

Leeds Economy Bulletin

Information contained in the Leeds Economy Bulletin is compiled from press items, internal sources and individual contributors. Whilst every care has been taken in compiling the material, the publishers accept no responsibility for losses arising due to inaccuracies.

“Despite the daily news of economic crisis, I remain optimistic about the future of Leeds. Of course we are part of the global economy and we certainly face many challenges. But we have a sound basis on which to build: major companies which are committed to the city; a wide variety of successful SMEs, operating in niche markets where skills and training are valued, customer service is key and the new digital world is integral.

This digest gives you a flavour of the developments and initiatives aimed at sustaining the economy and to keep Leeds working. They have all been in the news but this bulletin brings them together and adds the latest economic data.

All feedback is welcome.”

Paul Stephens

Chief Economic Development Officer

Autumn 2011

- [Project developments](#)
- [Transport](#)
- [Business & Community initiatives](#)
- [Policy developments & research](#)
- [Leeds City Region](#)
- [Statistical updates and local economic research](#)

For more information on economic data or to contribute to the Leeds Economic Bulletin, contact:

[**alan.cranswick@leeds.gov.uk**](mailto:alan.cranswick@leeds.gov.uk)

CONTACTS

For more information on various aspects of the Leeds economy, contact:

City Centre Management	citycentre.management@leeds.gov.uk
Economic data	economy@leeds.gov.uk
Economic programmes	economy@leeds.gov.uk
Economic strategy & policies	economy@leeds.gov.uk
Employment and skills service	jobsandskills@leeds.gov.uk
Financial inclusion	financial.inclusion@leeds.gov.uk
Leeds City Region	lcr@leeds.gov.uk
Leeds Initiative	leeds.initiative@leeds.gov.uk
Planning policy	ldf@leeds.gov.uk
Inward investment & property searches	info@locateinleeds.co.uk
Marketing & promotions	info@locateinleeds.co.uk

WEB LINKS:

Leeds economic information	www.leeds.gov.uk/economy
Leeds economic policy	www.leeds.gov.uk/ep
Financial inclusion	www.leeds.gov.uk/fi
Business support	www.leeds.gov.uk/businesssupport
Planning policy	www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy
Local development framework	www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf
Housing policy	www.leeds.gov.uk/housingpolicy

Project developments

Aire Valley

www.airevalleyleeds.com

The first 61 new homes at Yarn Street in Hunslet have gone on sale. The full scheme by Miller Homes includes 281 affordable housing units and received £5m of Kick-start funding from the Homes and Communities Agency. Along with high eco standards of construction, the new homes will benefit from an on-site combined heat & power plant, supported with £1.7m funding from the Low Carbon Infrastructure Fund.

The latest Aire Valley Leeds Business Bulletin (Spring '11 Issue) contains features on:

- A new initiative is exploring the exciting prospect of bringing bio fuels to the Aire Valley by barge.
- The Aire Valley Action Plan consultation
- Cross Green Business Watch: crime statistics

NB. The Aire Valley Enterprise Zone is covered in the **Leeds City Region** section.

Eastgate

www.eastgateleeds.co.uk

A new outline planning permission has been approved for Hammerson's Eastgate scheme. The £600m one million square foot retail-led scheme will feature a two-level shopping arcade and a new civic square. As well as the restoration of historic buildings the scheme will host a Low Carbon Energy Centre. The development will have in the region of 130 new stores and will be anchored by a flagship John Lewis next to Kirkgate Market and Marks & Spencer.

Flood Alleviation Scheme

The Council is working with the Environment Agency to consider new options for a phased approach to developing flood defences for Leeds. This work includes an option to install moveable weirs at Crown Point and Knostrop on the River Aire to the east of the city centre and also the provision of low walls in certain places within the city centre area.

This new approach replaces the scheme that was submitted to DEFRA last year and which was dependent on continuous higher walls in the city centre. A workshop meeting in late September will consider the outcome of ongoing investigation into the level of protection from flooding that can be gained from the new phased approach. It is anticipated that an EU funding bid will be submitted to provide funding for flood alleviation measures later in the year. The Council is also waiting to hear about the outcome of a bid to the Regional Growth Fund for funding.

Groundwork News

www.yorkshire.groundwork.org.uk

Victoria Gardens has been officially reopened following the six-month improvement project. In May 2009 Marks & Spencer pledged £200,000 to develop Victoria Gardens to mark 125 years since the company was founded in Leeds. Victoria Gardens is the flagship project in M&S' [Greener Living Spaces programme](#) and has been funded by the retailer's 5p* food carrier bag charge and managed by Groundwork Leeds in partnership with Leeds City Council.

Holbeck Urban Village

www.holbeckurbanvillage.co.uk

Following a £6.7m investment by Yorkshire Forward, the first phase of redevelopment at Tower Works is due for completion in December 2011. A total of 11,000 sq ft of commercial space targeted at the creative and digital industries sector will be created with units ranging in size from 150 to 1,500 sq ft. Future phases at the site will include shops, bars and cafes at ground level and offices and residential apartments above. The total office space generated by the whole development is expected to be more than 110,000 sq ft. and will include 150 residential units and approximately 8,000 sq ft of retail or leisure space. Elsewhere in Holbeck Urban Village the Council's bid for £51,000 of funding for Holbeck Green Corridor will mean that improvements to the walking routes linking Holbeck and the city centre will continue. The

Project developments....

project also includes more of the very successful wildflower meadow planting in the area. A new initiative for the green corridor is the Matthew Murray Trail, a proposed new interpretative trail which will follow the green corridor route. An information panel is currently being designed to draw together information about the rich social and economic history of the Holbeck area and Matthew Murrays key contribution to the history of Leeds.

