the Tesco application, whilst recommending that an application by Buyright Stores should be approved.

Carter Commercial, the developers of the Tesco store, appealed and a Public Enquiry took place in October 2000. The weight of evidence filled more than the three weeks allocated, and the conclusion could not be scheduled until March 2001, two years after the proposal was first aired. The Inspector's report recommended that both supermarket proposals be refused. The Secretary of State agreed and turned down both Tesco's appeal and Buyright's application.

In summary, the Inspector accepted that the need for a supermarket was proved but rejected the Tesco proposal on the grounds that the building was of an unsuitable design: the demolition of 109 High Street and creation of a wide entrance would not enhance the outstanding conservation area. The proposed mono-pitched roof structure and high wall would be damaging to the amenities of Sun Court, a grade II listed building. The Inspector repeated in her report that the proposed building looked as if it had been designed by Pinewood studios! The Inspector also considered that the proposed road junction would create traffic problems and would not be capable of enhancement. She was concerned that residents would suffer from disturbance by traffic, and in particular, from the sound levels produced by traffic at the access point. The Inspector's only significant objection to the Buyright proposal was that the building of a supermarket adjacent to the existing store would create a "one-stop" shopping site from which few people would walk into the High Street. The local shops might therefore suffer.



Holywell, Flintshire

Contacts Roberta Owen, Friends of the Earth Flintshire tel: 01352 710714 email: jgowen@lineone.net
David McKnight, Youth Coalition Gogledd Cymru tel: 01352 711416 email: david@milwr.freeserve.co.uk

A proposal from Tesco to build an out of town superstore in Flintshire was recently rejected by Flintshire County Council on grounds that new out-of-town stores in Queensferry and Broughton have already damaged town centres in the county. Now Tesco have now made a new proposal to develop an out-of-town store and petrol station near Holywell.

Friends of the Earth Flintshire and Youth Coalition Gogledd Cymru are working together to develop strategies to (a) fight Tesco's proposals to build yet another out-of-town superstore, and (b) highlight alternative ways to nurture a sustainable and fair local economy.

Lewisham-Hither Green Heritage, Contact: Douglas Earle, 144 Hither Green Lane, London SE13 6QA. tel: 0208 244 3778.

Tesco bought the Hither Green Hospital for £5m, and sought planning permission to redevelop it, although there were already several supermarkets nearby. The campaign against it focused on heritage issues (preserving the old buildings and their setting), traffic, impact on local shops and loss of trees. The application went to appeal in 1999 and was rejected by the Inspector. The main reason for rejection was the negative impact it would have on the local town centre.

Llandoverly

Contact: Mr Davies, 4 Kings Road, Llandoverly, Carmarthenshire, SA20 0PU. tel: 01550 720 269.

In the late 1990's there were plans for a store and petrol station on a green field site at edge of this small market town (2,000 population). Local traders and residents were concerned about the damage it would do to the town centre.

The retail impact assessment carried out for Tesco was felt to be highly inaccurate, so Camarthenshire County Council commissioned its own. Currently there is a revised application for a central town location which some retailers feel might encourage more people to shop in the town. An environmental impact assessment (flood prevention scheme) was needed and the retailer had to pay half the cost, approx. £600,000. In June 2001 Tesco withdrew their application because they felt there wasn't sufficient parking in the scheme for the edge of town development.



Sherringham-Sherringham Campaign Against Major Retail Over Development (SCAMROD) Contact: Reg Grimes, 33 Beeston Road, Sherringham, Norfolk, NR26 8EJ. tel: 01263 824343.

The campaign is fighting two major superstores: Tesco (out of town) and Budgens on the edge of town. SCAMROD would prefer an in town site. Planning applications are in and SCAMROD have submitted objections.

Stow-on-the-Wold-North Cotswold CPRE Contact: c/o Lynn Greenwold, Digbeth, Digbeth St, Stow-on-the-Wold, Cheltenham, Glos. GL54 1BN tel: 01451 870 163.

