

Visitor Insights

November Report 2023

Shaping a
world-class
West End

Issued:
8th December 2023

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Heart of London



Background

Introduction and context

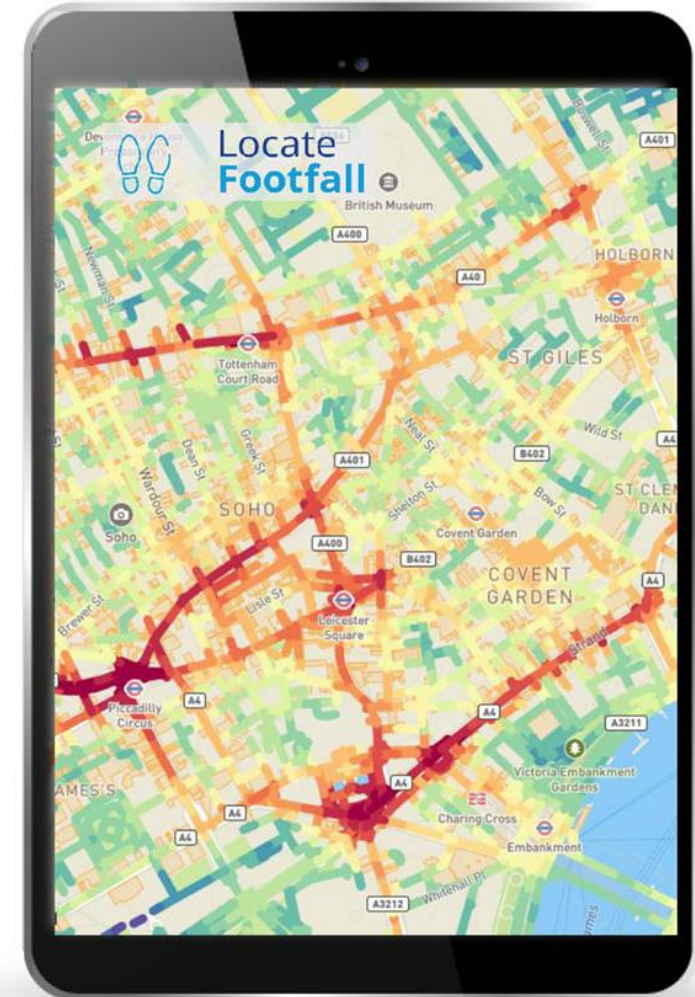


Heart of London Business Alliance (HOLBA) has partnered with Colliers to provide data and insights on visitors to the area.

This monthly report provides key insights from preceding calendar month including information about:

- Visitor footfall & profile
- Visitor behaviour

Data sourced from Colliers' Locate Footfall mobility data platform and MasterCard spending figures from High Streets Data Service.



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01

Summary



Exec Summary

November 2023



- November footfall numbers stood at approximately 12 Million in the Heart of London (HOL) area. This was a 2% increase from the previous month, driven largely by a resurgence in international footfall. The HOL area saw an 18% rise in international footfall compared to October. November footfall in the HOL area also tracked ahead of the Core West End benchmark which saw a 2% drop in total footfall over the same period.
- Dwell time increased in November compared with October, however the catchment area size decreased indicating that there were more frequent visitors from closer to London and a larger proportion of workers over the month.
- Several events across the month contributed to an increase in footfall including Remembrance Day. Peak footfall during the month was seen over the weekend of 25/26 of November during Black Friday sales and Pro-Palestinian protest action.

Summary

November 2023



12.0 m
(+2%)

Visitors to HOLBA
area up 2% month on
month



158 mins
(+5%)

Visitors typically spend
over 2 and a half hours
in the area. Slightly
above YTD average



8.5m
(-12%)

People live within
the HOLBA area
core catchment

02

Visitor volumes



Visitor volumes

Footfall - districts



Footfall up 2% month-on-month, and down 25% year-on-year

International visits up in all districts vs. October possibly due to pre-xmas tourism

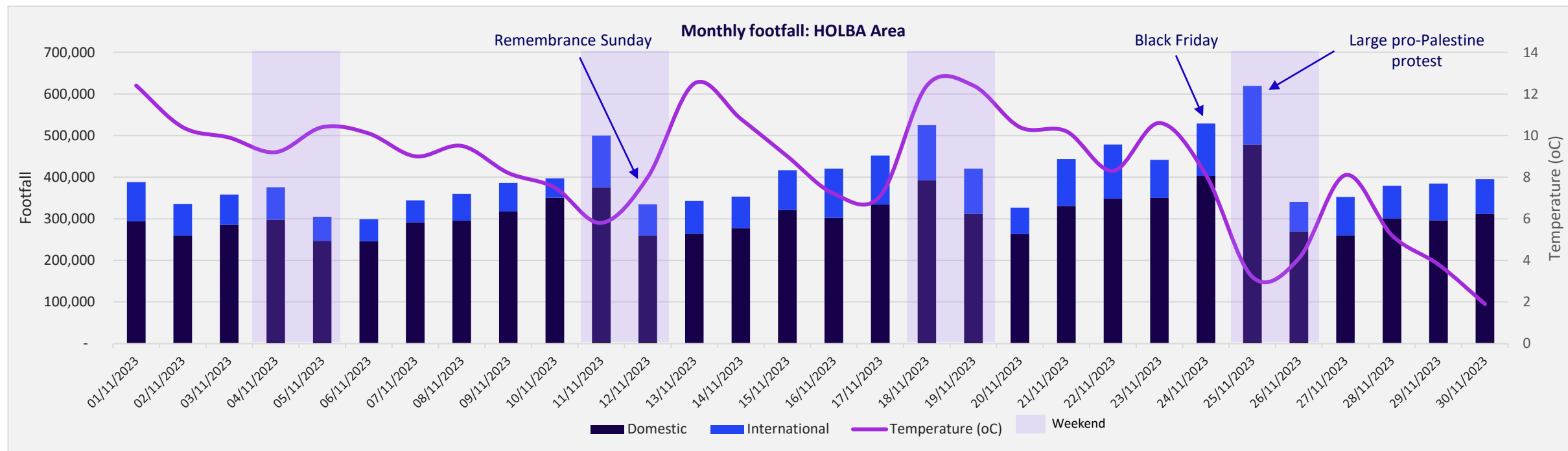


District	Month-on-Month			Year-on-year		
	Total	Domestic	International	Total	Domestic	International
HOLBA area	2%	-2%	18%	-25%	-18%	-42%
Piccadilly District	5%	-2%	33%	-7%	-1%	-23%
Jermyn St District	20%	-1%	79%	34%	6%	127%
Leicester Sq District	6%	-1%	27%	-33%	-33%	-33%
Piccadilly Circus District	0%	-3%	12%	-34%	-17%	-60%
St Martin's Lane District	1%	-1%	9%	-26%	-26%	-25%
Haymarket District	2%	-3%	24%	-13%	-9%	-25%
Core West End	-2%	-2%	-1%	-19%	-14%	-36%
HOLBA area - major street avg	-2%	-2%	0%	-18%	-12%	-35%

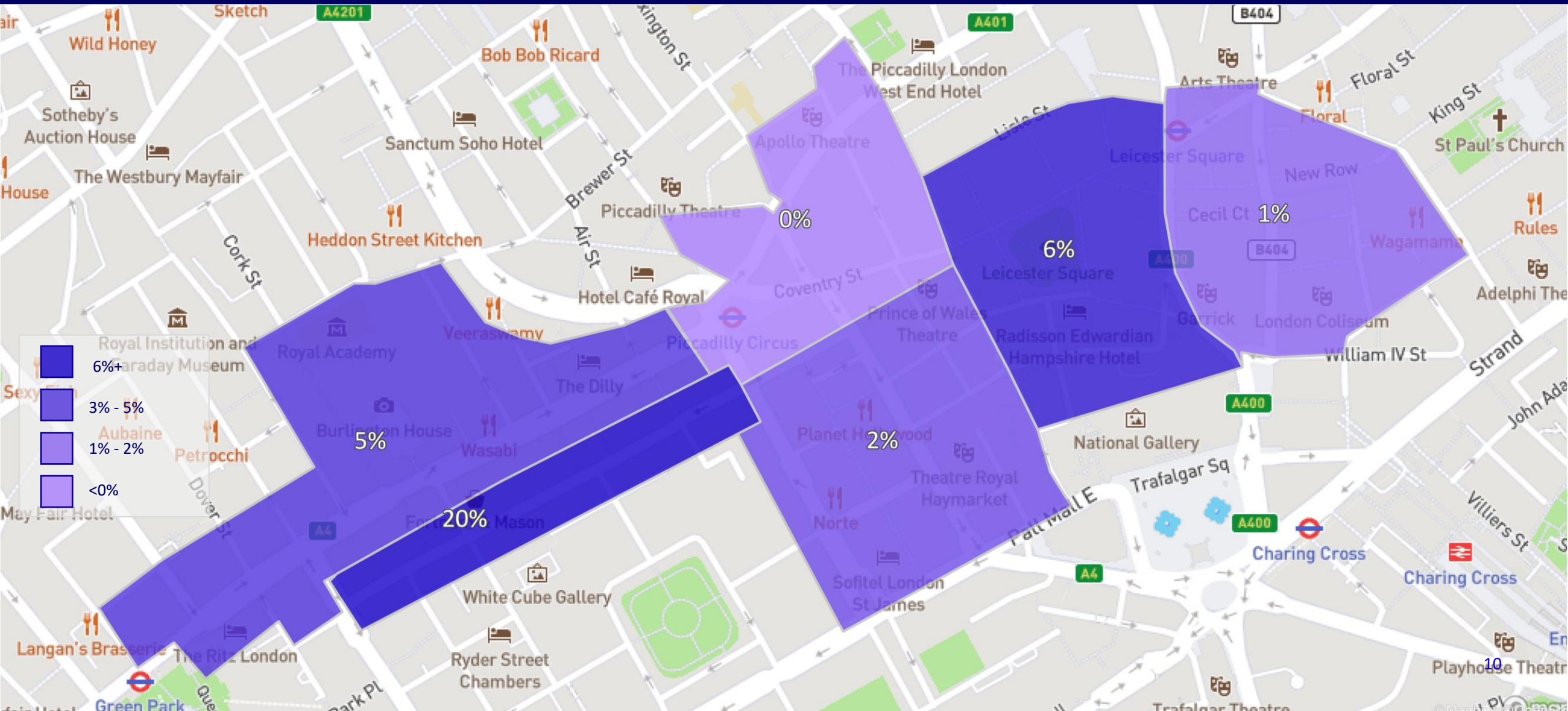
- Increase in visits in all districts in November vs. October
- Rebound in international visitation vs. last month. Proportionally the majority of this increase was originating from Europe.