Leeds Arena and Surrounding Area

www.leeds.gov.uk/arena

The construction of the Leeds Arena is underway, with the contractor BAM required to meet targets to secure local employment, training and business opportunities. A new visitor centre opened at the Arena site in July so people can watch the £60m entertainment venue take shape. A real-time webcam can be viewed [HERE](#)

Sovereign Street

Last December KPMG agreed a nine month exclusivity period with the council to explore options for delivering a new building for the company on the site on Sovereign Street. The Yorkshire headquarters for the firm would be one of three new buildings constructed on the brownfield site, which has been used as a car park for more than a decade. The scheme is aiming to create a "stepping stone" between City Square and the proposed South Bank development. The Sovereign Street planning statement is available at www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy

Trinity Leeds

www.trinityleeds.com

The £350m Trinity Leeds retail development is on course for its scheduled spring 2013 completion. Almost 65% of the scheme is pre-let, with 45% of the space being let, with a further 12% in solicitors' hands and another 8% in negotiations. The Council is continuing to work closely with the developer, Land Securities to secure local employment opportunities.

Transport

A65 Quality Bus Initiative

To the west of the city, the A65 Quality Bus Initiative is well under way. This scheme provides a comprehensive bus priority package for the A65 from the Outer Ring Road to the city centre. Work started on site for this £21m scheme in May 2010 and is expected to be completed in July 2012.

High Speed Rail

A campaign to gather support from businesses and individuals across the Leeds City Region for a high-speed rail link to Yorkshire was run through May, June and July to meet the 29 July closing deadline of the DfT consultation. The City Region also gave oral evidence to the Transport Select Committee Inquiry on high-speed rail in May.

The 'Yorkshire Needs High-Speed Rail' website was set up at www.yorkshireneedshighspeedrail.co.uk highlighting both the £2bn + benefits that a high-speed link would bring, and the extra capacity it would create on the existing rail network.

As part of the campaign, events were held for business leaders and the media. After concerns were expressed by Leeds politicians, Transport Secretary Philip Hammond pledged that the high-speed links beyond Birmingham, to Manchester and Leeds would be built 'simultaneously'.

Leeds City Station

At Leeds Rail Station, the go-ahead has been given for the new Southern Entrance which will provide a new entrance connecting passengers directly into Holbeck Urban Village and the South Bank of the city centre. The Government has accepted Metro's revised funding offer for the scheme and following the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) a contribution of £12.4m has been agreed to the estimated total cost of £14.4m. Advanced design and survey works have begun and it is expected that Metro will enter into an agreement with Network Rail in February 2012 for the detailed design and construction phases. Construction work is currently expected to start in summer 2013 for completion during summer 2014.



Leeds Inner Ring Road

The Leeds Inner Ring Road Maintenance involves major works to three key structures on Leeds Inner Ring Road which is urgently required to ensure the continued availability of this route. A detailed business case and Best and Final bid will be submitted by September 2011. If the bid is successful works could start in 2012/13 for completion by 2016/17. It is anticipated that further works will be required as part of a long term strategy for the route.

Rail Growth Package

Another scheme in the pipeline is the Rail Growth Package scheme to provide two much-needed new stations on the busy Airedale commuter routes at Kirkstall Forge and Apperley Bridge. The bid will be submitted in September 2011 and if successful, work on the development of the proposals will restart early in 2012.

New Generation Transport

A Best and Final Funding Bid for the New Generation Transport (NGT) trolleybus scheme will be submitted in September 2011, with a decision expected by the end of the year. This bid will set out options for reducing the overall scheme cost and increasing the local contribution.. A briefing with Philip Hammond the Secretary of State for Transport was held at the end of March to reiterate the case for the scheme.

West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (LTP)

West Yorkshire's new 15-year Local Transport Plan (LTP is available at www.wyltp.com Drawn up after widespread consultation, the Plan's three main objectives are:

- Economy: To improve connectivity to support economic activity and growth in West Yorkshire and the Leeds City Region;
- Low Carbon: To make substantial progress towards a low carbon, sustainable transport system for West Yorkshire, while recognising transport's contribution to national carbon reduction plans;
- Quality of Life: To enhance the quality of life of people living in, working in and visiting West Yorkshire.

The Plan sets out to tackle congestion and a lack of transport investment, and prepare for the predicted, post-recession growth in employment, population and housing and their impact on the reliability of the transport network.

Business and community initiatives

BUSINESS INITIATIVES

BACIL News

www.bacil.org

BACIL is dedicated to protecting business premises in Leeds and making the City a safer place for consumers and staff. It is run by a small, dedicated team who work with nearly 300 members across Leeds City Centre from both the day and night time economy. It also works in partnership with Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds and other bodies across the city to actively reduce crime. There has been a significant reduction in business crime since it was founded. It has recently launched its new website.

Business Growth Fund

The council recently launched the new capital grants programme for Leeds businesses with under 250 staff that can demonstrate employment and productivity growth through the acquisition of new capital assets. Awards are up to a maximum of £10,000 and are dependent on the number of new jobs created, with additional funding for businesses taking on unemployed people, and/or, those aged under 24. To date, nearly 40 Leeds businesses have been visited to discuss the support available, with two grant offers being made in the first quarter of 2011/12. These totalled approximately £13,500 and are expected to create six full-time jobs.

