

# Leeds Economy Bulletin

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The quarterly Leeds Economy Bulletin provides the council, its partners and the public with up-to-date information on what is happening in the city and the economy. Published by Leeds City Council's economic policy team, it covers

- major infrastructure projects,
- key policy documents, such as the Leeds Growth Strategy
- economic research, such as the State of the City report
- the activities of the council's partners

Members of the Leeds business community and citizens can also find out what's happening in the city and news about the economy through the Leeds City Council website, which includes briefing papers and a range of other publications.

Contributions are welcome from all organisations wishing to promote their activities.

The bulletin is complemented by the daily new service, which covers news available in the press and on the web. It covers not only local economic news, but relevant regional and national developments. To access this free service, contact [economy@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:economy@leeds.gov.uk)

## Winter 2011

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Economic programmes	<a href="mailto:economy@leeds.gov.uk">economy@leeds.gov.uk</a>
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Leeds Initiative	<a href="mailto:leeds.initiative@leeds.gov.uk">leeds.initiative@leeds.gov.uk</a>
Planning policy	<a href="mailto:ldf@leeds.gov.uk">ldf@leeds.gov.uk</a>
Inward investment & property searches	<a href="mailto:info@locateinleeds.co.uk">info@locateinleeds.co.uk</a>
Marketing & promotions	<a href="mailto:info@locateinleeds.co.uk">info@locateinleeds.co.uk</a>

## WEB LINKS:

Leeds economic information	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/economy">www.leeds.gov.uk/economy</a>
Leeds economic policy	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/ep">www.leeds.gov.uk/ep</a>
Financial inclusion	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/fi">www.leeds.gov.uk/fi</a>
Business support	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/businesssupport">www.leeds.gov.uk/businesssupport</a>
Planning policy	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy">www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy</a>
Local development framework	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf">www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf</a>
Housing policy	<a href="http://www.leeds.gov.uk/housingpolicy">www.leeds.gov.uk/housingpolicy</a>

# Project developments

## Aire Valley

[www.airevalleyleeds.com](http://www.airevalleyleeds.com)

On 8 November the Development Plans Panel considered a report on the informal consultation for the emerging proposals for the draft Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan, which took place during February and March 2011. The consultation sought views of local residents, businesses, landowners and statutory consultees about the revised AAP boundaries, the urban eco-settlement proposals and some suggested amendments to site allocations. More details [HERE](#)

## Casino

Leeds City Council hopes to award the licence for the city's biggest ever casino by the end of 2012/early 2013, and is planning to advertise in February for potential bidders to run the casino. The draft application pack and methodology relating to the Large Casino Premises Licence is available [HERE](#)

## East Leeds Regeneration Programme

As part of the East Leeds Regeneration Programme the strategic development agreement (SDA), a partnership between the council and Bellway Homes, continues to progress. The construction of residential homes in Gipton and Seacroft offer a mix of new housing for families and first time buyers in a key regeneration area.

## Eastgate

[www.eastgateleeds.co.uk](http://www.eastgateleeds.co.uk)

In September outline planning permission was obtained for a revised layout for the Eastgate Quarter development. The project moved a step forward after planning permission was approved which would allow the move the Bridge Street Pentecostal Church to the Agnes Stewart School site. John Lewis has said it is "extremely optimistic" it can reach a deal with developer Hammerson and Leeds City Council that will see its planned flagship store in the city go ahead.

## Elland Road

The Home Office and Treasury have given approval to the Final Business Case, with Interserve announced as the successful bidder to move to the next stage. West Yorkshire Police and West Yorkshire Police Authority will give residents another opportunity to have their say on the proposed divisional police headquarters and custody facility in the new year. The PFI-funded Elland Road station, to be built on the former greyhound stadium, will replace outdated facilities at Millgarth police station and Holbeck police station.

Meanwhile, Leeds United has revealed the first phase of the East Stand redevelopment at Elland Road is on track. A new floor has been created offering executive boxes and two event spaces. Further phases of the redevelopment will involve the construction of a hotel and nightclub on site.