Visitor volumes

Strong Saturday footfall continues

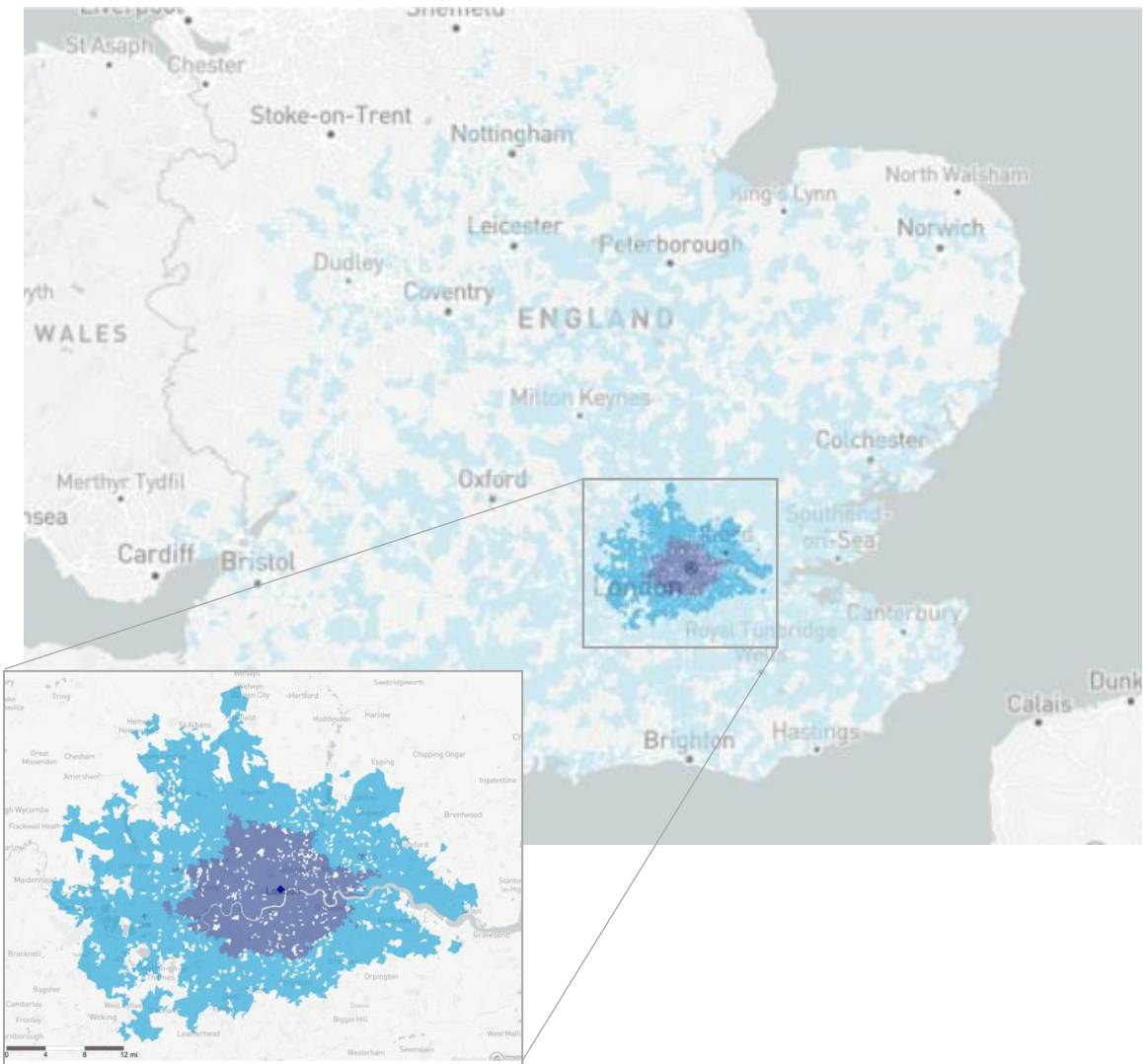


- Saturdays remain the highest footfall days across the month, particularly towards the end of the month. 25th November saw the highest footfall volume of the month – largely due to large pro-Palestine protest that travelled through HOLBA area
- Higher temperatures towards start of the month appear to have had a limited impact on visits



Visitor volumes

Core catchment decreased -12.7% in size vs. October



Catchment band	Population (Millions)	Change vs. previous month
-Primary	3.9	-10.4%
-Secondary	4.6	-14.5%
Core (Primary + Secondary) <i>75% of regular visitors</i>	8.5	-12.7%
-Tertiary	11.8	-10.1%
Total (Core+ Tertiary) <i>95% of regular visitors</i>	20.3	-11.2%

- Core catchment decreased in size vs. October
- Decrease in catchment size in all bands despite overall 2% increase in visits reflects higher visit penetration from those living within the catchment, indicating there was an increase in visits/frequency from people closer to the Holba area

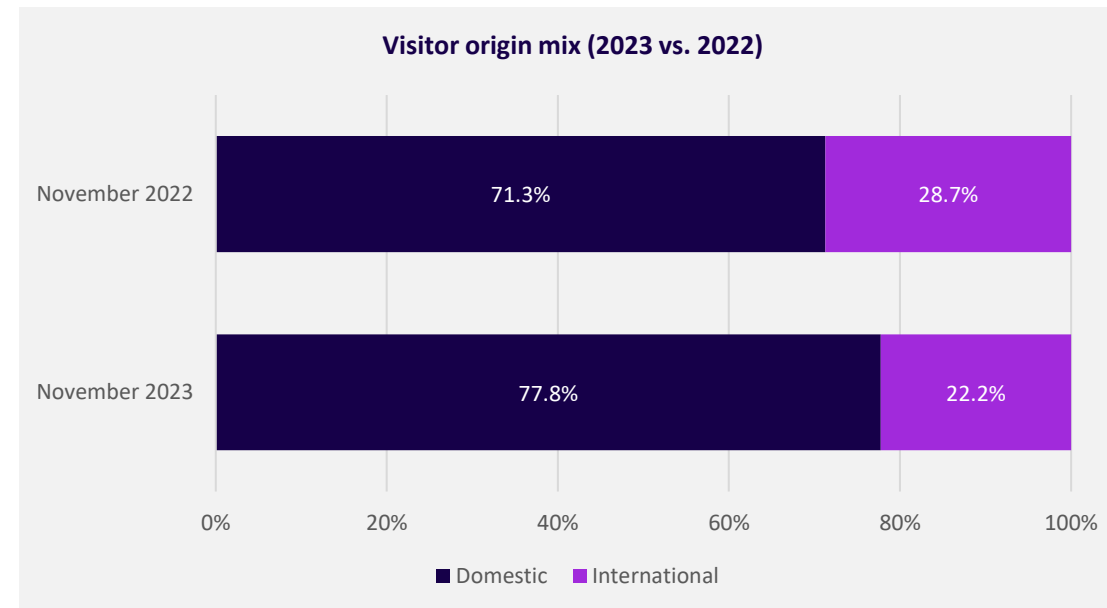
Visitor volumes: visitor mix

International visitor mix up on October



Area	International mix (%)	+/- change in mix	
		Month-on-Month	Year-on-year
HOLBA area	22.2%	3.1%	-6.5%
Piccadilly	22.7%	4.1%	-4.2%
Jermyn St	37.5%	4.9%	28.6%
Leicester Sq	37.4%	-3.7%	-5.2%
Piccadilly Circus	25.3%	2.0%	-13.5%
St Martin's Lane	43.1%	-6.4%	6.3%
Haymarket	24.7%	1.8%	-5.7%
Haymarket - Regent St / St James	20.8%	-0.3%	-14.1%
Core West End	19.9%	0.2%	-5.2%