Employment Leeds

Employment Leeds is the business-facing service delivered by Leeds City Council and its partners, with support from the European Regional Development Fund. From early 2011, it provides a comprehensive range of employment and training support to any employer looking to expand, invest or develop in Leeds.

Employment Leeds works with employers at any stage of the business process; from the initial enquiry regarding land, buildings or recruitment; through to the development of their current and future workforce. Working with employers through a single point of contact in a way that grows your business will help transform our communities and deliver our shared ambitions for the city.

For further information on the services available from Employment Leeds, please contact: Alice Winter, Employment Leeds Manager at alice.winter@leeds.gov.uk

Future Jobs Fund (FJF)

The DWP programme aims to create over 800 job opportunities for unemployed young people aged 18-24 years across a wide range of public, private and voluntary sector employers. Training and 'in-work' support is provided to improve the longer-term employment prospects of young people.

807 clients commenced FJF placements up to the end of March 2011. Of these, 300 young people have secured employment, 191 are still on the programme and a further 34 have progressed into further education or training.

Leeds Chamber - Supporting Growth 2011

Surveys taken from the Supporting Growth event indicated that businesses were looking for support in a broad range of areas, from access to finance to sales and marketing. 87% of those surveyed indicated that they saw the Chamber as a place to go for business support and as such the Chamber has endeavoured to provide a variety of programmes, products and services that can help businesses push on and move forward.

Three key initiatives have been identified:

- Chamber Mentor Panel
- The Reviver Programme
- Peer-2-Peer Programmes

Visit: www.leedschamber.co.uk

Leeds Festivals

The Leeds Loves Shopping festival is to return for a sixth year with a focus on supporting the retail sector to secure investment, attract sales and retain skills. A series of briefings and seminars will form a major part of the festival and communicate the economic importance of the retail sector. Sessions will showcase the new shopping developments in Leeds and highlight the opportunities for the retail sector with the development of the Arena due for completion 2013.

Leeds Loves Shopping is part of a suite of city festivals hosted in Leeds that celebrate the city's diverse sector-specific offers and follows on from the successful Leeds Loves Food festival, which attracted over 40,000 visitors to Millennium Square, and other city venues for a weekend of food and drink in July.

Also supporting the retail sector, the Festive Leeds campaign begins in early November. For the first time, a campaign strapline will be introduced to demonstrate the unique Christmas offer. The campaign to include billboard advertising across other Northern cities and throughout Leeds, will showcase how Leeds meets shoppers practical requirements of opening hours, ample and cost effective parking facilities, multiple brands and opportunities to relax but also communicates that they can feel festive too.

Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) www.sharingthesuccess.co.uk

With the end of government funding in March 2011 many of the LEGI projects have moved beyond grant support and are now sustainable. Most notably, the Hillside and Shine centres provide startup facilities for businesses in Harehills and Beeston, and the Union 105 and Factory4 centres give a home to new arts, crafts and creative businesses. Rise in Seacroft is now run entirely by Leeds College of Building.

Other projects that continue to receive funding include Enterprising Leeds, run by Leeds Chamber, which continues to provide start-up support. For construction businesses and trades-people, Construction Leeds provides advice, links to tender opportunities and help with recruitment. Retail startups get help to launch in Kirkgate Market through the How Bazaar market stall, and move on space through the Bazaar Quarter.

Two new LEGI-funded enterprise centres have opened. Chapeltown's Louis Hamilton Business Centre, run by local businessman Peter Wenham, will provide real and virtual office space for local businesses. Tenants Hall Enterprise Centre, in the heart of Middleton, will make affordable office space and meeting rooms available to businesses and social enterprises.

Work continues with Unity Enterprise on their Chapeltown Enterprise Network project providing business support and employment advice to local residents and businesses. Two new grant funds will be launched later in the year. A business growth fund will help existing employers to expand and take on more staff. A social enterprise fund will give much-needed investment for social businesses, helping them to become more sustainable.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Art@Leeds

www.leeds.gov.uk/arts

The June newsletter covers events in Leeds, the Leeds Arts Partnership and other developments is available [HERE](#)

Financial Inclusion

www.leeds.gov.uk/fi

Since 2004 the Leeds Financial Inclusion Partnership has been working to tackle financial exclusion in the city by assisting people and provide an alternative to high interest doorstep lenders and loan sharks. Funding for face to face debt advice through the Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) and funding to sustain the Leeds City Credit Union branch network for another year have been secured. Lobbying by Leeds Citizens Advice Bureau, LCC, Leeds MPs and others was successful in ensuring the FIF project received funding. The level of funding has been slightly decreased with the result that the number of FIF caseworker posts in Leeds has fallen to nine down from eleven.

Leeds Ahead

www.leedsahead.org.uk

The summer newsletter highlights:

- The attendance Lord Nat Wei at a joint event with Leeds Ahead and the Leeds Community Foundation.
- The delivery of intensive business support in the inner-city communities of Holbeck and Beeston.
- Year of the Volunteer Awards

The Leeds Community Foundation

www.leedscommunityfoundation.org.uk

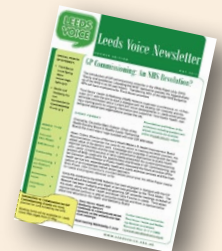
The Leeds Community Foundation, which has channelled over £4m of funds to local charities and community groups in the city in the past year, reports that demand for its help has doubled in the past 6 months because of cuts and difficult economic conditions. It raises funds from individuals, business and other organisations to provide financial support for charities working in the most deprived part of the city, but was only able to support 1 in 3 of the hundreds of applications it received last year.

