

Final Conclusion

Firstly the hypothesis 'the closer we get to the CBD the more pedestrians we will count' is proven. This is because as we moved closer to Barrow town centre we found higher numbers of pedestrians. These results were shown on an isopleth map. The darkest colour is shown in the middle of the CBD and indicates where the highest numbers of pedestrians were found. Areas such as Portland Walk and Dalton Road had high numbers of pedestrians. This is because these are areas of high quality shopping with magnet stores such as Debenhams and comparison shops such as Next. As we moved further away from the CBD the number of pedestrians was less. Areas such as the Custom House had very few pedestrians. This is because these areas are found on the outskirts where there are fewer shops. This is what we would expect for a typical MEDC city CBD.

The hypothesis 'the closer we get to the pedestrianised area of a CBD the more vehicles there will be' is not proven. This is because as we moved closer to the pedestrianised areas we found fewer vehicles. At the main pedestrianised area, Portland Walk we found there were no vehicles present. This was due to the fact that no vehicles could pass through that area as it was strictly for pedestrians. This is similar to other pedestrianised areas in the CBD e.g. parts of Dalton Road also had no vehicles present and were strictly for pedestrians.

The hypothesis 'as we get closer to the CBD we would expect the car parks to be fuller' is inconclusive. This is because there were other factors affecting whether or not the car park was full. For example the short stay free car parks were the most popular and consequently nearly always full. This is because people did not have to pay to use them and they are handy to those who just want to quickly pop into the shops. We also found that some of the car parks were bigger than others and therefore are bound to not be as full.

Despite this in some cases we did find that the car parks near to the CBD were the most popular. For example the car parks found at

Dalton Road and Hall Street proved popular and both were situated near the CBD.

The hypothesis 'on the outskirts of the CBD we would expect to find more on-street parking' is again inconclusive. This is because some of the on-street parking was situated in the CBD places such as Dalton Road and Scott Street had on street parking. However there was also on-street parking found on the outskirts in places such as Duke Street.

The hypothesis 'as we approach the CBD we would expect to see the street quality and appearance improve' is proven. This is because as we moved closer to the CBD the appearance of the streets improved as there was less rubbish, fewer vacant premises and more street furniture. The areas of highest street quality and appearance were Portland Walk and Dalton Road, which were situated in the CBD. These areas had the most litter bins as well as street cleaners, street furniture and high order shops. As we moved away from the CBD the street quality and appearance became poorer. Areas such as Buccleuch Street and Greengate Street had the poorest street quality and appearance. These areas were situated on the outskirts of the CBD and had the most litter and fewest safe road crossings.

The hypothesis 'the high order shops are found in the CBD where as the low order shops are located out of the CBD' is proven. This is because areas such as Portland Walk and Dalton Road, which are located in the CBD, had the highest number of high order shops. For example they had lots of comparison shops such as Littlewoods as well as magnet stores such as Debenhams. On the outskirts of the CBD we found low order shops. These were shops such as charity shops, which are always changing/moving on (dynamic).

The hypothesis 'there should be less residential areas the closer you get to the CBD' is proven. This is because we found that in the CBD there were no or very few residential areas. Portland Walk and Dalton Road had no residential dwellings. As we moved further away from the CBD the number of residential areas became greater. We found housing and flats situated on the outskirts of the CBD.

Finally the hypothesis 'the closer we get to the CBD the taller the buildings should be' was not proven. This was because in Barrow

we found that the tallest buildings were actually on the outskirts. This is because Barrow, being on the peninsular, only has a threshold population of 100,000 therefore the demand for land is not as high as in most towns and therefore the land in general is significantly cheaper. This means that builders are not limited to small amounts of land and therefore can build outwards instead of upwards. This is not possible in typical MEDC CBD's because land is usually in high demand and therefore very expensive, which results in restricted land and consequently buildings are much taller.

Before coming to my final conclusion I must take into account the fact that inaccuracy may have occurred somewhere in my coursework investigations. For example people may have counted the number of pedestrians and vehicles at different times. There is also the possibility that we may have counted the same vehicle/pedestrian more than once. This would obviously reduce the accuracy of the results. I also must take into account the fact I visited Barrow town centre on a weekday and therefore it will not have been at its busiest. The busiest time will obviously be on a Saturday afternoon when everyone is out shopping. Had I done my investigation on a Saturday my results may have been different.

Therefore after taking all this into consideration and looking at the entire hypothesis I think that the answer to the statement 'does Barrow have a typical MEDC city CBD' is yes. This is because most of the hypothesis we investigated were proven.