

Business Support

Leeds Chamber of Commerce
Leeds City Council - Business & Enterprise and
Tourism
Business Link Yorkshire
West Yorkshire Employer Coalition
China-Britain Business Council
ABDN Minority Ethnic Enterprise Network
Business Enterprise Fund
Manufacturing Advisory Service
Other sources of business advice

Enterprise Leeds has been established to provide a single gateway to business support services in Leeds. It brings together Leeds Chamber of Commerce, the Council's Business & Enterprise and Tourism teams and a range of partner organisations, which are now co-located at White Rose House, in the heart of the city's business community. Co-location of these partners means that Enterprise Leeds can play a stronger role in promoting the economic well-being of the city and helping businesses to develop and prosper. See www.enterpriseleeds.co.uk

Leeds, York and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber works with a range of partners to position Leeds as a leading business location by supporting the city's business community and its entrepreneurs

The Chamber seeks to represent businesses in all core policy and decision making groups across the region, to provide both a voice and a channel of information about what's going on, for business managers to access, contribute to and benefit from. It also aims to provide business managers and staff at all levels with an opportunity to increase their contact base and their knowledge base, by facilitating networking events, management coaching and training programmes as well as providing marketing and money-saving opportunities.

It is one of the largest business membership organisations in the north of England with over 3,000 member companies representing 500,000 employees.

Key initiatives and organisations which are part of, or facilitated by the Chamber are as follows:

Leeds Media

Leeds Media and Leeds Chamber joined forces in May 2008. Leeds Media is now the specialist media arm of the Chamber and works to develop and promote the city's media sector. It helps companies connect with each other and the wider business community by organising briefings, seminars and networking events.

Leeds Skills Board

The Chamber facilitates the Leeds Skills Board which influences and demystifies initiatives in the city that aim to upskill and prepare both current and future workforces. This will ensure that skill levels within the city meet the demands of businesses across Leeds and the Yorkshire region.

City Region Employer Coalition

From 1st October 2009 the former West Yorkshire Employer Coalition extended its remit to cover the whole of the Leeds city region, and at the same time became the specialist employment and skills division of the Chamber.

The Coalition is a network of over 200 employers who meet regularly to discuss recruitment and retention

issues within their sector (care, contact centres and transport) or on themes (diversity and flexible working)

Leeds Chamber Property Forum

This Forum was set up by the Chamber with its main objective being to contribute positively and effectively to the future growth and development of the Leeds Metropolitan District. It has over 500 members and works closely with Leeds City Council to achieve this vision.

Leeds City Centre Retail Association

Leeds City Centre Retail Association has been formed as a voice for the retail sector. It provides a platform for retailers to promote their businesses and to communicate with each other. The association holds bi-monthly meetings, distributes a newsletter and organises retail specific events and seminars.

T: 0113 247 0000 info@yourchamber.org.uk www.yourchamber.org.uk

Leeds City Council – Business & Enterprise and Tourism

Inward Investment and Marketing

Inward investors, new and established businesses, can call upon the services of Leeds City Council's business and enterprise team for support and advice.

A comprehensive property search service is available for those looking for commercial premises in the Leeds area. This includes businesses moving into the area from outside the city, those needing to relocate or expand their operations, and start-up businesses.

The team maintains a comprehensive database of available land and commercial property in Leeds, which brings together information from over 70 commercial property agents based in the city. Searches can be done by contacting the team direct or online.

Business information, presentations and tours of the city can be provided at all stages of the decision-making process and can be tailored to meet specific needs of the company.

Other services include support for key sectors of the Leeds economy and marketing Leeds as a location for business and investment.

T: 0113 220 6350 info@locateinleeds.co.uk www.locateinleeds.co.uk

Sharing the Success, the Leeds LEGI programme

Leeds has received £20.6m from the government's £300m Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI). Branded 'Sharing the Success' the Leeds LEGI programme is helping to develop enterprise, create new jobs and boost the prosperity of the city's most disadvantaged communities.

See the Strategies and Funding chapter for more details of the programme.

T: 0113 220 6350 info@enterpriseleeds.co.uk www.sharingthesuccess.co.uk

Visit Leeds

The team at White Rose House is responsible for marketing Leeds to leisure visitors, be they on a short break or a day visit; from the UK or overseas; or travelling alone, with friends, family or as part of an organised coach group. Visit Leeds works with local partners such as hotels, attractions, retailers and events organisers to develop campaigns to raise the profile of the city and increase leisure tourism visits to Leeds. Many of the campaigns are undertaken in partnership with the regional and national tourist boards – Welcome to Yorkshire and Visit Britain.