Leeds Voice Newsletter

<http://leedsvoice.org.uk>

The summer newsletter highlights:

- GP Commissioning: An NHS Revolution?
- The merger of Leeds Voice and Voluntary Action - Leeds
- The BME Network in Leeds
- The Third Sector Leeds Spring Open Forum.



Voluntary Action - Leeds

www.val.org.uk

VA-L has published details of current funding opportunities at the above weblink.

It also reports that Third Sector Leeds (TSL) is seeking to appoint representatives to three of the five Leeds Initiative Partnership Boards: Safer and Stronger Communities; Sustainable Economy and Culture; Housing and Regeneration.

Policy developments and research

Leeds Apprenticeship Challenge

The Leeds Apprenticeship challenge launched in February 2011 goes from strength to strength. The first phase of the challenge was for Leeds Employers to pledge to engage with 100 Apprentices in 100 days. It has been so successful that 162 employers pledged to offer almost 300 opportunities across the city.

The next phase focuses on a competition for young people to win an Apprenticeship in the construction industry. Organisers say that the competition is a creative and fun way to be a part of building the future of Leeds and be a part of something special. The prize of an Apprenticeship is important and all eyes will be on the winner.

'Build My Future; Build My Leeds'

www.leeds.gov.uk/buildmyleeds

Launched on 5 September 2011 this competition is something really worth getting creative about! The tag line makes reference to building and has a prize of a full construction apprenticeship at one of the key sites in Leeds along with a toolkit to start you off on your career.

Entrants are asked to write up to a 100 words about the new entertainment Arena and/or Trinity, the new retail development, and create an illustration to support their words. The competition is being held in partnership with Leeds City Council, Construction Yorkshire and the National Apprenticeships Service, BAM, Laing O'Rourke and Leeds College of Building.

Apprenticeships are a way of enabling people to train and gain qualifications while working in their chosen area of employment. It is an excellent opportunity to obtain those vital skills through the achievement of the Apprenticeship Framework.

The competition is open to all 16-18 year olds within Leeds who are not currently in fulltime employment. This age group was chosen to encourage a group that is normally under-represented within this sector.

Finalists who are chosen will attend a site visit to the Arena or Trinity Leeds in October and also a Competition Session at the Leeds College of Building in November. They will also have the option to attend taster sessions to gain some practical experience of the various trades in the mid October holidays. The competition is open for 5 weeks.

For more information and to download an application form visit our website.

Leeds Apprenticeship Recognition Awards

The first Leeds Apprenticeship Recognition Awards will be held for the city during National Apprenticeship Week, 8 February 2012. This is to celebrate the fantastic work by employers and schools / academies where real commitment to the apprenticeships programme has been demonstrated coupled with the very high standard of work and dedication shown by the apprentices in Leeds. This is an opportunity that cannot be missed and is worth commemorating.

Nominations will be open mid October with a closing date of the end of November. Look out for further information on the Leeds City Council website www.leeds.gov.uk

LDF Core Strategy and the evidence base

Following consideration of consultation responses to the Core Strategy Preferred Approach consultation in 2009, work is continuing to consolidate and the complete the evidence base for the Core Strategy.

These studies include:

- the Leeds Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment: updated early 2011
- the PPG 17 Audit & Needs Assessment: December 2010
- the Retail & Town Centres Study: December 2010
- Housing Growth Options: January 2011
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment: updated early 2011
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan: due January 2011; and
- the Employment Land Review 2010 Update.



LDF: Natural resources and waste DPD

The Natural Resources and Waste Development Plan:

- sets out where land is needed to enable us to manage resources - like minerals, energy, waste and water -over the next 15 years;
- identifies specific actions which will help us use our natural resources in a more efficient way.

The Secretary of State has appointed an independent Inspector to examine the NRWDPD for soundness under section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Details at: www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf under Current Consultations

Supporting young people's career choices

www.leedspathways.org.uk

The support available to young people to help with career decision making is changing. From 1st April 2012, funding for universal Connexions services will end. Schools will become responsible for making sure that pupils have access to information about all post 16 learning and training opportunities, including apprenticeships and for securing independent careers guidance for those who need it.

To help young people make the best choices for them, Leeds City Council is investing in development of the Leeds Pathways website. The site is already used by 75% of year 11 pupils completing on-line applications, and received 3 million hits last academic year!

There will be a new focus on labour market information, the local economy and how young people can develop the skills employers want. We are developing lots of information including video clips of young people and Leeds employers starting with Brass Agency, Royal Bank of Scotland, Torque, NG Bailey, Northern Rail and Leeds City Art Gallery with young people and their managers talking about their experiences and career aspirations. There will be information about local job sectors and features on key projects, such as the Arena.

An exciting feature of the development is providing access to U-Explore for learners in Leeds schools and colleges. This is a resource which provides young people with an insight into the world of work and links students to the business community using video clips, moving graphics and 360° interactive virtual tours.

For further information please contact andrea.cowans@leeds.gov.uk at 14-19 team, Children's Services

Vision for Leeds 2011 to 2030

www.leedsinitiative.org

Over the past year Leeds Initiative has been developing a new Vision for Leeds. It is a long-term plan for economic, cultural and environmental success. Its key aim is to make Leeds the best city in the UK. This means: Leeds will be fair, open and welcoming; Leeds' economy will be prosperous and sustainable; and all Leeds' communities will be successful.

