

December 2017

Sports Fashion - UK

“As the clothing market struggles due to consumers reaching ‘peak stuff’, sports fashion defies this and continues to gain momentum. Thanks to the popularity of the health and fitness market there is continued demand for trend-led sports apparel, with more non-specialists getting in on the action.”

– Chana Baram ...

November 2017

Designer Fashion - UK

"The UK designer fashion market has likely benefitted from increased inbound tourism, with an uplift in overseas residents heading to the UK to shop as they look to take advantage of a weak Sterling. The outlook for domestic consumers is more challenging and designer fashion retailers will need to work ...

Consumers and the Economic Outlook: Quarterly Update - UK

“Consumers’ spending power is being hit by the squeeze on incomes as inflation continues to outpace average wage rises. In four of the last five months, people have been more likely to feel worse off compared to a year ago than to say that their finances have improved. This is ...

October 2017

Clothing Retailing - UK

“The way consumers shop for fashion is changing and their expectations are continuing to rise. In a tougher clothing market, it has become even more important for retailers to focus on standing out from the competition through a combination of better product, frequently changing collections, interesting stores, a seamless online ...

September 2017

Jewellery & Watches Retailing - UK

“The UK jewellery and watch market looks set to become increasingly challenging. Prices are rising and domestic demand is softening as a result. Growth in the market is being driven by sales of luxury watches amongst tourists taking advantage of a weak Sterling. However, one in four UK consumers plan ...

August 2017

Fashion Technology & Innovation - UK

"The most successful fashion retailers will be those that use the latest technology cleverly to enhance the shopping experience and to tap into changing shopping behaviour. By balancing the increasing automation of retail, with consumers showing a high level of interest in self-service tills and digital screens in-store and chatbots ...

Consumers and the Economic Outlook: Quarterly Update - UK

"The snap election clearly unsettled consumers. All three of our measures of sentiment fell between April and May. And the inconclusive result means that there was no immediate bounce in confidence post-election. Instead, our data shows that people were even more concerned after the results were announced than they were ...

July 2017

Department Stores - UK

"Department stores are having to justify their raison d'être and are seeking to adapt to the changing dynamics of the marketplace. The main players in the market have recognised a need to focus on experiential retail in response to growing demand for leisure and experiences over purchasing of products. They ...

June 2017

Fashion Online - UK

"As consumers have become more accustomed to shopping for fashion online their expectations have been raised and retailers will have to invest more in the online shopping experience to drive sales. Delivery is becoming a key online battleground and the use of delivery passes and more dynamic delivery options could ...

May 2017

Womenswear - UK

"The womenswear market has slowed considerably in the past year and trading conditions are set to become even more challenging, as retailers are forced to pass on rising cost prices to consumers. Consistent sizes and better-fitting garments have been identified as the improvements women would most like to see at ...

April 2017

Footwear Retailing - UK

“Fit remains a big issue in footwear, with many people wanting more retailers to offer help to find better fitting shoes. Wearable technology has become increasingly apparent in the footwear sector and it has the potential to revolutionise the future of footwear as smart shoes look to improve fit as ...

March 2017

Menswear - UK

“As more retailers are entering the menswear market and men are faced with greater choice of products, styles and sizing, the sector is becoming more competitive. Millennial men are also becoming more demanding, wanting higher quality pieces, frequently updated ranges and unique designs, and they will choose to buy clothes ...

Consumers and the Economic Outlook: Quarterly Update - UK

“Consumer sentiment has remained strong, reflecting growing real wages, low unemployment and, as yet, the absence of any major economic upheaval post-EU vote. When it comes to the impact of the vote, people are relatively positive about the big-picture issues such as the UK’s economic growth, and most feel ...

February 2017

Optical Goods Retailing - UK

“Concentration of the retail sector has continued and major suppliers have moved into online selling. The largest retailer, Specsavers, has continued to build market share, thanks to the expansion of the chain, as well as the addition of related services such as domiciliary and hearing services. In its latest move ...

January 2017

Handbags - UK

“Retailers and designer brands need to adjust to a new reality where handbags are no longer a sure-fire revenue generator. However, focusing on newness, unique designs and customisable bags provides a way to encourage higher levels of purchasing.”

– **Tamara Sender, Senior Fashion Analyst**