The group fought an edge-of-town Tesco development in a small market town, and lost - the store opened in autumn 1997. The Planning Committee refused permission three times, but council officers were in favour, and took it to full council, who pushed it through, first changing the local development plan. The campaigners managed to change some of the detail e.g. height, visual obtrusiveness. But despite agreements to the contrary, the campaigners are worried that Tesco intends to expand the store (it has been built so as to allow extension), and add a petrol station in the future.

Top tips from the Hadleigh campaign:

- **Prepare carefully** - it took CAASH about a year to gather necessary information
- **Follow the rules** to the letter with regard to the Planning Inspector.
- Rather than address the weaknesses in the application, look at what they've **left out**. Someone with a good, cynical mind is a great asset!
- Engage as many of your **friends and colleagues** in the campaign e.g. use your Christmas Card list to ask your friends to write to the District Council.
- Use a **range of tactics**. In Hadleigh, we used real cars to stage the council's projected traffic figures. This caused town centre gridlock - what further proof was needed! Another tactic was to build a model of the development to illustrate the inappropriateness of site and design. In Hadleigh, this included erecting scaffolding to illustrate the height of building.
- **Brief your District Councillors** separately from the Council Officers.
- If you get obscure and confusing replies from the developer, **expose** this at the enquiry. We asked a simple question about relative heights of buildings but received a reply with a confusing explanation. At the enquiry we asked the developers 'expert' to read the letter out. The developer got a real roasting for sending us misleading information.



Useful Contacts

General advice for campaigning against supermarket developments

Corporate Watch

16b Cherwell Street, Oxford OX4 1BG,
UK Tel 01865 791 391 email:

mail@corporatewatch.org
www.corporatewatch.org.uk

Corporate Watch is a research and publications group, which aims to expose corporate corruption. It produces briefings and profiles of corporations including the major food processors and retailers, publishes a bi-monthly newsletter and fortnightly email news updates. It also acts as an information service to support, strengthen and initiate grassroots campaigns against corporations. The UK food industry is currently a major focus for research.

Council for British Archaeology

Bowes Morrell House, 111 Walmgate,
York, YO1 9WA. Tel: 01904 671417
email: Info@britarch.ac.uk
www.britarch.ac.uk

National pressure and campaign group working with all aspects of archaeology and cultural heritage. Will offer advice.

Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)

Warwick House, 25 Buckingham
Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PP. Tel:
0207 976 6433. Fax: 0207 976 6373.
www.cpre.org.uk

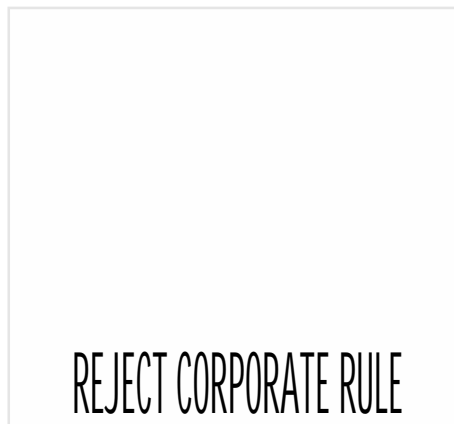
A national charity that helps people to protect their local countryside where there is threat, to enhance where there is opportunity, and to keep it beautiful, productive and enjoyable for everyone.

There are 43 local groups and at any one time several local groups are likely to be involved in campaigning against new supermarket developments. Contact CPRE to find out your nearest group. They produce a number of guides to help fight supermarket development, see page 11

Earth First! Action Update

Tel: 01603 612 265 email:
actionupdate@gn.apc.org

Publishes the monthly update of nonviolent direct action and contacts list of Earth First! local groups. Useful if your campaign is considering nonviolent direct action.



English Heritage

23 Saville Row, London, W1S 2ET. Tel:
0207 973 3000. Fax: 0207 973 3430.
www.english-heritage.org.uk

A Government organisation that will advise on archaeological and cultural heritage features.

Friends of the Earth

26-28 Underwood Street, London, N1
7JQ. Tel: 0207 490 1555. Fax: 0207
490 0881. www.foe.co.uk

Local Groups co-ordinator- Fiona
Roberts: Email: fionar@foe.co.uk

Friends of the Earth (FOE) is one of the UK's largest environmental campaigning groups. Contact them for more information on all aspects of local campaigning including details of your local group. FOE also has a 'Real Food' campaign.