Supporting it is the City Priority Plan, which focuses on priorities over the next four years. These two plans are more commonly known as Leeds 2030 and Leeds 2015. Preparations are currently being made to launch them both in September.

Five partnership boards have been set up to oversee the work and progress on Leeds 2030 and Leeds 2015.

Young People's Employability Initiative

See initiative report [HERE](#)

The Young People's Employability Initiative known as YOUth Inspire provides an opportunity to engage and support young people aged 16 – 24 who are "work ready" and allows them to gain work experience alongside vocational training. This initiative has been designed to contribute to the reduction of 16-18 year olds who are not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET), a key priority for Children's Trust partners.

The initiative started at the end of May and delivers an 8 week programme of skills training and work experience tailored to meet the individual young person's needs. As of the end of July, 47 young people have started the programme and are supported in work experience in numerous employers across the city. If you are interested in supporting this programme please contact Learning Partnerships, Debbie Banks 0113 3806662 or email Debbie@learningpartnerships.org.uk

Leeds City Region

Leeds City Region Business Survey 2011

This survey, commissioned by Leeds City Region and managed jointly by Yorkshire Cities and Yorkshire Forward, comprised 1,600 interviews with a representative sample of businesses across the City Region. These interviews were done in November and December 2010.

Business performance in the year prior to the survey period had improved from the position a year earlier. However, this still left a position in which, net, only 2% more businesses were reporting improvement than decline.

There were negative net balances in respect of domestic orders (-11%), profit margins (-27%) and cash balances (-20%). The balance in respect of output volume was a net zero and in respect of export orders was only +1%. As nationally, the Leeds city region, despite some improvement in performance, remained fragile.

The most positive reports were from larger businesses and those with strong sales in the public sector. Those small businesses with sales mainly to domestic customers were least positive.

Business confidence in respect of the 12 months ahead was, however, much stronger than in the recession and had moved from a net -48% in November 2008 to +15% in November/December 2010. Confidence was lowest amongst those businesses with key markets in the public sector.

Business managers mostly see the advantages and disadvantages of operating in the city region in terms of transport access. Key advantages are the road network and the ready access it offers to markets and suppliers. Key disadvantages, correspondingly, are the barriers to good access.

The report is available from the Yorkshire Cities website www.yorkshirecities.org.uk

Leeds City Region Enterprise Zone

The Government announced in July the first 4 areas to benefit from at least £100 million of investment in enterprise zone-style tax breaks.

A site within the Aire Valley, Leeds, has been approved as one of the successful areas, following its nomination by the Local Enterprise Partnership as a location capable of benefiting the City Region economy.

Under these proposals local authorities will be able to retain and reinvest new business rates, whilst developers, occupiers and businesses will be offered various incentives for location and investment in the zones.

It is projected that the Aire Valley Enterprise Zone may bring a £550m economic boost and over 9,500 new jobs by 2025.

See www.airevalleyleeds.co.uk for details of the enterprise zone.

The Leeds City Region National LEP Summit

The National LEP Summit took place on 9 September. It launched the Leeds City Region LEP's ambitious agenda for economic growth, and provided a unique opportunity to debate the future of the City Region economy with leading businesses, politicians, regional and national stakeholders.

Details of the discussions will be available at www.leedscityregion.gov.uk

The Prospects for Green Jobs to 2020

www.yorkshirecities.org.uk

Consultants have now completed an important new piece of the evidence base for the Leeds City Region – a detailed examination of the Prospects for Green Jobs to 2020.

The number of green jobs

- it is estimated that there are 21,000 'primary' green jobs in Leeds City Region – those companies whose activities are wholly or mainly in the green economy. This represents 1.5% of all employment in the City Region
- additionally, the City Region has around 28,000 'secondary' green jobs – in companies supplying or only partially involved in the green economy
- in primary green jobs, the City Region is particularly strong in energy management/efficiency, environmental consultancy and water supply & wastewater treatment

Job prospects to 2020

Across Yorkshire & Humber as a whole, employment in the key low carbon sectors is likely to double by 2020 to reach 45,000.

The key sectors with significant growth potential are as follows:

- major investment projects in offshore wind, biomass power generation, biofuels & biorefining and carbon capture & storage (CCS)
- onshore wind, biomass heat, energy-from-waste and microgeneration, albeit on a smaller scale than the major projects
- large scale low carbon building retrofit programmes linked to Green Deal, for example, the City Region's Domestic Energy Efficiency Programme (DEEP)
- waste recycling and reuse
- environmental consultancy and other professional services linked to the growth of the green economy (e.g. finance, carbon accounting and legal)

The *Prospects for Green Jobs to 2020* is available from the Yorkshire Cities website, with separate profiles for the Leeds City Region and other individual council areas.

Regional Growth Fund Round 2

The Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has submitted its bid for a share of the remaining £850m Regional Growth Fund (RGF) pot. The LEP has worked with companies and public sector partners from across the City Region to identify a range of projects and programmes that will enable businesses and the City Region economy to grow.

The LEP has submitted a bid for £15m of RGF funding to support programmes and projects that will leverage up to £78m of additional investment. If successful, this would provide the City Region with around £93m total new investment, with the potential to create 3,000 jobs. In addition to those projects directly submitted by the LEP the Board endorsed a further 29 projects which, if successful, will bring further RGF funding and even higher levels of new investment and job creation across the City Region.