The team also includes the Leeds Visitor Centre. This busy centre serves residents and around half a million visitors to the city each year.

The team has a wealth of knowledge to make any visit to Leeds exciting, interesting and informative.

T: 0113 220 6350 info@visitleeds.co.uk www.visitleeds.co.uk

Conference Leeds

Conference Leeds is responsible for promoting Leeds and West Yorkshire as a destination for conferences, seminars, meetings, training events, corporate hospitality and incentive packages. The team works in partnership with organisations including Eventia, Meet England, Welcome to Yorkshire, Leeds Hotels Association and Jet2.com to promote the city.

The team is equipped to deal with a wide range of conference needs and has links with over 250 venues and 34 suppliers across West Yorkshire, catering for up to 1,200 delegates, as well as smaller venues for meetings and training seminars. From enquiry to proposal, the team offers a 48-hour turnaround and works closely with clients to match their specific needs. The venue finding service is free of charge. They also offer a full accommodation booking service and can deal directly with delegates as appropriate.

T: 0113 220 6351 info@conference-leeds.com www.conference-leeds.com

Business Link Yorkshire

Business Link Yorkshire can assist individuals thinking of starting a business, or existing companies that would like to grow their business. They assess business needs and provide access to business support across the whole of Yorkshire and the Humber.

There is a tremendous amount of support available for new and growing businesses. Business Link provides an objective and impartial service and provides access to a wide variety of information, guides and self-help material that can help any business, at any stage of their development, and on any topic.

Information can be accessed by phone or email through the Customer Information Centre, or through the website and online services; or in person at local access points, situated in local communities.

Face-to-face support is available through an events programmes and adviser teams. Business Link events are delivered locally throughout the region, and offer a wide range of presentations, seminars and workshops, covering all aspects of starting and growing a successful business. Its adviser services provide tailored, one-to-one support to help businesses identify options for growth and development and access specialist help to address those business needs.

T: 08456 048 048 info@businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk www.businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk

China-Britain Business Council

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) is the UK's leading source of China business information, advice and consultancy.

CBBC supports British companies of all sizes - new entrants and established operations - providing business services, practical in-market assistance and industry t is thought that Yorkshire Water is in talks to take 55,000 sq ft at Livingstone House, Clarence Dock. Yorkshire Water will relocate staff from several other buildings in the area. Leeds City Council is narrowing its search for new premises and is expected to draw up a shortlist this week that includes Latitude, the Mint and Broad Gate. It will decide in February next year and has indicated that it prefers to buy the properties rather than rent. See <http://www.propertyweek.com/story.asp?sectioncode=36&storycode=3153088> initiatives. Services are designed to allow companies to gain access to the potential of the Chinese market and develop a sound business strategy. Delivered through a network of six offices in the UK and a presence in 11 Chinese cities, CBBC services

are available to all UK based companies.

Membership offers further benefits including discounts and members only events and information. CBBC enjoys strong support from the UK government for which it provides a number of business support services. CBBC's status allows it to play a vital role in lobbying both UK and Chinese officials on matters important to the success of British business in China.

T: 0113 247 1584 giles.blackburne@cbbc.org www.cbbc.org

ABDN Minority Ethnic Enterprise Network

ABDN is a membership organisation established in 1997. Led by a Board of successful business professionals ABDN strives to assist and promote the development of Minority Ethnic (ME) businesses in the Yorkshire region.

The objective of ABDN is to carry on activities which benefit the ME community and in particular:

- To act as a conduit through which key local, district, regional and national agencies and organisations will have access to ABDN members
- To identify issues of particular concern to ME businesses and work in partnership with mainstream business support agencies to overcome these concerns
- To develop partnerships with public, private and voluntary sector business organisations in order to enhance economic activity in accordance with the region's strategic economic objectives
- To help to strengthen the local economy and create a range of new employment opportunities for local people by stimulating and supporting existing businesses through technical assistance and business support mechanisms
- To promote sustainable regeneration and environmental issues, address social exclusion and improve opportunities for the ME business communities
- To enable ME communities to develop the skills, confidence and resources to plan a full role in their social and economic development
- To the furtherance of these objectives the company shall at all times take into consideration the principles of equal opportunities

T: 0113 3229203 arshad@abdn.org.uk www.abdn.org.uk

Business Enterprise Fund

The Business Enterprise Fund provides assistance for businesses seeking to access finance from mainstream lenders or for those who have been turned down by high street banks.