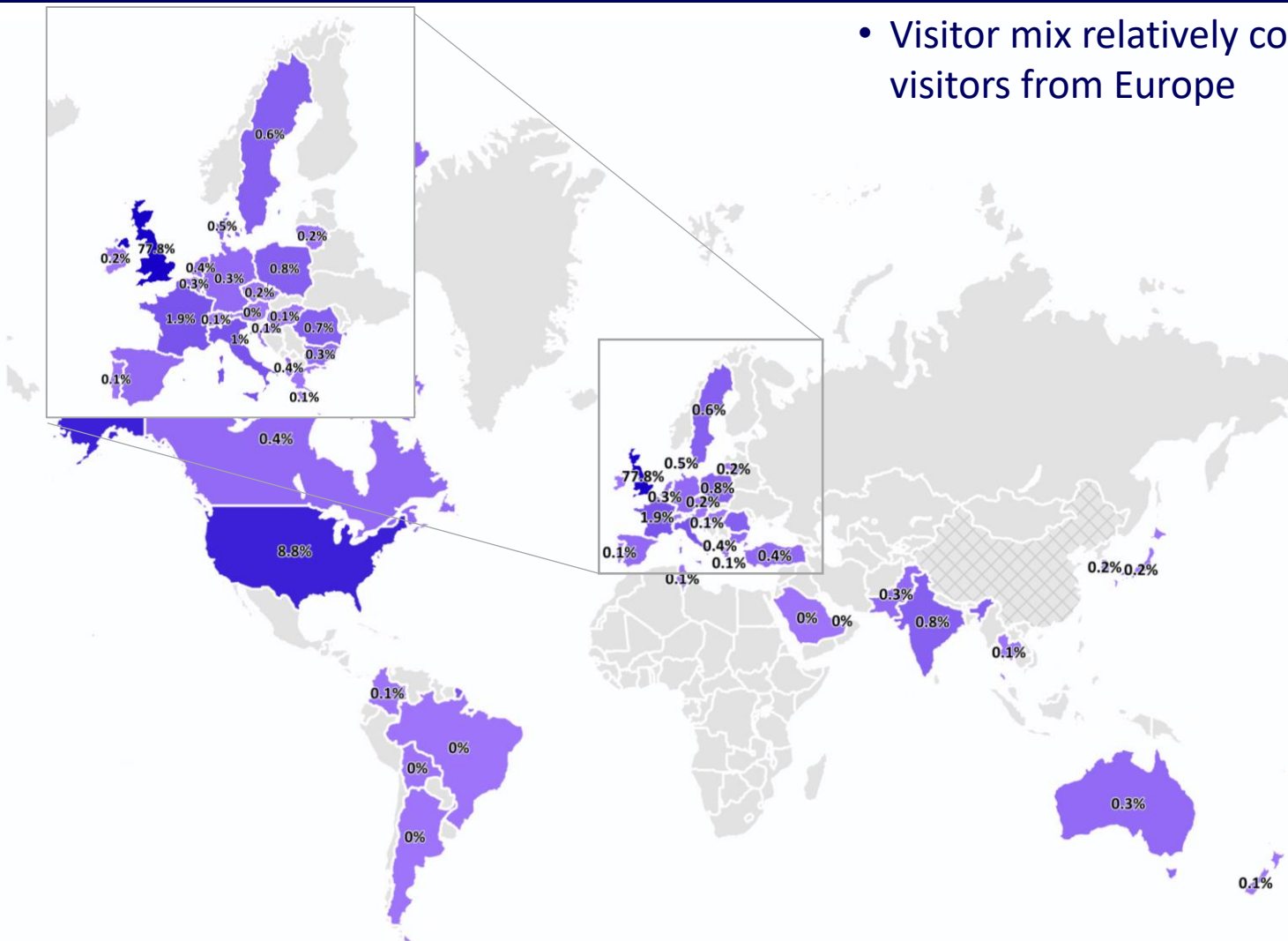
- 3.1%-point increase in international mix vs. last month
- This equates to an 18% increase in the volume of international visitors



- This represents a 6.5%-point increase in mix vs. November last year

Visitor volumes: visitor origin

3.1% increase in visits from outside the UK



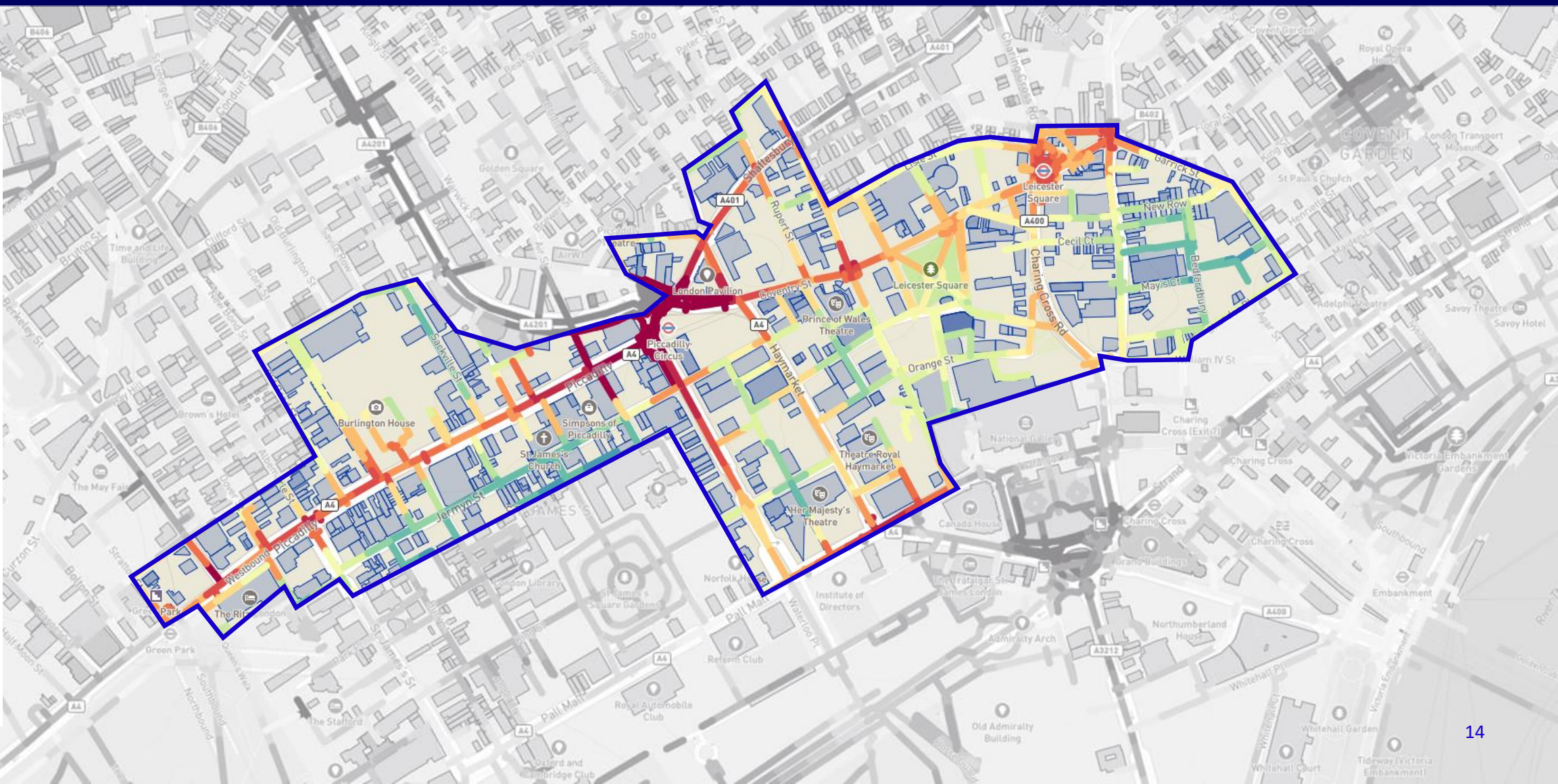
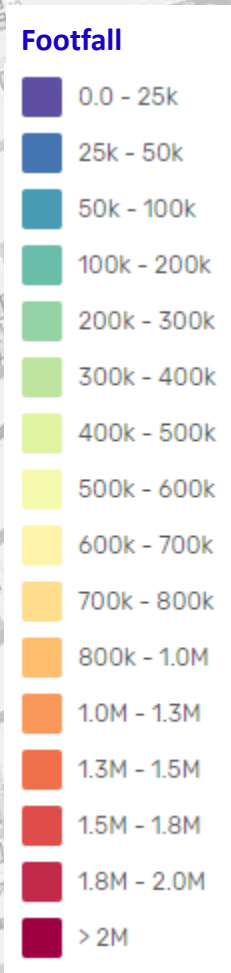
- Visitor mix relatively consistent month-on-month with small increase in visitors from Europe