## Holbeck Urban Village

[www.holbeckurbanvillage.co.uk](http://www.holbeckurbanvillage.co.uk)

The wild flower meadows created on a number of vacant land sites in the area have been short-listed in two categories, landscape and temporary works, of the forthcoming Leeds Architecture Awards which will be held in February 2012.

## Holt Park Wellbeing Centre

The Holt Park Wellbeing Centre has DoH and Treasury approval and will reach financial close on 14 December 2011. Work to commence on site 9 January 2012.

## Kirkgate Market

[www.leedsmarkets.co.uk](http://www.leedsmarkets.co.uk)

Work will shortly begin on the first phase of a programme to carry out essential maintenance to Kirkgate Market. This will include £200k of investment on the market's electrics and ventilation systems, as well as repairs to the roof of the 1904 building. A further second phase of much-needed works totalling £400k is planned for the coming months.

Kirkgate Market gained second place for 'Market Innovation of the Year' in the market awards organised by The National Association of British Market Authorities, and just a few days ago was voted 'Best Shopping Centre' at the Leeds Retail Awards.

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## Leeds Arena Quarter

As work continues on the Leeds Arena project, other projects are progressing in the arena quarter.

Town Centre Securities is planning a £13m revamp of the Merrion Centre, with work starting early next year and completion in March 2013. The development would create new outlets and restaurants, and could create 200 jobs.

Quay City Developments has submitted a planning application for a 178 bed hotel at Portland Way. Hotels are already planned for Portland Crescent and Hepworth Point

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## Leeds City College

Leeds City College has announced plans to enhance their estates portfolio with a 10-year property strategy (to include the improvement of many of their campuses). Following the success of phase 1 – the opening of the new Keighley Campus in 2010 – phase 2 will see the Thomas Danby Campus relocate to two new locations in the city.

The new locations of the courses previously offered at the campus are currently under planning and consideration. Students based at Thomas Danby Campus will relocate to the new locations during the 2012/ 2013 academic year. Leeds City College will retain a presence in Roundhay Road, with some key provision offered at its Enfield Centre and community sports centre.

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## Sovereign Street

The site consists of three development plots, plus a proposed new urban greenspace. Part of the site is reserved for KPMG and their preferred developer Sovereign Leeds Ltd, to construct their new Leeds offices. The adopted planning framework is available [HERE](#)

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## Tetley's Brewery site

Carlsberg are proposing to turn the Tetley's site in the short-term into a temporary car park and informal green space with a contemporary art gallery in the headquarters building.

The full redevelopment of the site could take more than a decade to complete. An initial blueprint for a transformation of the city's South Bank, including the delivery of a City Centre Park, and sustainable new homes and employment uses – which the former brewery site would be part of – has now been adopted by the Council. See [www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

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## Trinity Leeds

[www.trinityleeds.com](http://www.trinityleeds.com)

Land Securities says 54% of the 1m sq ft retail led Trinity Leeds development, which will open in spring 2013, has been let with a further 6.7% in solicitors' hands.

### Waste Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility

Leeds City Council's Executive Board has approved Veolia ES Aurora Ltd as the preferred bidder for the city's residual waste treatment project. They gave their approval to the plans to build a combined treatment plant to both recycle and recover energy from waste at the former wholesale market site at Pontefract Lane, Cross Green. Benefits include: a saving of £200m over 25 years compared to landfill; a major reduction in CO2 emissions; production of enough electricity to power 20,000 houses; the potential to supply heat to local users.

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## Transport

### A65 Kirkstall Road Quality Bus Corridor

This £22m scheme to deliver improved journey times for buses, enhanced facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and reduced congestion on the A65 between Kirkstall Lane and the Inner ring Road is well on its way towards completion. Construction started on site in April 2010 and is on schedule for completion in July 2012.