The second round of RGF bidding closed on 1 July, with announcements expected in October. Support for applicants provided by the LEP included advice on the development of bid proposals, and letters of endorsement demonstrating how projects contribute to the City Region's economic priorities. Pro bono support on state aid compliance was provided by Jonathan Branton at Cobbetts LLP in Leeds.

For further details please visit www.leedscityregion.gov.uk For any enquiries please email: lcr@leedscityregion.gov.uk

Statistical updates and local economic research

National and regional round up

Nationally, GDP grew by 0.2% in the latest quarter and is now 0.7% higher compared with the second quarter of 2010. The largest contribution to growth in this quarter was from business services and finance, increasing by 0.8%. Construction output increased by 0.5%, compared with a decrease of 3.4% in Q1. CPI Inflation was 4.4% in July, up from 4.2% in June. The main upward pressures came from financial services and clothing & footwear. The main downward pressure to annual inflation came from food & non-alcoholic beverages. There was no year on year growth in volume of all retail sales. Downwards volume pressures in July 2011 compared to July 2010 came from predominantly food stores, textile clothing and footwear stores, household goods stores and other stores. Upwards volume pressures came from non-specialised stores, non-store retailing and fuel. The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has kept UK interest rates on hold at its record low of 0.5%. Economists had expected no move in rates because the latest data has shown the UK economic recovery remains weak. The Bank also kept its programme of quantitative easing (QE) unchanged at £200bn, however as CPI inflation starts nearing 5%, there could be plans to increase QE.

Regionally, according to the latest Markit Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) release, firms operating in the Yorkshire & Humber private sector recorded a PMI level of 52.2, up 1.1 points on last month and 4.9 points below July 2010's level of 57.1. However, despite the rate of output growth strengthening since June, it was only modest and below the UK average of 54.4. Both manufacturers and service providers reported larger levels of activity in July. In their Q3 2011 report, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) Business Confidence Monitor (BCM) revealed a fall in confidence from businesses surveyed regionally and nationally. Regionally confidence was reported at 8.2 points, down 16.7 on last quarter and down 13.8 on a year ago. The UK Confidence Index stands at 8.1 in Q3 2011, down from 13.7 in Q2 and the lowest level since Q3 2009 when the UK was still in recession. The Confidence Index has been on a downward trend since a post-recession bounce-back that started in late 2009 and peaked in the first half of 2010. For further details see the full Economic Briefing at www.leeds.gov.uk/economy

Leeds Labour Market						
	Jan 10 – Dec 10	Quarterly Change		Annual Change		Analysis
Employment Rate	69%	-0.2pp		-0.6pp		Leeds' ILO employment rate dropped marginally. Nationally employment also dipped to a rate of 70.4%. In Leeds employment reached its lowest point in the year to June 2010 when it was 68.7%. The peak of employment in Leeds was in the year to Dec 2006 at 75.8%
Model based estimate of Unemployment	39,100	+4%		+8.6%		ONS produce a data series to model unemployment estimates at the Local Authority District level which are statistically considered more reliable than ILO unemployment. Unemployment in Leeds is higher than the national rate of 7.6%, and has not followed the downward trend seen nationally for the last three quarters. During the height of the recession unemployment in Leeds peaked at 9.5% with 40,000 unemployed in the year to March 2010.
Model based Unemployment Rate	9.2%	+4.5pp		+5.7pp		
	June 2011	Monthly Change		Annual Change		Analysis
Total number JSA Claimants	23,181	+1,134	+5.1%	+869	+3.9%	After five months of decline, Leeds claimant count rose in July to 23,181. Leeds' claimant count peaked in February 2010 with 25,494 people claiming, at a rate of 4.7%. The national rate is back up 3.7%. It has been at this rate since February 2011, but briefly dipped to 3.6% in June.
JSA Claimant Proportion	4.2%	+0.1pp		-0.1pp		
JSA Claimants 18-24 yrs	6,700	+725	+12.1%	+375	+5.9%	The number of young claimants increased slightly in July. Young claimants in Leeds peaked in Aug 2009 with 7,475 claiming JSA. In Jan 2008 there were 3,735 young people claiming.
Job Centre Plus Notified Vacancies	5,296	-30	-0.6%	-754	-12.5%	The number of vacancies fell between June and July. There are 754 less jobs available this month than a year ago, down 13% on July last year. This same trend occurred nationally, although at a slower pace.
Claimant to Vacancy Ratio	5.9	+0.6pp		+1.7pp		There are now 5.9 claimants for every unfilled vacancy. In Jan 2008 there were less than 3 claimants to each vacancy. The ratio peaked to 10 in Jan 2010. The national ratio is 5.4 for the second consecutive month.
Land Registry House Prices	£130,674	+£637	+0.5%	-£3,439	-2.6%	House prices flattened in July, and are 2.6% less than the same month in 2010. Nationally, prices also remained flat over the month at £161,479, but fell annually by 2.1%.
Land Registry Property Sales (April 2011)	601	+161	+33.3%	+17	+2.7%	Property sales moved up 33.3% in May and are slightly higher than the same month last year. Nationally, sales fell 5.5% in May, and fell 10.2% in the year.

Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Economic Survey

Across the manufacturing and service sectors, UK sales and orders have fluctuated over the past year as periods of growth are followed by decline, and vice-versa.

Compared to Q1 2011 results, there has been a slight decline in the service sector's sales (-4%) and advanced orders (-4%) and manufacturing's advanced orders (-1%). The 17% increase in manufacturing sales partially reverses the 21% decrease reported in Q1.