Rank	Country	%	+/- change	
1	United Kingdom	77.8%	↓	-3.1%
2	United States	8.8%	↓	-0.1%
3	France	1.9%	↑	0.6%
4	Italy	1.0%	↑	0.0%
5	India	0.8%	↑	0.3%
6	Poland	0.8%	↑	0.4%
7	Romania	0.7%	↑	0.3%
8	Sweden	0.6%	↑	0.2%
9	Denmark	0.5%	↑	0.1%
10	Spain	0.4%	↑	0.1%
Europe (excl. UK)		8.6%		2.8%
Rest of the world		13.7%		0.3%
Non UK		22.2%		3.1%

Note: Data unavailable for visitors from China

Visitor volumes

Segment footfall



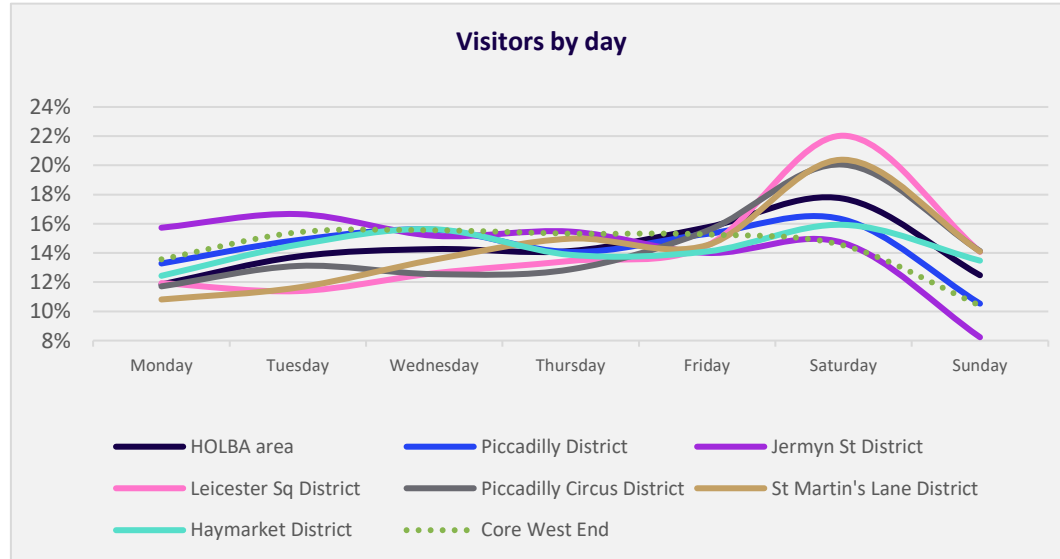
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Visitor behaviour

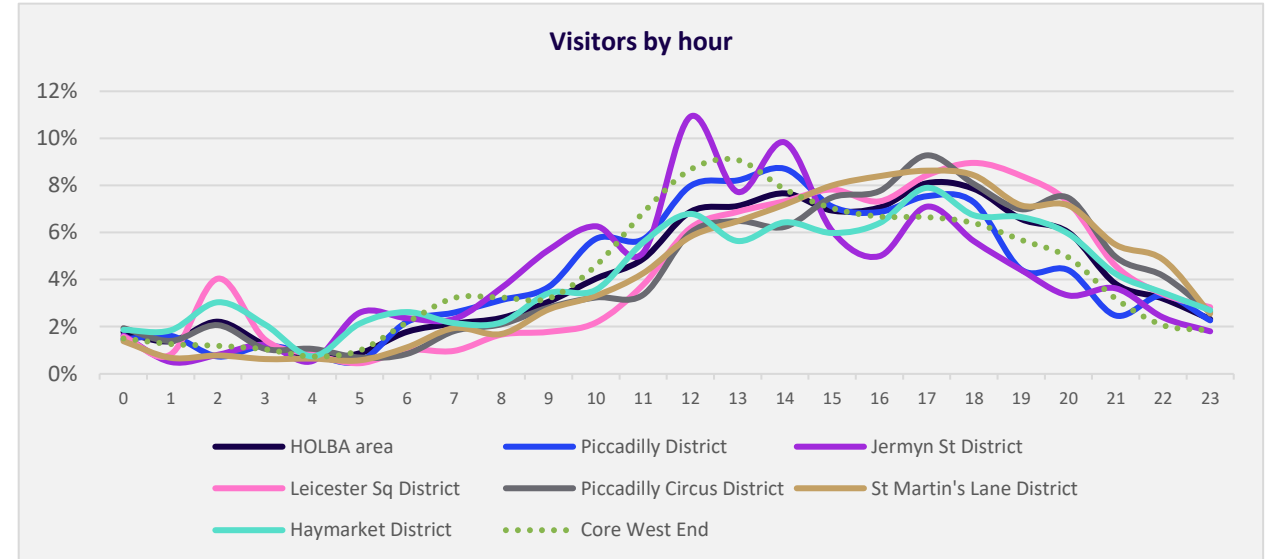


Visitor behaviour: visits by day and hour

Saturday visits most popular



- Strong Saturday focus for all areas apart from Jermyn St in November
- Jermyn St has a strong Mon-Thurs and declined on weekends due to worker-focus whilst tourist districts saw strong visit volumes at weekends
- All districts had larger Saturday peak than October



- Visitor volumes typically peak during lunchtime and into the afternoon
- Leicester Sq had the latest 'peak hour' (6pm), likely driven by its role as a major leisure destination and focus for after work visits
- Little change vs. previous month

Visitor behaviour: visits by day and hour

Saturday afternoon was the busiest part of the week

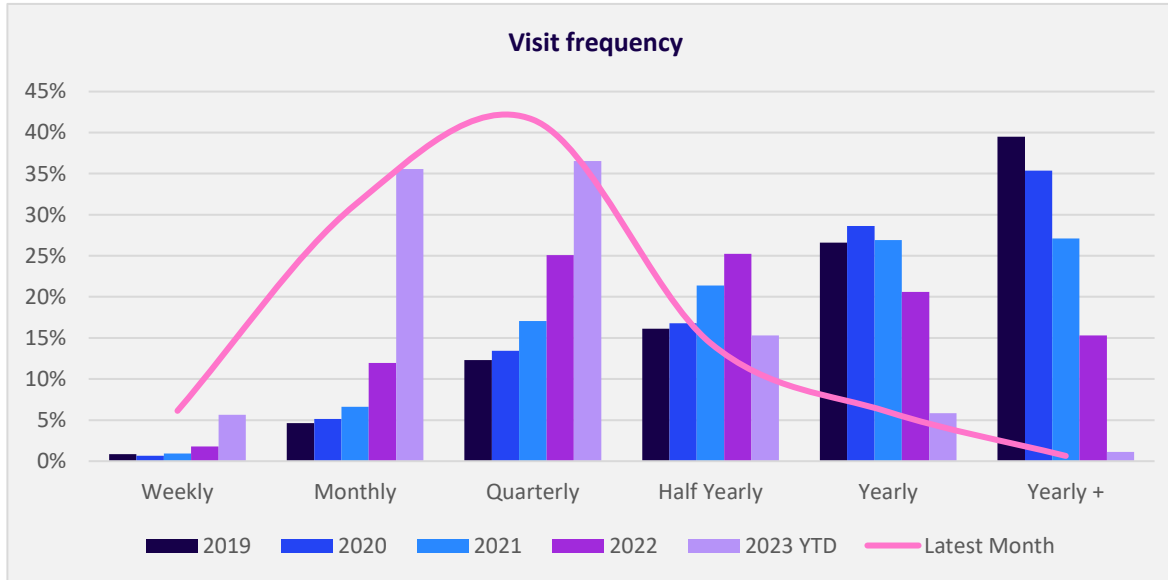


HOLBA - % of visits				INDEX VS. CORE WEST END			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	(07.00-12.29)	(12.30-17.59)	(18.00-23.59)		(07.00-12.29)	(12.30-17.59)	(18.00-23.59)
Monday	3.0%	4.8%	3.2%	Monday	73	87	111
Tuesday	3.6%	5.2%	3.8%	Tuesday	81	83	109
Wednesday	4.3%	7.3%	5.3%	Wednesday	79	90	117
Thursday	4.0%	7.3%	5.3%	Thursday	76	95	113
Friday	3.2%	5.8%	5.5%	Friday	79	95	137
Saturday	2.3%	8.2%	6.4%	Saturday	88	121	147
Sunday	1.9%	6.3%	3.5%	Sunday	96	117	142