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### Informal City Centre Commuter Car Parking Policy

Following a period of consultation an interim policy for city centre commuter car parking on cleared sites has been agreed. It will be a material consideration in planning applications. As a temporary measure expected to last around five years the impact of the policy will be kept under review. See [www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

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### Parking Strategy

Draft parking strategies for Yeadon and Garforth have been out for consultation. Adoption of the final strategies is imminent, dependant on ward member and Chief Officer approval. For more information please see: [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Transport\\_and\\_streets/Parking/Yeadon\\_Parking\\_Strategy.aspx](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Transport_and_streets/Parking/Yeadon_Parking_Strategy.aspx) and [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Transport\\_and\\_streets/Parking/Garforth\\_parking\\_strategy.aspx](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Transport_and_streets/Parking/Garforth_parking_strategy.aspx)

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### Rail Growth Package, NGT and Leeds Inner Ring Road

These schemes have been included within the Department for Transport's major schemes development pool. Submissions of Best and Final Funding Bids were made earlier this year. Approval to the Leeds Rail Growth package for new stations at Kirkstall Forge and Apperley Bridge was announced in November, whilst the Leeds Inner Ring Road maintenance scheme was approved in December. A decision on the NGT scheme will be made in 2012.

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### Transpennine Route

The Government is supporting Network Rail in electrifying the Transpennine route between Manchester and Leeds. The decision to electrify the route starting next year will, in conjunction with the Ordsall Chord at Manchester, cut journey times between Liverpool and Newcastle by 45 minutes, improve reliability, and attract new private investment in the North of England.

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# Business and community initiatives

## BUSINESS INITIATIVES

### Aspire to Achieve' programme

Leeds Metropolitan University is launching a new programme with entrepreneur Terry George aimed at encouraging boys who might not normally consider going to university to think about higher education. The 'Aspire to Achieve' programme will work with 100 boys and see them take part in university visits, taster sessions and workshops to show them what is on offer.

### 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. The first grant was awarded to West Park Media, a business created by two university friends Simon Horniblow and Oliver Harrison in December 2007. With minimal business experience the young friends took the plunge and began their video production company after working in television production for a while. They have used the Business Growth grant of £6,000 to invest in high specification Macs, a new server and camera equipment.

Anyone needing more information should contact Neill Fishman on 0113 220 6350.

### Chapelton Townscape Heritage Initiative

The first property to be completed in the Chapelton Townscape Heritage Initiative has been unveiled. The initiative is being funded by Leeds City Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund, with contributions from the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative, and private investment from owners of businesses benefiting from the scheme. See [www.leeds.gov.uk/Business/Regeneration](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Business/Regeneration)

### 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. The last cohort of young people completed FJF in September. 386 young people have secured employment, 45 have progressed into further education or training.

### 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. The awards closed on the 18th November with a high number of nominations received for all categories. Judges will be looking at the nominations and short listed entrants will be sent invitations in January 2012 to attend this prestigious ceremony.

## Leeds Retail Association

David Laycock, the new Centre Director of Trinity Leeds, has taken over as Chair of The Leeds Retail Association and Beth Ward has been retained as Retail Co-ordinator, a post funded by the LRA. The LRA is working to improve communication between retailers, raise the profile of retail in Leeds city centre and ensure that retailers have a collective voice in the city.

## Tenants Hall Enterprise Centre

Tenants Hall Enterprise Centre, a £1.6m facility in the heart of Middleton, offers opportunities for new and existing businesses in the local area. Owned by Leeds City Council and run by Health for All, it was officially opened on 28 October 2011 by council leader, Coun Keith Wakefield, and MP for Leeds Central, Hilary Benn. Hot-desking facilities, offices, meeting rooms, and an IT suite at the centre are aimed to encourage business growth.

Business support will also be offered by organisations like the Leeds, York and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce.

## COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

### Art@Leeds Grants Scheme

[www.leeds.gov.uk/arts](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/arts)

The three-year grant scheme is available to not only develop great art, but also nurture and retain talent and skills, contribute to the distinctiveness of the cultural portfolio, break down barriers and work with and be inspired by the communities.

By introducing three-year grants, the Council want to support longer term planning and offer some level of stability for organisations once their grant has been decided.