Jean Saunders of Swindon Friends of the Earth is an experienced campaigner and happy to talk to other campaigners:
Email: foeswindon@hotmail.com
tel: 01793 783 040

The Land Is Ours (TLIO)

16b Cherwell Street, Oxford, OX4 1BN.
tel: 01460 249 204 email:
office@tlio.demon.co.uk
www.tlio.org.uk

A landrights movement for Britain, campaigning for access to the land, its resources and the decision making processes affecting them. Amongst its aims are derelict urban land to be used to meet basic social needs affordable homes and free recreation, ahead of destructive luxuries like superstores and exclusive housing). It also campaigns for sustainable agriculture, protection and reclamation of common space, and the reform of planning and public inquiries.

The planning office of TLIO, Chapter 7, campaigns for a planning system that actively encourages sustainable, low impact and affordable homes. Chapter 7 can be contacted at The Potato Store, Flax Drayton Farm, South Petherton, Somerset TA13. Tel: 01460 249204 Email
Chapter7@tlio.demon.co.uk

Open Spaces Society

25a Bell St, Henley-On-Thames,
Oxfordshire RG9 2BA. Tel: 01491
573535. www.oss.org.uk

Can advise on commons and open spaces under threat.



OTDOGS

Opposition to Destruction of Open Green Spaces c/o John Beasley, 6 Everthorpe Rd, London, SE15 4DA. tel: 0208 693 9412.

OTDOGS specialises in fighting supermarket applications in sensitive areas. They have attended Tesco and Sainsbury's AGMs to ask questions about their practices. They have published a useful guide to fighting supermarket development "Save Green Spaces from Destruction by food giants: a practical guide to local action." John can give advice over the telephone and in writing. John would also be interested to hear from people who suspect that money has been paid to encourage planning permission to be granted.

Rescue: British Archaeological Trust

15a Bull Plain, Hertford, Hertfordshire, G14 1DX. Tel: 01992 553377.

An independent charity promoting archaeological interests in Britain which seeks to maintain the position of archaeology as a vital part of our nations cultural life

SUSTAIN

94 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PF
Tel: 0207 837 1228 Fax: 0207 837 1141 www.sustainweb.org

A coalition of farming, organic sector, environmental and conservation, development, animal welfare and consumer organisations working together to research and promote sustainable agriculture. For details of useful publications see page 11.

The Wildlife Trusts

The Kiln, Waterside, Mather Road, Newark, NG24 1WT. Tel: 01636 677 711. Fax: 01636 670001
www.wildlifetrusts.org

A network of charitable trusts working to conserve local wildlife and wild places. Phone the national office for details of your local Wildlife Trust for help and advice on how to protect local wildlife.

Further information on supermarkets and the alternatives:

Christian Aid

PO Box 100, London, SE1 7RT. Tel: 0207 523 2418.
www.christianaid.org.uk

Ran a successful campaign for Fair Trade and supermarket responsibility towards third world workers www.christian-aid.org.uk/campaign/supermar/supermar.htm#involved

Has produced a number of briefings on fair trade:

Taking stock: How the supermarkets stack up on ethical trading February 1999. See: www.christianaid.org.uk/indepth/9902stoc/stock1.htm

Trade for Life - Making trade work for poor people November 2001. See: www.christianaid.org.uk/indepth/0111trbk/t4life.htm

The Ethical Trading Initiative www.christian-aid.org.uk/campaign/supermar/eti.htm

Foundation for Local Food Initiatives (f3)

PO Box 1234, Bristol, BS99 2PG Tel: 0845 458 9525 email mail@localfood.org.uk
www.localfood.org.uk

f3 is a not for profit organisation providing consultancy services to the local food sector. FLAIR - the Food and Local Agriculture Information Resource is a partnership project led by f3, which is analysing the scale, scope and benefits of the local food sector in the UK, helping to create a national database, and to enable the development of a national food links network.