The results show that manufacturers are doing better than services and future sales suggest that this may continue and possibly widen.

Service sector job creation remains weak with only one in five businesses increasing the size of their workforce, compared to one third of manufacturers. Overall, the majority of businesses are maintaining their current levels of employment.

There is a clear skills gap in the manufacturing sector as almost half of recruiting businesses report difficulties in finding suitable staff, particularly skilled and technical workers (69%). This problem is also evident amongst service providers although to a lesser degree.

For details see www.leedschamber.co.uk

Index of Resilience

yorkshirecities.org.uk

In 2008, ekosgen and AECOM, commissioned by Yorkshire Cities, completed a major study to assist local authorities in identifying their economic strengths and to work to improve their economic resilience in the face of the recession.

A 2011 refresh has now been completed, with Leeds performing well, appearing within the top 10% of resilient areas (within the top 6 out of 60). The city's resilience is much higher than the 60-City Index and the Yorkshire Cities average, and is comparable to areas such as Brighton and Hove, York, Harrogate and Trafford.

The city's high score is a reflection of a strong performance on most domains, outperforming the Index average on five of the six domains: Economic Structure, Infrastructure and Connectivity, Economic Inclusion, Places and Population and Skilled Workforce. The city's score on the Enterprise domain is largely in line with the Index average.

Leeds benefits from having a diverse economy, high levels of employment in key sectors, a relatively highly skilled population and the presence of the Universities. The city's scale is also an advantage.

Leeds City Centre Audit

www.leeds.gov.uk/economy

The 10th Leeds City Centre Audit assesses the vitality, viability and performance of the city centre. Data relating to a range of indicators has been used in compiling the audit. The key topics covered are:

- Office market
- Leisure and tourism
- Pedestrian flow
- Housing
- Environment and sustainability
- Retail trends
- Employment
- Movement
- Community safety

BENEFIT CLAIMANTS STATISTICS

In measuring unemployment and calculating rates, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) now uses the internationally comparable ILO definition. This rate is the number of ILO unemployed as a percentage of the resident population who are economically active. For the year ending September 2010, 37,500 (+/- 5,100) Leeds residents were ILO unemployed, a rate of 8.8% (+/-1.2%) compared with 8.3% (+/-1.1%) a year ago. The corresponding GB rates were 7.8% and 7.5%; the Yorkshire & Humber rates 8.8% and 8.3%.

Benefits claimant data is reported as a proportion of the resident working age population (aged 16-64 years)

Total claimants

Over the last year, total claimants within Leeds M.D. increased from 22,312 to 23,181; with claimant proportions increasing from 4.0% to 4.2%. It increased to 4.4% for the region and 3.8% for GB. Leeds accounts for approximately 18% of the people in employment in the region, and 15% of the claimants.

	July 2011		July 2010	
	Number ('000)	Prop (%)	Number ('000)	Prop (%)
Leeds MD	23.2	4.2	22.3	4.0
W Yorks	67.2	4.5	61.3	4.1
Leeds CR	81.7	4.2	75.3	3.8
Y&H region	153.7	4.4	140.9	4.1
Gt. Britain	1481.2	3.8	1384.0	3.5

Male/Female

For male claimants in Leeds M.D. the proportion stayed at 5.8%, with 15,959 claimants. For females, it increased to 2.6% with 7,222 claimants.

	July 2011		July 2010	
	Number ('000)	Prop (%)	Number ('000)	Prop (%)
MALE:				
Leeds MD	16.0	5.8	16.1	5.8
W Yorks	45.9	6.2	44.1	5.9
Leeds CR	55.6	5.7	54.0	5.5
Y&H region	105.3	6.1	102.2	5.9
Gt. Britain	984.5	5.0	976.5	5.0
FEMALE:				
Leeds MD	7.2	2.6	6.2	2.2
W Yorks	21.3	2.9	17.2	2.3
Leeds CR	26.1	2.7	21.3	2.2
Y&H region	48.5	2.8	38.7	2.2
Gt. Britain	496.7	2.5	407.5	2.1

Comparison with other local authorities

The table below gives total number of claimants and claimant proportions for local authorities in West Yorkshire.

	July 2011		July 2010	
	Total	Prop	Total	Prop
Leeds	23,181	4.2	22,312	4.0
Bradford	16,967	5.2	14,643	4.5
Calderdale	6,119	4.7	5,654	4.4
Kirklees	12,004	4.5	10,851	4.1
Wakefield	8,958	4.2	7,826	3.7
WEST YORKS	67,229	4.5	61,286	4.1

Claimants by Ward

	July 2011	% Prop July 2011	Prop change 10-11
Adel & Wharfedale	308	2.3	+0.3
Alwoodley	447	2.8	0
Ardsley & Robin Hood	395	2.5	+0.5
Armley	1,414	7.2	+0.7
Beeston & Holbeck	1,229	7.3	+0.4
Bramley & Stanningley	822	5.0	+0.4
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	1,679	9.7	0
Calverley & Farsley	402	2.6	+0.4
Chapel Allerton	1,127	6.5	+0.1
City & Hunslet	1,501	5.8	+0.3
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	622	4.1	+0.3
Farnley & Wortley	849	5.0	0
Garforth & Swillington	253	1.9	-0.1
Gipton & Harehills	1,713	9.1	+0.7
Guiseley & Rawdon	219	1.4	-0.2
Harewood	158	1.4	+0.1
Headingley	509	2.3	+0.1
Horsforth	270	1.8	-0.1
Hyde Park & Woodhouse	1,059	3.9	+0.1
Killingbeck & Seacroft	1,237	7.5	+0.8
Kippax & Methley	338	2.4	+0.2
Kirkstall	858	4.6	-0.2
Middleton Park	1,324	7.4	-0.2
Moortown	444	2.8	0
Morley North	436	2.7	+0.2
Morley South	542	3.4	+0.3
Otley & Yeadon	333	2.1	-0.2
Pudsey	507	3.3	-0.2
Rothwell	393	2.8	+0.3
Roundhay	443	2.7	-0.2
Temple Newsam	652	4.4	0
Weetwood	498	3.9	+0.2
Wetherby	189	1.5	-0.1
Leeds MD	23,181	4.2	+0.2
IoD 2010 wards	7,454	7.7	+0.3
Leeds City Region	81,706	4.2	+0.3
Core Cities	163,040	5.4	+0.3