Grants will be allocated if there is a good fit to the criteria. The Council wishes to support all art forms and will reflect this wish in its grant allocation. The minimum application for funding is £1,000 per year. There is no maximum but the budget is finite and Arts@Leeds wants to support a wide range of organisations.

For an application form, please contact [jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk) The deadline is Friday 13th January 2012.

### Financial Inclusion - Loan Shark Campaign

[www.leeds.gov.uk/fi](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/fi)

A major campaign to crack down on loan sharks in Leeds has been launched after it was revealed more than 310,000 households nationally are borrowing from unlicensed lenders. The England Illegal Money Lending Team are working in partnership with West Yorkshire Police, ALMOs, third sector partners, Credit Union and the Council to target illegal lenders who;

- Keep borrowers in the dark by offering little or no paperwork, refusing to tell them how much they owe, how long they will be paying or what the interest rate is.
- Trap borrowers in a spiral of debt by increasing the debt and add additional amounts.
- Often appear friendly at first but resort to extreme bully tactics to enforce repayment. These may include threats or violence.

The Team have secured more than 190 prosecutions for illegal money lenders and provided help and support to more than 16,000 victims. To report a loan shark call the confidential hotline 0300 555 2222 or email [reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk)

## International Leeds

The Autumn edition of the International Leeds newsletter is available [HERE](#)

## Leeds Ahead - Make the Grade

[www.leedsahead.org.uk](http://www.leedsahead.org.uk)

Leeds Ahead works with the public and private sectors to foster social and economic regeneration in the city.

It is pioneering a new scheme aimed at raising the achievement of pupils in disadvantaged areas of the city. 'Make the Grade' is aimed at driving up pupils' aspirations whilst creating sustainable long-term partnerships between schools and businesses.

Funded entirely by participating businesses and the schools themselves, Make the Grade offers a broad range of activities for pupils. These include workplace visits, work-based projects and group and individual mentoring with a host of progressive businesses. Companies taking part recognise the value of giving back to the community of which they are a part, and are opting to share their skills and experiences to help develop the workforce of tomorrow.

## The Leeds Community Foundation

[www.leedscommunityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.leedscommunityfoundation.org.uk)

The Leeds Community Foundation has relaunched the Leeds School Awards, thanks to a partnership between Leeds Community Foundation and Leeds City Council. Grants of up to £2,500 are available for local schools and PTAs for projects that enrich the life of the school and the community. Priority will be given to schools operating in the more disadvantaged areas of the city, or to activities involving vulnerable children. Details at [www.leedscommunityfoundation.org.uk/grant-making](http://www.leedscommunityfoundation.org.uk/grant-making)

A new £200,000 social enterprise capital grants scheme - Leeds Social Enterprise Fund – has been launched. It is being managed by the Leeds Community Foundation, and funding for the programme has come from Leeds City Council, as a legacy from its LEGI programme. The Fund is open to established social enterprises as well as charities and constituted community groups. Grants will be from £250 to £50,000. All applicants must be based in Leeds or be benefiting local residents.

## Leeds Inspired Grant Scheme

Leeds Inspired 2012 will include events that:

- Work with the cultural aims of the city
- Encourage participation and are open to everyone
- Support the Olympic and Paralympic values

This is a new opportunity for organisations to make culture the beating heart of our city. If you have a new idea or want to develop an existing event you can apply for funding from the Leeds Inspired grants scheme. For further details and an application form please email [jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk)

## Rugby League World Cup 2013

International sport is coming to Leeds in 2013 with the city now confirmed as an official host of the Rugby League World Cup.

Headingley Carnegie Stadium will host a group match and a quarter final in the 14-nation tournament. The city will also be a base for two competing nations, with the John Charles Centre for Sport being used as a training base. The city's bid, which was submitted by Leeds City Council, in partnership with Leeds Rhinos and Marketing Leeds, was considered one of only four outstanding bids out of 34 that were submitted.

## Voluntary Action - Leeds

[www.val.org.uk](http://www.val.org.uk)

With effect from 30 September Voluntary Action-Leeds and Leeds Voice merged.