Grassroots Action on Food and Farming (GAFF)

16b Cherwell Street, Oxford, OX4 1BN
Tel: 01865 793910 email: gaff@corporatewatch.org
www.gaff.org.uk



GAFF is a new organisation helping to build a grassroots network of farmers, farmers groups, environmentalists and the public, to oppose the increasing corporate control of the

food system and the demise of the small and family farm in the UK. GAFF aims to raise awareness about the negative impact of large scale, corporate food production and of the power imbalances in the food chain, whilst also gaining public support for small scale, localised food production.

New Economics Foundation

6-8 Cole Street, London, SE1 4YH Tel: 020 7089 2800
www.neweconomics.org

Plugging the leaks project -in modern economies money often flows much too quickly out of local economies - just like a leaky bucket. NEF aims to help communities across the UK to plug the leaks and keep money within the local economy.

Women's Environmental Network (WEN).

PO Box 30626, London, E1 1TZ. Tel: 0207 481 9004. Fax: 0207 481 9144
email: info@wen.org.uk
www.wen.org.uk

Campaigns on food issues, is currently running a 'Taste of a Better Future' campaign, a network of organic food growing groups for ethnic minority women, developing growing and composting skills.



Planning advice

Sympathetic planning experts who may be able to advise your campaign:

Campaign for Planning Sanity.

Contact: Chris Maile Tel: 0161 959 0999.
www.onlincam.freeserve.co.uk

Local community support for adverse planning and development

Planning Aid

c/o Royal Town Planning Institute, 41 Botolph Lane, London, EC3R 8DL. Tel: 0207 636 9107.

Network of experienced planners and others such as architects and legal experts who provide advice to individuals and groups on planning related matters. Advice is given to those who cannot afford to pay consultants fees. They have regional offices across Britain.

Michael Parks

315 Trinity Road, Wandsworth, London SW18 3SL. Tel: 0208 874 3342.

Self-employed urban planner, involved in the planning for real exercise with Gargoyle Wharf Community Action Group who fought against a supermarket in Wandsworth, London. Experience with regeneration proposals, fighting roads etc.

James Shorten

Faculty of the Built Environment, University of the West of England, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol, BS16 1QY. Tel: 0117 965 6261 x3224. Email j.shorten@uwe.ac.uk

General advice on planning and development issues.

Paul Disney:

Lower Heltor Farm, Bridford, Devon, EX6 7EH. Tel: 01647 440138. Fax: 01647 440047

Transport impact assessment, especially PPG6, PPG13 and by-pass traffic.