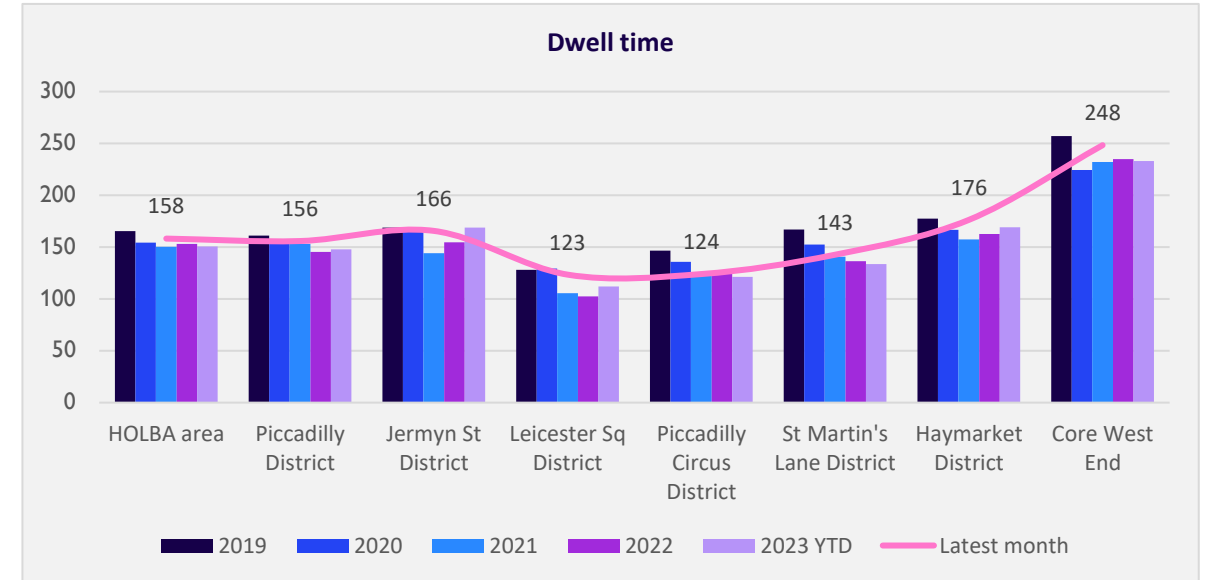
- Saturday afternoon is the highest week segment for visits – 8.2% of all visitors this month, whilst Friday and Saturdays have the strongest evening visit shares, driven by strong leisure visitation
- Weekends and evenings continue to outperform vs. the wider Core West End, again driven by strong leisure offer, with Friday-Sunday evenings an average of 42% ahead of Core West End
- Little change vs. previous month

Visitor behaviour: frequency

Visitors coming more frequently and staying for more time



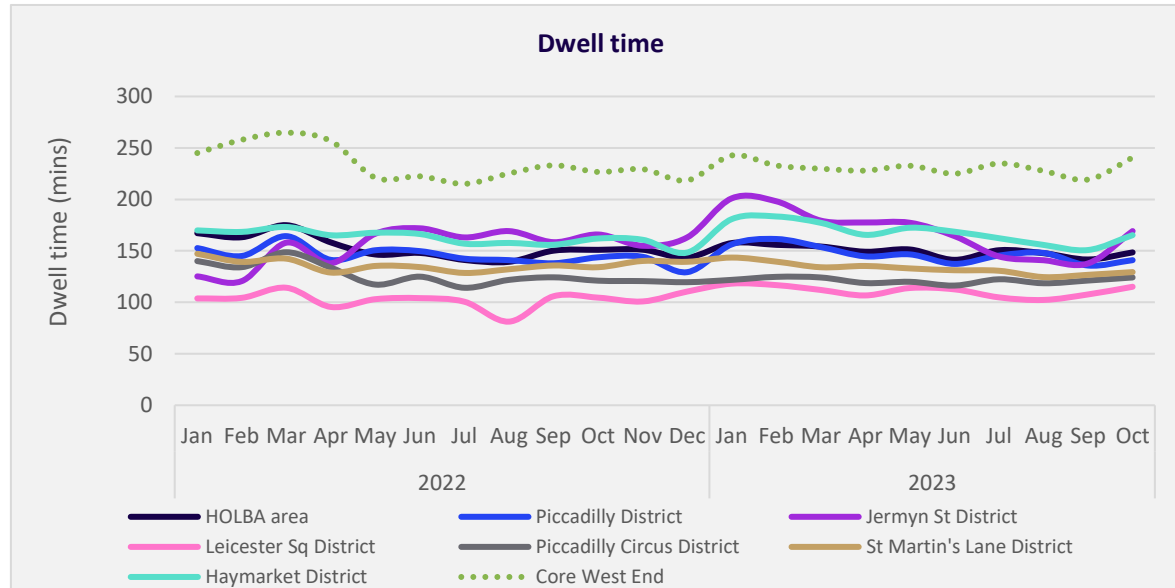
- Continued increase in regular visitors, in part influenced by growth in office-working



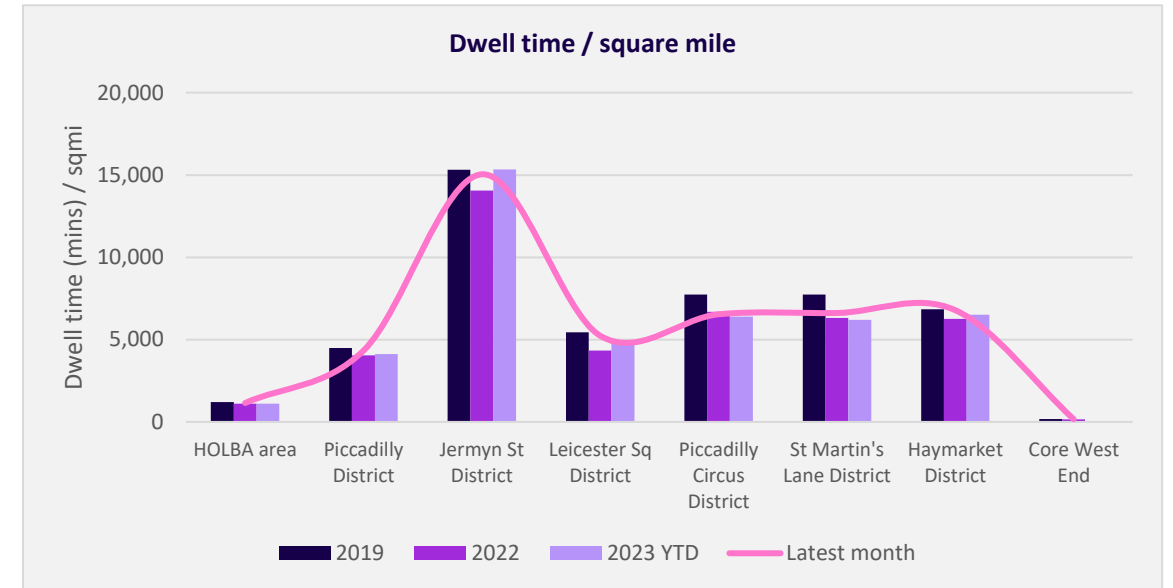
- Dwell time increased above YTD levels (158 mins this month vs. 151 mins YTD)
- Office-focused locations have the highest dwell time, with Haymarket at 176 mins vs. leisure districts such as Leicester Sq being shorter at 123 mins

Visitor behaviour: dwell time

Slight increase in dwell time in November vs. October



- Dwell time increased slightly vs. October



- Jermyn St has the highest dwell times, given its comparatively small geographic area, driven by its strong worker focus
- This graph explores the average dwell time relative to the size of each district (in sq mi) to account for the impact of area size on behaviours