The Autumn edition of the VAL Leeds Newsletter concentrates on arts and culture. Click [HERE](#) for the link.

Third Sector Leeds is an alliance of voluntary and community organisations, charities, faith groups, and social enterprises working in Leeds. It aims to be the point for engagement with the third sector in Leeds; working together to:

- develop third sector policies regarding key strategic issues
- engage with and influence the decision making processes of all its key stakeholders, especially the Leeds Initiative and its partners including Leeds City Council and NHS Leeds
- co-ordinate representation of the third sector on statutory partnerships and boards.

Details are available at [www.val.org.uk/page/third-sector-leeds](http://www.val.org.uk/page/third-sector-leeds)

On 14 November the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board considered the report 'Third Sector Review - Update'. See [HERE](#)

# Policy developments

## Householder Design Guide

Consultation on the Householder Design Guide, which offers advice to those wishing to extend their houses and encourages good design in all aspects of building and development, ended in late November. Details can be viewed [HERE](#)

## Housing Growth in Leeds

During June-September 2011 the Council, business and community representatives took part in a series of consultation events which focussed on the opportunities and challenges for housing growth in the city.

As a result of the consultation, eight principles for housing growth have been adopted and the Council will be working with businesses and communities over coming months to ensure that these principles deliver sustainable housing growth for the city.

The principles can be viewed [HERE](#)

## LDF Core Strategy and the evidence base

[www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/ldf)

The Core Strategy Publication Draft will set out Leeds' strategy for housing and employment growth to 2028 and will provide high level policy to deal with new development.

It is set to be presented to Executive Board in February 2012 with a period of six weeks public consultation to follow. Most evidence based studies have now been completed including the strategic housing land availability assessment, the strategic housing market assessment, the economic viability assessment, the strategic flood risk assessment, the employment land review, the city, town and local centres study and the PPG17 Audit

## LDF: Natural resources and waste DPD

An independent inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State, has held an examination in public into the Leeds natural resources and waste development plan document. Documentation of the proceedings is available [HERE](#)

## Leeds Education Challenge

The Leeds Education Challenge is an ambitious city-wide commitment to a new relationship with schools and a refreshed approach to school improvement in the context of an integrated children's service and significant changes to national policy and funding.

A report summarises the progress made in establishing the Leeds Education Challenge is available [HERE](#)

## Leeds Growth Strategy

The new Leeds Growth Strategy is described as a "statement of intent" about the opportunities and priorities that will be pursued over the next ten years to get Leeds "working to its fullest capacity."

It is available [HERE](#)

## Leeds Involvement Strategy

Voluntary Action Leeds is undertaking a consultation on the Leeds Involvement Strategy, which sets out the ambitions for Leeds to be the best city for Volunteering, Giving and Participation.

The survey questionnaire is available [HERE](#)

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## Local Green Space designations

The government has put forward proposals to reform the registration process relating to towns and village greens. The most significant of these include a proposal to add a character test to the existing criteria for the registration of village greens and a bar on applications for village green status on land which is either subject to a planning application or planning permission or which is designated for development or as Local Green Space in a local or neighbourhood plan.

Details [HERE](#)

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## Retail Academy

City leaders are in talks to create a new retail academy in Leeds as part of efforts to boost the regional economy and capitalise on major new developments. The city wants to make sure that local people have the right skills to take advantage of retail developments such as Trinity Leeds, due to open in 2013, and Eastgate Quarters which is currently in the planning stages.

The retail academy would be a “business-led centre of excellence” aimed at people entering the sector at both entry and graduate level and would be run in conjunction with further education colleges in Leeds.

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## State of the City Report

The annual State of the City Report is an overview of what's happening in Leeds in 2011 and underpins the Vision for Leeds, The City Priority Plan and the Council Business Plan.

See [www.leeds.gov.uk/ep](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/ep)

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## Village Design Statements

Consultations have been completed on the Oulton and Woodlesford Design Statement and the New Farnley Village Design Statement. See [www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

# Leeds City Region

## Digital Infrastructure

In December 2010 the government launched the National Broadband Strategy: "Britain's Superfast Broadband Future", which sets out the Government's vision for broadband in the UK.

Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) has been set up as the government's delivery arm for superfast broadband. Its aim is to ensure superfast broadband (defined as 24 mbps download speed) is available to at least 90% of premises across the country. For the remaining 10% of premises, the goal is to ensure all premises can access at least 2mbps.

In response, Leeds City Region is developing a Digital Infrastructure Plan which will set the strategic context and vision for digital infrastructure. From this, a West Yorkshire Local Broadband Plan will be produced to access the government's £6.34m funding allocation for the area. This funding will be targeted at the estimated 200,000 premises without access to superfast broadband and unlikely to get it in the next 3 years.

A separate Rural Community Broadband Fund was announced in the Autumn Statement. This is a separate £20m fund for communities in the final 10% to bid for local projects. The first round of this opened on the 1st December and will close on the 31st January 2012.

The Government has also announced plans to invest £100m to create up to ten 'super-connected cities' across the UK, with 80-100 megabits per second broadband and city-wide high-speed mobile connectivity. There will be a particular focus on SMEs and strategic employment zones. Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff and London have been announced as early winners, and a UK-wide competition will decide up to six further cities that will also receive funding.

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## Green Investment Bank

The Government has announced plans to create a £3bn Green Investment Bank, which will provide financial investment to stimulate the green economy. The Government will decide in 2012 where to site the bank's headquarters. The bank would boost the City Region's reputation as a hub for financial and professional services and low carbon innovation, bringing jobs and investment to the local economy.

Details on the initiative to locate the bank in the region is available [HERE](#)

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## Growing Places Fund

The Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has been provisionally allocated £23.9m from the Growing Places Fund. The funding will be available to get stalled infrastructure projects moving again and promote wider economic growth. The allocation will be used to establish a revolving fund, so the fund is likely to be made available to projects through loans.

The Partnership will now work to submit a pre-qualification questionnaire to Government by the 20th December, covering how the fund will operate. In the new year, this will be followed by a call for projects, once the LEP has agreed the selection criteria.

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## Leeds City Region quarterly business survey [www.leedscityregion.gov.uk](http://www.leedscityregion.gov.uk)

The Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), working with the three Chambers of Commerce in our area, surveyed sentiment among almost 1,000 businesses in the third quarter of 2011.

The Quarterly Economic Survey (QES) found a lot of resilience among the City Region's businesses despite the worsening domestic and global economic situation. Although current sales were slowing, advance orders were higher than in the previous quarter. Exports were also still growing, though at a slower pace. Cash flow continues to be a problem for many companies, however, especially those with fewer than 10 employees. Overall, two-thirds are operating at less than full capacity, demonstrating the fragile nature of the recovery.

The full report is available from the [Leeds City Region](#) website.

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### The Leeds City Region LEP Summit 2011

The Leeds City Region LEP Summit took place on 9 September and attracted hundreds of businesses and partners across the city region. This was a great opportunity for the LEP to talk about its future plans and aspiration as well as an opportunity for businesses to get involved and discuss the future of the city region economy. The Partnership also launched its ambitious agenda for economic growth – the LEP Plan – and held great debates around its four strategic priorities with leading businesses, politicians, regional and national stakeholders.

Slides and other materials from the summit are available [HERE](#)

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### The Leeds City Region Skills Priority Analysis (2011/12)

The draft Leeds City Region – Skills Priority Analysis was published earlier this year. It is a key element in our attempt to understand and interpret the key skill issues in the local economy. It is intended to inform and support colleges, universities and other skills providers operating in our city region skills network, to help them respond more closely to the current and future skill needs of employers, particularly those in our priority sectors.

For details see [HERE](#)

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### Regional Growth Fund Round 2

The Leeds City Region LEP area has been successful in securing £42m from Round 2 of the Regional Growth Fund. It will unlock £284m of private investment and help create 2,600 jobs.