Their support is available to businesses in Leeds, Bradford and North Yorkshire where they can offer loans from £5,000 up to £30,000. The Fund ensures that all businesses taking out a loan with them have access to a business mentor who will work with them to develop business management skills including help with their business plan.

The Business Enterprise Fund believes that it is important to fill the funding gap for those who are unable to draw on the main sources of funding for one reason or another. Businesses of all maturities from start up to established are eligible and simply need to show their sustainability to be considered for a loan.

Two dedicated mentors are based at White Rose House to assist businesses in Leeds through this loan fund.

They are also there to assist people source funding through the banks or other reputable finance institutions.

T: 0113 247 0000 info@befund.org www.befund.org

Manufacturing Advisory Service – Yorkshire & Humber (MAS)

Funded by Yorkshire Forward, MAS provides access to practical manufacturing advice and support to help businesses improve their productivity and efficiency levels. Support offered includes:

- Free impartial manufacturing advice from experienced specialists
- Free on-site manufacturing reviews highlighting actions to improve operational performance
- Free on-site focused research to address specific issues already identified
- Low cost factory visits to meet with other successful manufacturers and develop knowledge in best practice tools and techniques
- 50% subsidised manufacturing improvement projects providing longer term on-site, practical support from experienced manufacturing specialists.

T: 08700 111 875 enquiries@mas-yh.co.uk www.mas-yh.co.uk

Other sources of business advice and support

Name	Activity	Contact Number	Web Address
Aire Valley Leeds	Aire Valley Leeds is immediately south-east of Leeds city centre extending from the Royal Armouries and Clarence Dock eastwards through Cross Green and Stourton to the M1 motorway. Businesses in the Aire Valley Leeds area can access the following business support through the team: direct support for recruitment and training; signposting to other services, e.g. Business Link Yorkshire; Manufacturing Advisory Service; Print Yorkshire & other sector specific support.	0113 214 9005	www.airevalleyleeds.com
QU2	This business incubator offers office space and tailored business support for start up businesses. Young companies (less than 36 months old) gain access to a pool of experts, mentors and investors to help them develop their business.	0113 281 6770	www.qu2leeds.co.uk
Business Start-Up @ Leeds Met	Promotes innovation and entrepreneurship across the university. They run a business idea competition, newsletter and website, free workshops and a summer school. Their goal is to help students set up and run their own business.	0113 812 1752	www.lmu.ac.uk/business-start-up
Business & Patents Information Service	A range of services for established businesses and start ups including company information, market research reports, trade directories (UK & overseas), trade & business journals, statistics and legislation. Other services include the creation of tailored mailing lists, Companies House searches, patent and trademark searching and advice.	0113 247 8266	www.businessandpatents.org
The Cardigan Centre	The centre combines numerous business and community functions including: rooms for hire for business, recreational and educational uses, training and work placements, offices to rent for start-up businesses, secretarial and data services and publicity, print and telematic services.	0113 275 9282	www.cardigancentre.btik.com
Groundwork Leeds	The Regional Environmental Business Services team provide support, information, advice and training to companies on environmental business issues. The team aims to encourage companies and their employees to be more aware of the environmental impact they may have on the community.	0113 238 0601	www.groundwork-leeds.org.uk
Leeds Ahead	Leeds Ahead enables businesses to contribute to regeneration in the city. Corporate Social Responsibility is important for any size business, Leeds Ahead provides one easy access point bringing together a wide range of opportunities that are available. Support from businesses is targeted at areas of multiple deprivation in the city.	0113 246 7877	www.leedsahead.org.uk
Leeds Innovation Centre	The Centre provides quality office and laboratory accommodation across 3 sites. Close links with the University of Leeds enable occupants to tap into many resources, expertise and business support and which to date has proved invaluable for the young up-and-coming companies accommodated. The Centre welcomes most types of business but two of the sites have emphasis on health and bioscience.	0113 384 5845	www.leedsinnovationcentre.com
Unity Enterprise	Unity manage three not-for-profit community business centres - Unity Business Centre, Leeds Media Centre and Chapeltown Enterprise Centre. They have developed a team committed to increasing employment opportunities in the community by establishing a Job Shop, a proactive tenants into work project, building relationships with external organisations and accessing enterprise funding and support for those considering self employment and training.	Unity Business Centre 0113 2425996 Leeds Media Centre 0113 2007000 Chapeltown Enterprise Centre 0113 2626333	www.unityha.co.uk/unity_enterprise

Additional sources of support for those in Leeds LEGI areas (i.e. Harehills, Chapeltown, Gipton, Bramley, Armley, Middleton, Belle Isle, Halton Moor, Richmond Hill, Little London, Seacroft, Beeston, Beeston Hill).