Claimant proportions for wards are estimates only.

IoD2010: wards having more than 50% of their SOAs in the 10% most deprived nationally: Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, City & Hunslet, Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft and Middleton Park.

Localised Unemployment

In July 2011, 67 of the 476 localities (areas with working age populations of approximately 1,000 people) in Leeds have JSA claimant rates above 8.4% (twice the city rate at the start of 2011). These make up a group of localities that are closely monitored. This month there has been an increase of five localities that meet the monitoring criteria compared to the previous month.

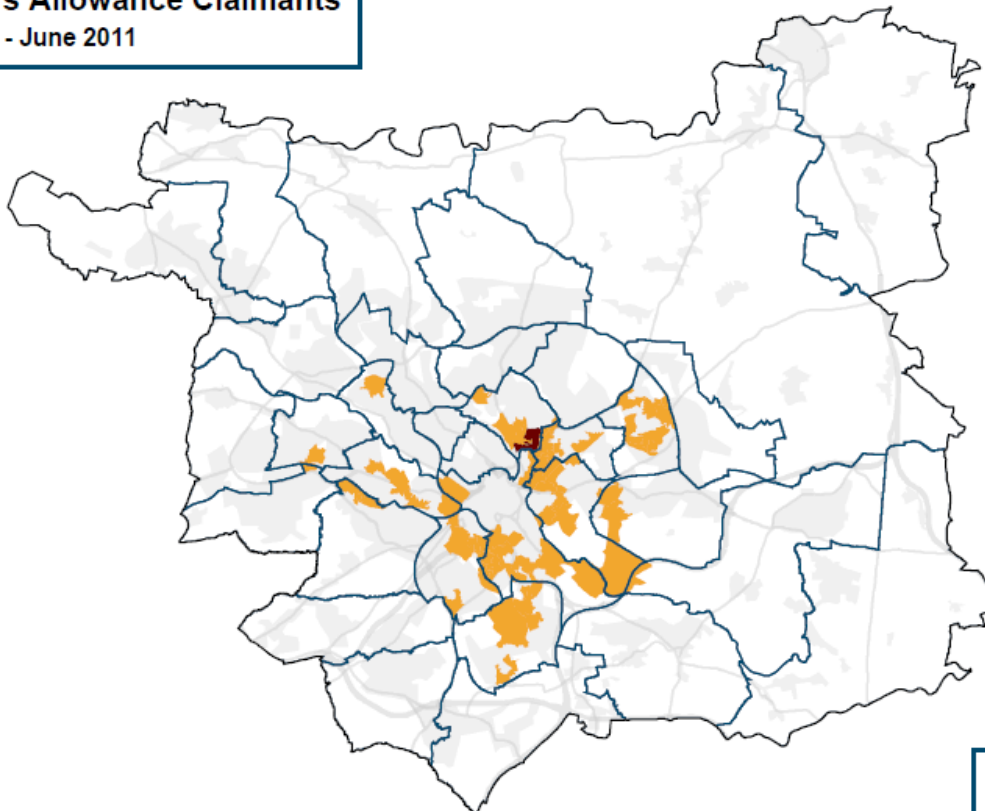
The claimant count in the JSA localities to be monitored is 8,003 (rate 11.0%), an increase of 675 on the June count of 7,328 (rate 10.8%). The July '11 count is 1,143 claimants less than in June '10 when there were 6,860 claimants in JSA localities that met the monitoring criteria.

The ten localities with the highest JSA claimant rates (12.7% to 24.7%) are in the wards of: Chapel Allerton, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft, and City & Hunslet.

The five localities with the highest JSA claimant rates are:

- 'Granges, Hamiltons, Francis Street' 24.7% (Chapel Allerton),
- 'Wickham St. Seftons, Harlechs' 14.9% (Burmantofts & Richmond Hill),
- 'Foundrys, Thorn Drive, North Farm Road, Amberton Approach' 14.4% (Burmantofts & Richmond Hill),
- 'Foundry Mill Terr, Brooklands' 14.0% (Killingbeck & Seacroft),
- 'Haselwoods, Rigtons' 13.8% (City & Hunslet).

Job Seekers Allowance Claimants Claimant Rate - June 2011



Legend
□ Ward Boundaries
■ Claimant Rate
■ Less than 9.2%
■ 9.2% - 18.4%
■ More than 18.4%



PRODUCED BY THE BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION TEAM, LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

This map is based upon the Ordnance Survey's Digital Data with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office
© Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Leeds City Council O.S. Licence No. 100019957 (2011)

REF : MJRPJTS : WKLSSNSS : JSA02 : 2011 : 006