

## **BRC RESPONSE TO BPF SUBLETTING DECLARATION**

20 April 2005

Commenting on the British Property Federation's declaration on subletting, Kevin Hawkins, BRC Director General, said:

"The BRC is pleased the property industry recognise the importance of this issue to their customers. Restrictions on assignment and subletting limits retailers' ability to respond to changing consumer demands and market conditions and can often result in shops left vacant years after retailers have moved out.

"Retailers will be naturally very sceptical about yet another voluntary initiative from the property industry. The success of this declaration will depend on the British Property Federation's ability to enforce it and it is vital that we see clear evidence of change early on."