Legal advice

Earthrights Solicitors

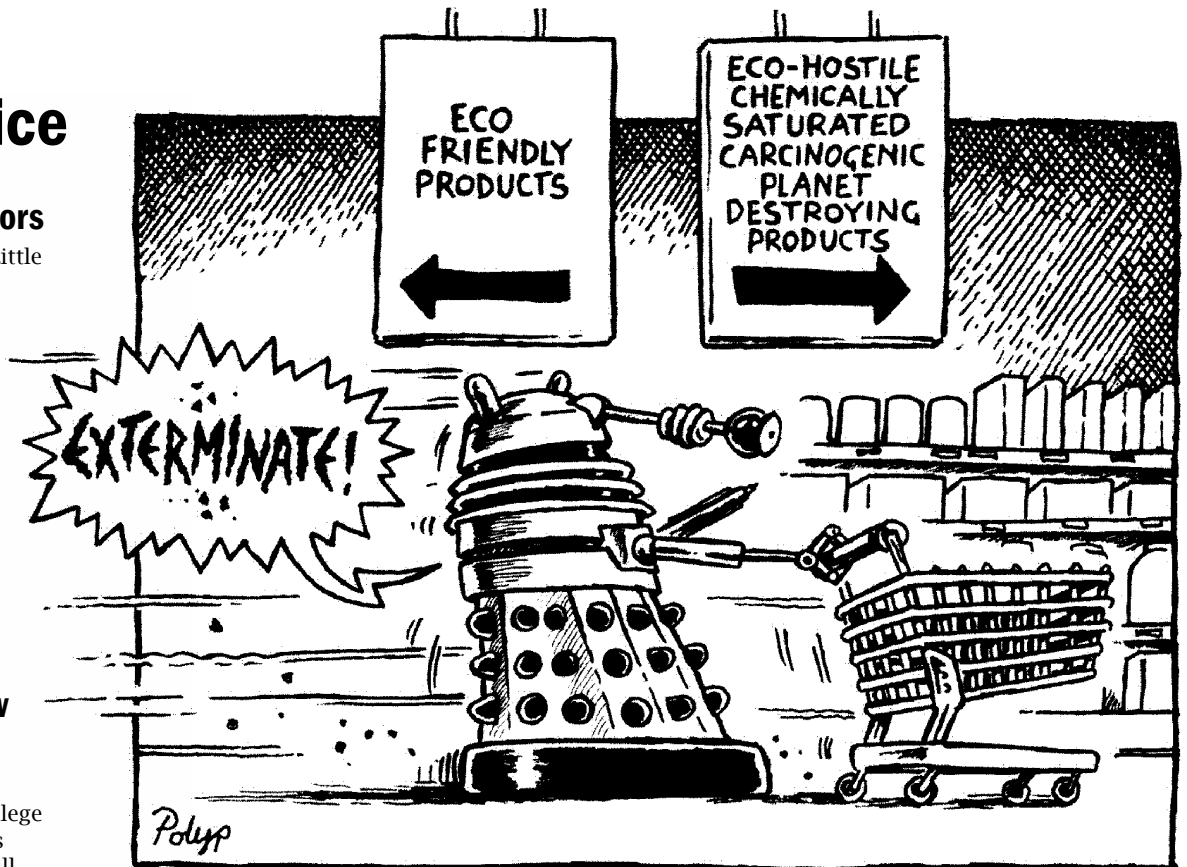
Contact: John Dunkley, Little Orchard, School Lane, Molehill Green, Takeley, Essex. CM22 6JP. E-mail: earthrights@gn.apc.org Tel: 07071 225011

Can give advice on environmental law, landrights, rights of way, squatters' rights defending possession proceedings and planning law.

Environmental Law Foundation (ELF)

Contact: Glyn Turner, Administrator, Kings College London, Atkins Buildings South (128), Campden Hill Road, London W8 7AH Tel/Fax 020 7 333 4100.

The Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) is a non-profit company with a network of advisers with legal, academic and environmental expertise, who can represent community groups involved in environmental disputes. Financial support for legal advice is not yet available although planned for the future. Meanwhile certain preliminary work can be undertaken free of charge.



Environmental Legal and Mediation Service (ELMS)

Contacts: Harjinder Bahra, & Sarah Dobbyn, Temple Chambers, 3-7 Temple Avenue, London, EC4Y 0DB. Tel: 0171 583 8008. Fax: 0171 583 8007. Email: hsbahra@dircon.co.uk

A network of lawyers who offer help on a pro-bono basis (free) for groups without legal aid. Will represent groups at public inquiries and mediate between developers and groups. Can also help with finding a solicitor. Community groups should be willing to help with photocopying costs, etc.



Resources

Richard Boden

'10 ways to create a better world - don't shop at supermarkets'

Available from Richard Boden c/o WyeCycle, 14 Scotton Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 5BZ Tel: 01233 813298. Richard was involved in setting up Wye Farmers Market and is happy to offer advice to anyone interested in setting up a farmers market.

Competition Commission

'Supermarkets' 2000

www.competition-commission.org.uk/reports/446super.htm#full

This report has many useful sections:

Chapter 12: Land and Planning Issues-12.3: Planning Policy for supermarkets-12.43 Determinations by local authorities-12.51 Local planning authorities' reasons for refusal-12.53 Appeals and called in applications

Chapter 13: Social and Environmental Issues-13.2: Recommendations from the DETR report 1998 'The Impact of Large Foodstores on Market Towns'.

Corporate Watch

'What's wrong with Supermarkets?'