Name	Project	Activity	Contact no	Web address
ABDN Minority Ethnic Enterprise Network CIC Ltd	Enterprise Awareness	Free events to learn about enterprise, being your own boss and self-employment. Mentoring from established firms.	0113 322 9203	www.abdn.org.uk
ATL (Yorkshire) Ltd	Enterprise Awareness in West Leeds	Workshops and events if you want to find out about starting a business.	0800 587 5874	www.atlenterprise.co.uk
Barca Leeds	West Leeds Enterprise Centre	Office space and business support available at the Cubic Business Centre in Bramley	0113 218 0122	www.barca-leeds.co.uk www.westleedsenterprisecentre.co.uk
Bradford Enterprise Agency	Business Enterprise Fund	Loans up to £60,000 aimed at start-up and existing businesses unable to access high street lenders	0113 247 0000	www.befund.org
Camberwell	mycatalyst®	Catalyst centres provide space for new entrepreneurs to work and network with others.	0113 388 0000	www.my-catalyst.co.uk
Construction Leeds	Building on Business	Help, training and support for those wanting to start a construction business	0113 247 0913	www.leedsinitiative.org/construction
Development Trusts Association	Development Trusts Support Programme	This project supports and advises development trusts	0113 220 6350	www.dta.org.uk
East Street Arts	Union 105	Art centre providing gallery space and support to art practitioners	01132 480040	www.esaweb.org.uk
Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs	UnLtd	Advice and funding for businesses that have social aims.	01274 750 630	www.unltd.org.uk
Hamara	Milun Women's Centre	Incubator space for new beauty therapy and textiles businesses run by females. Events and workshops to help develop your ideas.	0113 262 0502 or 07541 883 903	www.Hamara.org.uk
Harehills Community Interest Company (CIC)	Shine	An enterprise centre offering easy rental terms and meeting/conference facilities.	0113 388 0000	www.shineinharehills.co.uk
Health For All	Enterprise in South Leeds	Providing a programme of activities to raise awareness of the potential for enterprise among individuals and communities in South Leeds, in particular Middleton and Belle Isle.	0113 270 6903	www.slhfa.org.uk
Leeds Chamber of Commerce	Community Motivators	Motivators / Business coaches out and about at events can provide signposting and support to all services from Sharing the Success.	0113 247 0000	www.leedschamber.co.uk
Leeds Chamber of Commerce	Intensive Business Support	Providing intensive, hands on support to residents thinking about starting a business.	0113 247 0000	www.leedschamber.co.uk
Leeds City Council	Local Investor Development Officer	Advice and signposting for existing businesses.	0113 220 6350	www.sharingthesuccess.co.uk

Leeds City Credit Union	Enterprise Loans	A loan up to £5,000 to provide access to finance exclusively for start up businesses in disadvantaged areas.	0113 247 0000	www.leedscitycreditunion.co.uk
Leeds City College	Artsmix	Artmix supports art and crafts practitioners in Leeds providing advice, training and equipped workshop.	0113 216 2634	www.artsmix.co.uk www.fac4.co.uk
Leeds College of Building	Rise	Construction training and taster sessions in joinery, carpentry and brickwork	0113 222 6000	www.sharingthesuccess.co.uk
Leeds Voice	Enterprise Awareness	Leeds Voice will support projects in the programme through their network of 2,000 voluntary, community and faith organisations.	0113 277 2227	www.leedsvoice.org.uk
Prince's Trust	Business programme	Business support and grants for 18 to 30 year olds in certain areas of Leeds.	0113 236 8399	www.princes-trust.org.uk
Tiger 11	Hillside	A conference and meetings venue that also offers workspace for new businesses, and office space for existing firms	0113 387 6300	www.tiger11.org.uk
Urban Biz	Enterprise @ Work	To help residents of Chapeltown helping them into employment and business through support, advice and training. Help also for existing firms.	0113 2007970	www.urbanbiz.org.uk
Winning Moves	Enterprise Awareness	Workshops for those who need help developing their business idea or for those unsure what steps to take next.	0113 247 0000	www.winningmoves.com