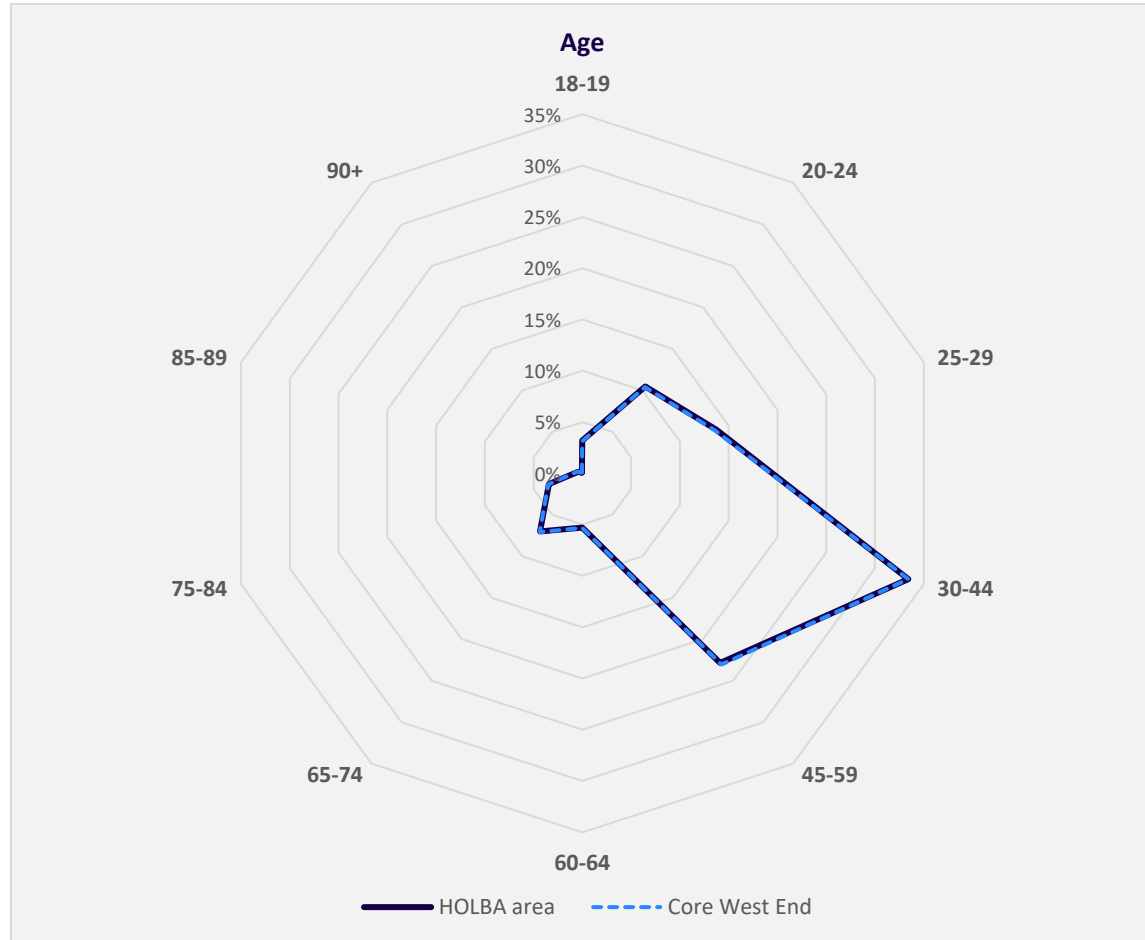
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Visitor profile

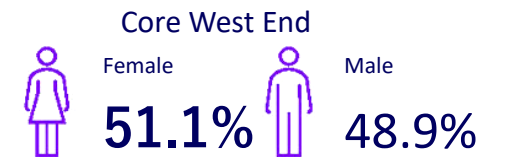
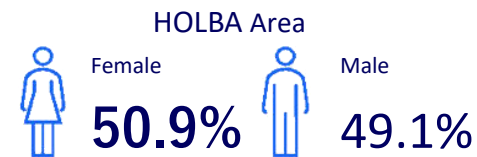


Visitor profile: age & gender

56.3% of visitors are aged between 30-59 years old

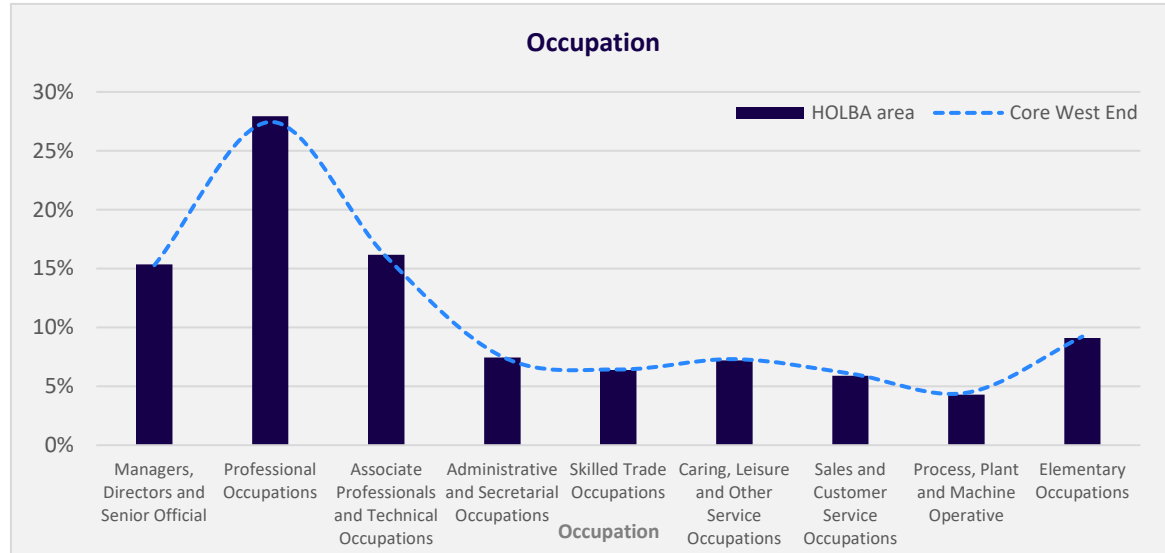


- Visitor profile skewed towards those aged 30-59 years old
 - 56.3% of visitors aged 30-59, versus 56.4% in October
- Average age relatively consistent across the different areas within Heart of London area
- Males & females are fairly evenly split, and in-line with the make up of the Core West End as a whole

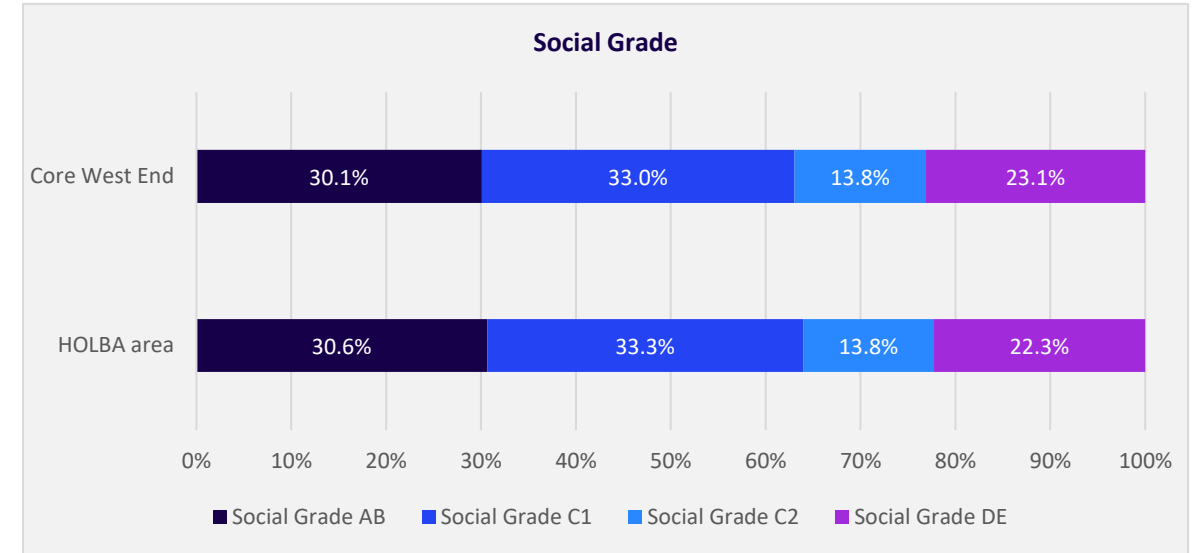


Visitor profile: occupation & social grade

Visitors biased towards white collar workers



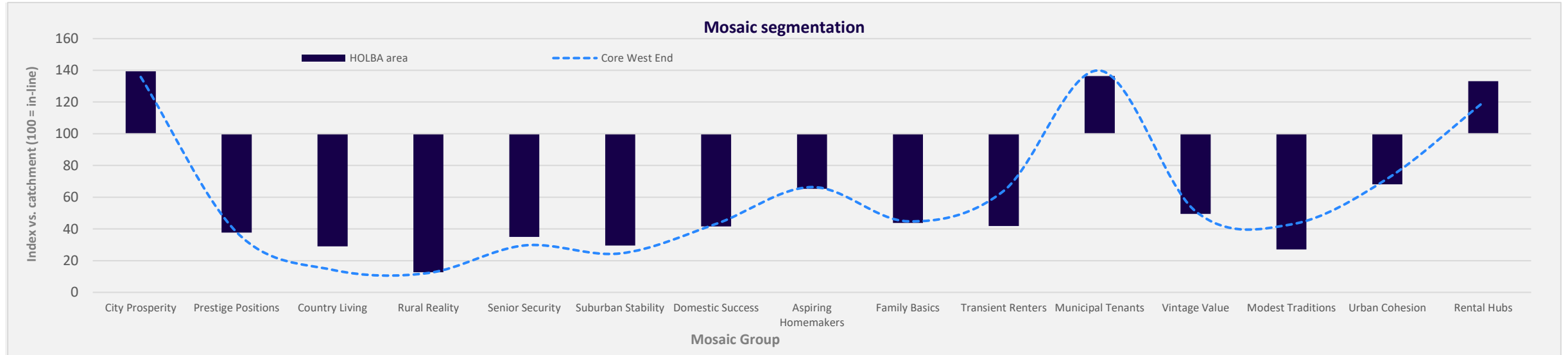
- Visitor profile biased towards 'white collar' occupations, consistent with last month
- In-line with wider Core West End profile