The Partnership worked closely with businesses to endorse projects and to package bids that fell below the RGF threshold of £1m into one package under the title 'Unlocking growth in advanced manufacturing'.

The package has been successful in its entirety obtaining £3.3m RGF that will unlock £13.2 million of private investment to help businesses overcome barriers to growth and innovation. The successful projects within the package are: 600Uk (Kirklees), Heights Ltd (Calderdale), Hindles (Bradford), Halifax Rack and Screw (Calderdale), I-Plas (Calderdale), Road Tankers Northern (Barnsley), Severn Unival Ltd (Kirklees), Treves UK Ltd (Harrogate) and VTL (Europe) Ltd (Kirklees).

Furthermore, the Leeds City Region LEP also endorsed the following successful projects: City of Bradford MDC; Surgical Innovations (Leeds); Cummins Turbo Technologies (Kirklees); Dish Hill Ferrybridge; as well as a national project for Visit England.

# Statistical updates and local economic research

## National and regional round up

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee maintained Base Rate at 0.5% and increased the size of its asset purchase programme by £75 billion to a total of £275 billion. According to the second estimate GDP is estimated to have grown by 0.5% in the third quarter of 2011. GDP has also increased by 0.5% since Q3 2010. CPI annual inflation stands at 5.0%, down from 5.2% in September. The largest downward pressures came from falls in the cost of food (due to significant and widespread discounting by supermarkets and good harvests for certain produce), air fares and petrol. Retail sales volume in October 2011 increased by 0.9% compared to October 2010. Feedback from retailers suggests that the monthly increase in sales volume and value was a result of pre- Christmas sales and in store promotions

Regionally, business activity has picked up pace. According to the October's Markit Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) release, firms operating in the Yorkshire & Humber private sector recorded a PMI level of 55.2, up 1.7 points on last month. The region posted its highest reading in 7 months, and was marginally higher than that registered for the UK which is 50.7 points. Panellists that reported output growth generally commented on new client wins. In their Q4 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 -3.4 points, down 11.6 on last quarter and down 6.8 points on a year ago. The UK Confidence Index stands at -9.7 in Q4 2011, down from 17.8 points on last quarter and 21.6 points down on Q4 2010.

Base Rate	QE	GDP Q3	CPI	RPI	Retail	PMI	BCM
0.5%	£275bn	0.5%	5.0%	5.4%	0.9%	50.7	-9.7

Leeds Labour Market						
	Apr 10 – Mar 11	Quarterly Change		Annual Change		Analysis
Employment Rate	69%	0.0pp		+0.3pp		Nationally employment remained at a rate of 70.4% for a second consecutive quarter. In Leeds employment followed the same trend, staying at 69%. Leeds 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	36,100	-8%		-7.9%		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 has fallen by 8% during the latest quarter. During the height of the recession unemployment in Leeds peaked at 9.5% with 40,000 unemployed in the year to March 2010. Leeds' unemployment rate is higher at 8.6% than the national rate of 7.5%.
Model based Unemployment Rate	8.6%	-0.6pp		-0.9pp		
	Oct 2011	Monthly Change		Annual Change		Analysis
Total number JSA Claimants	23,967	+18	+0.1%	+1,209	+5.3%	The Leeds count has risen slightly in the month to October, but is up by 5.3% on last year. Leeds' claimant count peaked in February 2010 with 25,494 people claiming, at a rate of 4.7%. (The national Claimant Proportion remained at 3.8% for the second month in a row, below the Leeds figure of 4.3%)
JSA Claimant Proportion	4.3%	0.0pp		+0.1pp		
JSA Claimants 18-24 yrs	7,256	-10	-0.1%	+630	+9.5%	The number of young claimants dipped slightly in Oct, but is still up 9.5% on Oct 2010. 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	6,199	+721	+13.2%	+385	+6.6%	There were 6,199 vacancies advertised in Leeds this Oct. 15% of these vacancies were for low skilled 'elementary' occupations and 2.5% were for higher skilled 'manager and senior officials' in terms of sector, 65% were for Banking, Insurance and Finance.
Claimant to Vacancy Ratio	5.3	-0.8pp		+0.2pp		There are now 5.3 claimants for every unfilled vacancy. This is down 0.8 points from a 6.0 ratio in Sept. In Jan 2008 there were less than 3 claimants to each vacancy. The ratio peaked to 10 in Jan 2010. The national ratio is now 4.5, down from 5.0 in Sept.
Land Registry House Prices	£127,692	-£358	-0.3%	-£6,233	-4.7%	House prices dropped again in Oct, and are 4.7% less than the same month in 2010. In January 2008, Leeds' pre recession house prices were reaching £154,000. Nationally, prices were reaching £183,000 in Jan 2008, in Oct 2011 they fell to £159,999.
Land Registry Property Sales (Aug 2011)	765	+14	+1.9%	-22	-2.8%	Property sales moved up marginally in Aug but were down 2.8% on the same month last year. Nationally, sales increased 1.5% in Aug and 0.9% in the year.