2002 Available from Corporate Watch, 16b

Cherwell Street, Oxford OX4 1BG, UK Tel 01865 791 391

£1.00 + 50p post & packing or download at

www.corporatewatch.org/pages/whats_wrong_suprmkts.htm

Supermarket profiles including Tesco, J Sainsbury and Asda

www.corporatewatch.org/profiles/

'What's Wrong with Tesco?' Issue 3 1997. Available from Corporate Watch, £1.00 unwaged, £1.50 waged, £2.50 organisations.



Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)

To order CPRE publications call 020 7976 6433 (Mon-Fri, 9.30am-5.30pm).

'**Campaigners' guide to local plans**' April 1992, £10.00 + £1.00 post & packing

'**Campaigners' guide to public inquiries and planning appeals**' - This comprehensive guide provides invaluable advice and campaign tips for dealing with planning appeals and preparing and presenting evidence at public inquiries. 80pp. February 1997, £10.00 + £1.00 post & packing

'**Departure applications & call-ins**' - Campaign guidance to help you ask the Secretary of State to call in controversial planning applications and identify departure applications, i.e. those which contradict an agreed development plan. 20pp. February 2001, £3.00

'**Responding to planning applications**' - This booklet helps you use the planning system to defend your local environment against damaging development. 28pp. Revised & Reissued June 2001, free with 1st or 2nd Class stamped A5 SAE

'**Sustainable local foods**' - to reconnect consumers with farmers and producers. It helps to empower the public to make informed choices about the food they eat and the way it is produced and distributed; to gain recognition of the benefits of a local food economy and encourage more support for local food initiatives. 12 pp. September 2001, £3.50

Ethical Consumer

'**Research Supplement on Supermarkets**' Issue 71 June/July 2001, £3.00.

Ethical Consumer report on '**Supermarkets**' Issue 44 December 1996, £3??

Available from ECRA Publishing Ltd, Freepost, NWW978A, Manchester M15 9EP Tel 0161 226 2929 e-mail:

mail@ethicalconsumer.org
web:www.ethicalconsumer.org

The Ecologist

'**From Market to Hypermarket: Food Retailing in Britain**' Tim Lang and Hugh Raven, The Ecologist magazine vol 24 No 4 July/August 1994 pp124-129. Available from The Ecologist, Unit 18, Chelsea Wharf, 15 Lots Road, London, SW10 0QJ Tel: 0207 351 3578 Fax: 0207 351 3617 e-mail:sally@theecologist.org
www.theecologist.org

George Monbiot

'**Captive State: The Corporate Takeover of Britain**' MacMillan, 2000. George Monbiot's website www.monbiot.com also has a substantial section on supermarkets.

OTDOGS

'**Save green spaces from destruction by food giants: a practical guide to local action**' John Beasley, 1994. Available from OTDOGS £3.40, post free. c/o John Beasley, 6 Everthorpe Rd, London, SE15 4DA. tel: 0208 693 9412..

Hugh Raven & Tim Lang, with Caroline Dumonteil,

'**Off Our Trolleys**' Institute for Public Policy Research, 1995.

Sustain

'**Supermarket Briefing Sheets: How to Campaign on Supermarket Developments**' - Information and advice for residents, shopkeepers and community groups on tackling the process and issues involved in planning permission applications for out or edge-of-town supermarkets. 1996 £3.00

'**Eating Oil: Food Supply in a Changing Climate**' 2001. Includes lots of statistics on food miles and why local/regional food systems are best. £12.00 + £1.00 post & packing

'**A Battle in Store: A discussion of the social impact of the major UK supermarkets**' 2000, £7.50 + £1 post and packing.

Available from Sustain, 94 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PF Tel: 0207 837 1228 Fax: 0207 837 1141
www.sustainweb.org



Checkout Chuckout

A D.I.Y. guide to stopping supermarket developments

This Guide was revised and **updated** by Kathryn Tulip, Judith Whately and Lucy Michaels. Published by Corporate Watch and The Land is Ours. Originally researched by Greg Muttitt and published by Corporate Watch in 1998.

Design by Stig. **Front cover** cartoon by Polyp.