- 30.6% HOLBA area visitor profile in Social Grade AB, vs 30.1% for Core West End
- Little change from the previous month

Visitor profile: occupation & social grade

'City Prosperity' is the most dominant Mosaic group

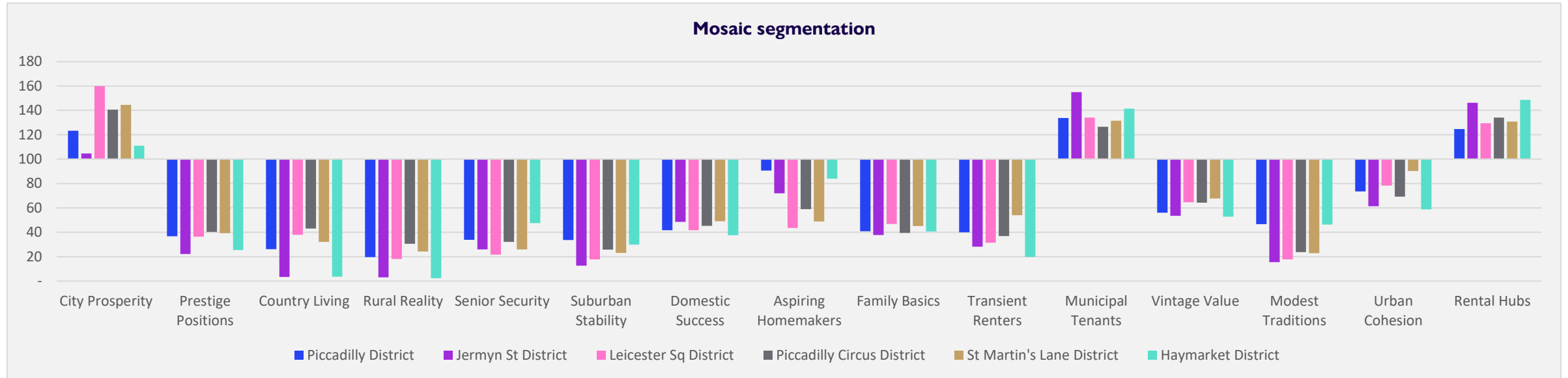


- Visitor profile biased towards 3 Mosaic groups; 'City Prosperity', 'Municipal Tenants', and 'Rental Hubs'

- 'City Prosperity' are high-income residents who have expensive homes in desirable metropolitan locations
- 'Municipal Tenants' are residents who rent inexpensive city homes in central locations
- 'Rental Hubs' are educated young people privately renting in urban neighbourhoods
- Profile very similar to Core West End visitors

Visitor profile: occupation & social grade

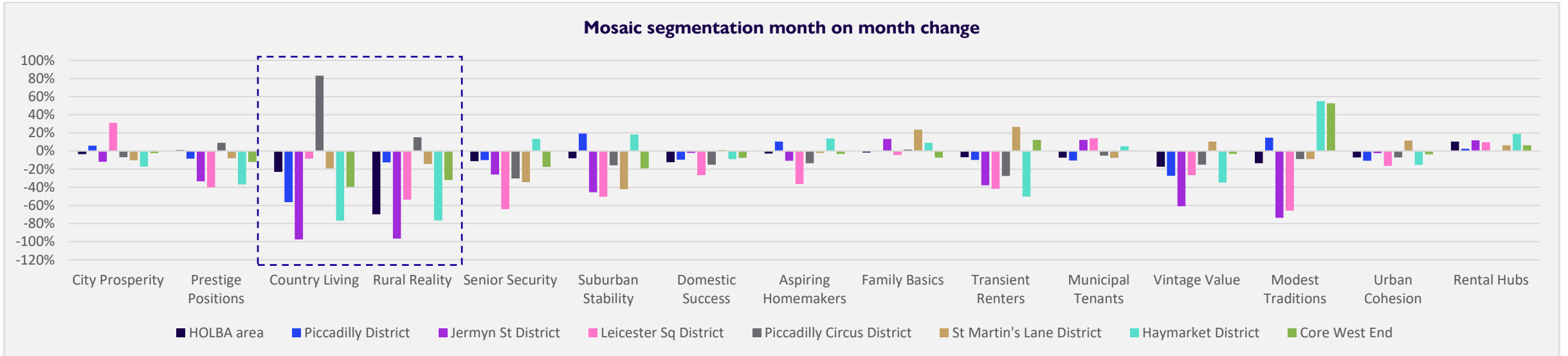
'City Prosperity' is the most dominant Mosaic group



- Consistent over-indexed groups across the district
- Jermyn St District over-indexes the most in 'Municipal Tenants', whilst Leicester Sq District over-indexes the most in 'City Prosperity', the most affluent group

Visitor profile: occupation & social grade

Jermyn St District saw the greatest month on month change



- Large decreases in various Mosaic groups in Jermyn St District, following substantial increases away from the norm in October
- Rural Reality and Country Living have seen the greatest decreases month on month. This may be due to less domestic tourism from rural areas, as reflected in a reduction of our catchment area.

05

Appendix

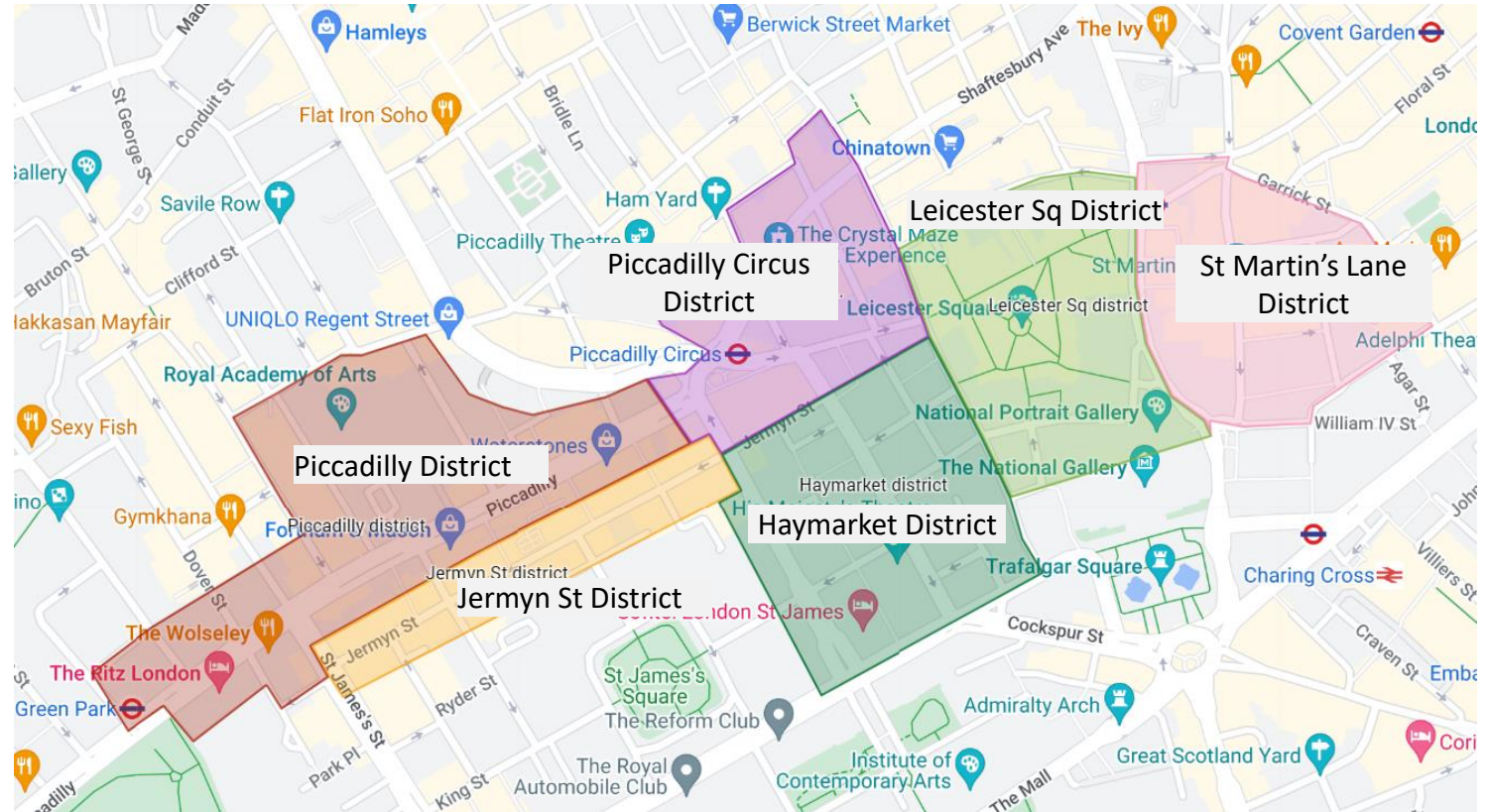


Appendix

Location definition



- Key areas within HOLBA used for analysis:
 - Piccadilly District
 - Jermyn St District
 - Piccadilly Circus District
 - Haymarket District
 - Leicester Sq District
 - St Martin's Lane District