Printed by Oxford Greenprint on 100% post-consumer recycled paper, using solvent-free inks and renewable energy. www.oxfordgreenprint.co.uk

Further copies available from:

Corporate Watch

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Email: mail@corporatewatch.org
www.corporatewatch.org.uk

Corporate Watch is an independent research and publications group, which aims to expose corporate corruption. It produces briefings and profiles of corporations. Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter and fortnightly email news updates. It also acts as an information service to support, strengthen and initiate grassroots campaigns against corporations. The UK food industry is currently a major focus for research.

The Land is Ours

16b Cherwell Street,
Oxford, OX4 1BG, England.
Tel: 07961 460 171

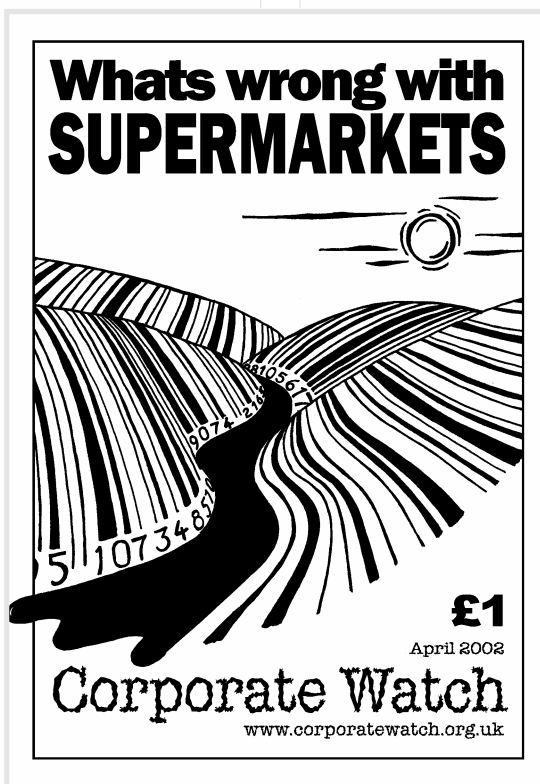
Email: office@tlio.demon.co.uk
www.tlio.org.uk

A landrights movement for Britain, campaigning for access to the land, its resources and the decision making processes affecting them. Amongst its aims are derelict urban land to be used to meet basic social needs affordable homes and free recreation, ahead of destructive luxuries like superstores and exclusive housing.

It also campaigns for sustainable agriculture, protection and reclamation of common space, and the reform of planning and public inquiries.

References

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- 2 Keynote, 'Supermarkets and Superstores' 2001
- 3 Bill Quinn, 'How Walmart is destroying America and what you can do about it' Ten Speed Press, 1998
- 4 Competition Commission 'Supermarkets' 2000 www.competition-commission.org.uk/reports/446super.htm#full
- 5 Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, 'The impact of large food stores on market towns and district centres' 1998 www.planning.detr.gov.uk/foodstores/index.htm; House of Commons Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, 'Second Report: Environmental impact of supermarket competition' 2000 www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm199900/cmselect/cmenvtra/120/12002.htm
- 6 DTLR, 'Planning Policy Guidance Note 6: Town centres and retail development' www.planning.dtlr.gov.uk/ppg/ppg6/index.htm
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- 8 Sustain, 'Battle in Store? A discussion of the social impacts of the major supermarkets' 2000
- 9 FOE press release, 'Government in the dock over supermarkets' Jan 2000. www.foe.co.uk/pubsinfo/infoteam/pressrel/2000/20000111110002.html
- 10 Lucy Nichol, 'How can planning help the local food economy? A guide for planners' School of Planning, Oxford Brookes University, 2001. Available for £4 from Cassandra Blake 01865 483491.



Unpack the supermarkets' three great myths

Supermarkets wield immense power over the way we grow, buy and eat our food. They are shaping our environment, our health and the way we interact socially. **This A5 40-sided booklet lifts the lid on the true costs of the supermarket economy: hidden costs for consumers, farmers, small manufacturers, the environment, local communities and taxpayers.**

Yes we deserve affordable food, but we also deserve healthy food, healthy communities, thriving small businesses, a healthy countryside and a fair wage for producers. There's a free A4 4-side summary of the booklet, also available from Corporate Watch. See:

WWW.CORPORATEWATCH.ORG.UK

Choice? Convenience? and Good value?