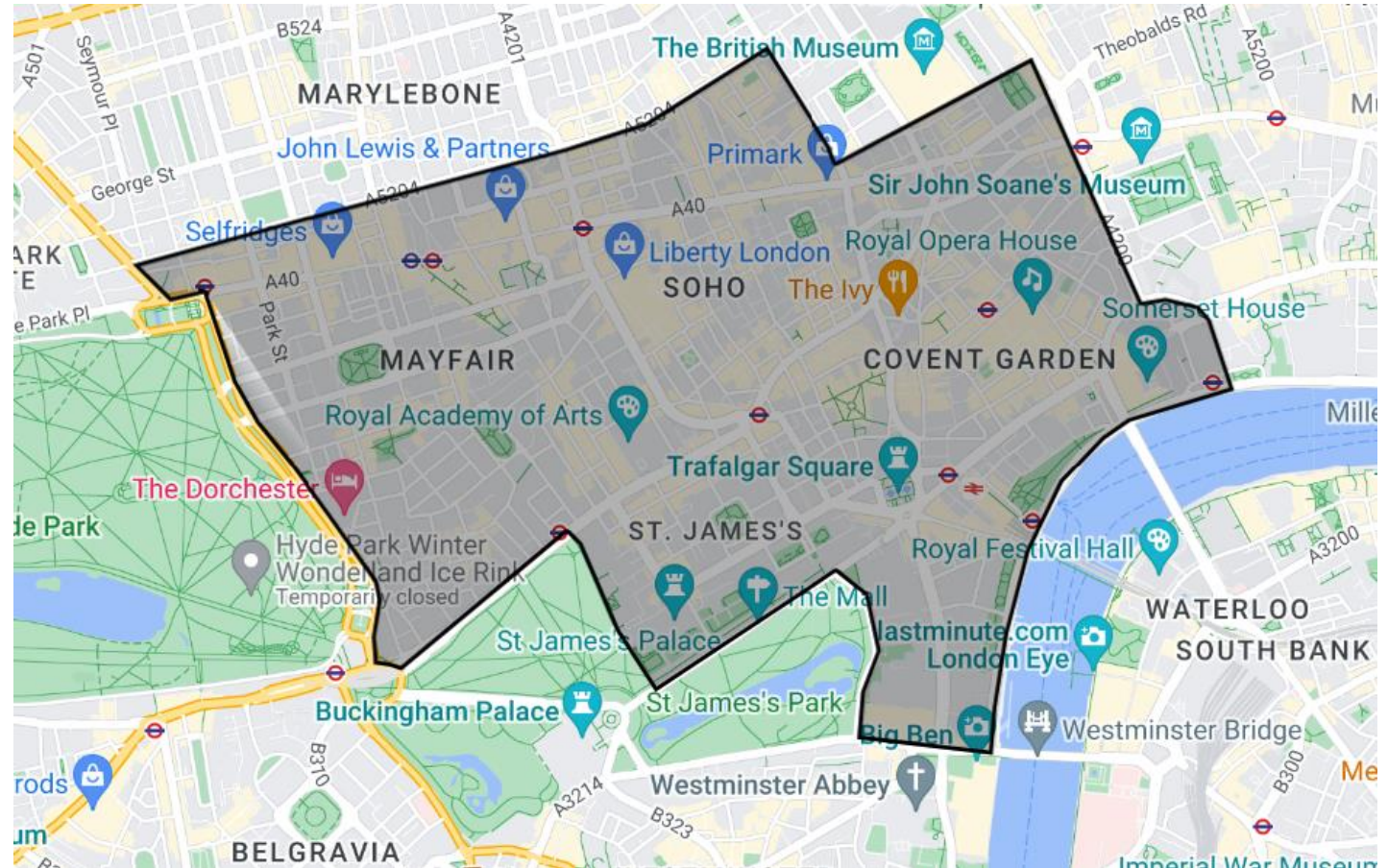


Appendix

Location definition



- Core West End area defined as a benchmark location



Appendix

Mosaic Groups



TYPE	NAME	DESCRIPTION
A	City Prosperity	High status city dwellers living in central locations and pursuing careers with high rewards.
B	Prestige Positions	Established families in large detached homes living upmarket lifestyles.
C	Country Living	Well-off owners in rural locations enjoying the benefits of country life.
D	Rural Reality	Householders living in less expensive homes in village communities.
E	Senior Security	Elderly people with assets who are enjoying a comfortable retirement.
F	Suburban Stability	Mature suburban owners living settled lives in midrange housing.
G	Domestic Success	Thriving families who are busy bringing up children and following careers.
H	Aspiring Homemakers	Younger households settling down in housing priced within their means.
I	Family Basics	Families with limited resources who budget to make ends meet.
J	Transient Renters	Single people renting low cost homes for the short term.
K	Municipal Tenants	Urban residents renting high density housing from social landlords.
L	Vintage Value	Elderly people with limited pension income, mostly living alone.
M	Modest Traditions	Mature homeowners of value homes enjoying stable lifestyles.
N	Urban Cohesion	Residents of settled urban communities with a strong sense of identity.
O	Rental Hubs	Educated young people privately renting in urban neighbourhoods.





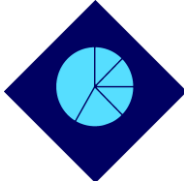
Appendix

Mosaic definition



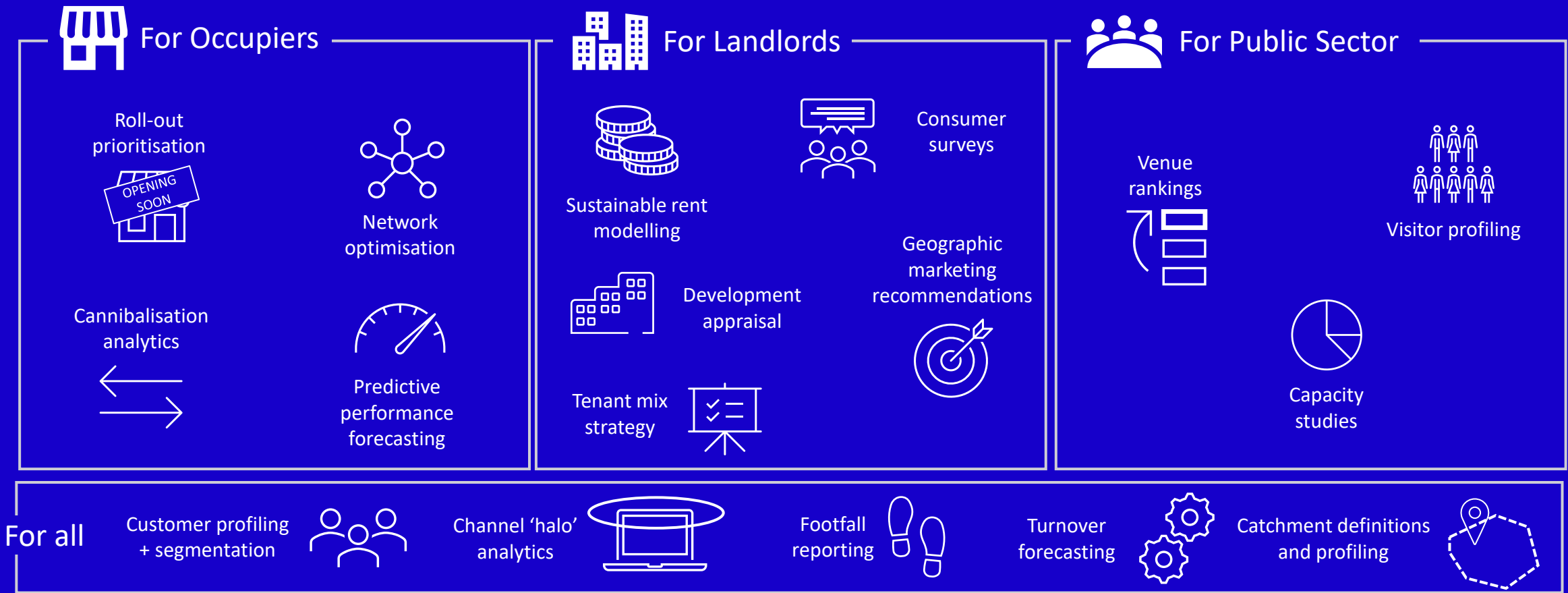
- Experian's Mosaic customer segmentation divides a consumer base into groups of individuals that are similar in specific ways, such as:

- Age
- Interests
- Life Stage
- Spending habits

UK Population	Mosaic	A02 Uptown Elite
		
51m individuals	15 groups	Uptown Elite are affluent, older families who live in desirable neighbourhoods within inner suburbs
		
25m households	66 types	

Appendix

Colliers Retail Strategy & Analytics: What we do





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