## LDF Annual Monitoring Report 2010-2011

The annual AMR seeks to assess the extent to which developments in Leeds are contributing to national, regional, sub-regional and local planning targets. It charts the progress over the five years towards the delivery of infrastructure, jobs and housing. It will be submitted to the Secretary of State by the end of December and can be found [HERE](#)

## Leeds Economy Briefing Notes

Two new Leeds Economy Briefing Notes have been produced:

- Change in employee numbers between 2000 and 2010 from the official BRES survey.
- Employment change for 2001-2011 and 2011-2021 from the Experian Business Strategies forecasting model.

These are available under Leeds Economy Briefing Notes at [www.leeds.gov.uk/economy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/economy)

## Leeds Property Market

Every two months City Development analyses the property returns of property agents active in the Leeds market.

In October 2011:

- 7.5m sq ft of industrial space was being marketed, with proposals for a further 2.6m sq ft
- 4.5m sq ft of office space was being marketed, with a further 3.7m sq ft proposed.

For further details see the Property Market section at [www.leeds.gov.uk/economy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/economy)

## Population estimates

The Office for National Statistics has been working on the Migration Statistics Improvement Programme since April 2008 with a vision to produce improved population and migration statistics at the local authority level that are relevant for user needs, are as accurate as possible, and are recognised as being definitive estimates.

In November it released indicative mid-year 2010 population estimates, which are designed to show users the impact incorporating the improved immigration estimates. It will use this improved methodology as the basis for estimating local authority immigration rolling forward from the 2011 mid-year estimates, which will be based on the 2011 Census.

It will not be revising official population estimates published in June at this stage. The new indicative figure for Leeds was 780,925, compared with the official June figure of 798,472.

## 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 March 2011, 36,100 (+/- 5,300) Leeds residents were ILO unemployed, a rate of 8.6% (+/-1.2%) compared with 9.5% (+/-1.2%) a year ago. The corresponding GB rates were 7.8% and 8.0%; the Yorkshire & Humber rates 8.8% and 9.2%.

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 22,432 to 23,958; with claimant proportions increasing from 4.1% to 4.3%. It increased to 4.5% 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.

	Nov 2011		Nov 2010	
	Number ('000)	Prop (%)	Number ('000)	Prop (%)
Leeds MD	24.0	4.3	22.4	4.1
W Yorks	69.2	4.7	61.8	4.2
Leeds CR	83.6	4.3	75.2	3.9
Y&H region	157.0	4.5	139.1	4.0
Gt. Britain	1499.4	3.8	1356.4	3.5

### Male/Female

For male claimants in Leeds M.D. the proportion increased to 6.0%, with 16,659 claimants. For females, it increased to 2.6% with 7,299 claimants.

	Nov 2011		Nov 2010	
	Number ('000)	Prop (%)	Number ('000)	Prop (%)
<b>MALE:</b>				
Leeds MD	16.7	6.0	16.1	5.8
W Yorks	47.4	6.4	44.1	5.9
Leeds CR	57.0	5.8	53.5	5.5
Y&H region	107.7	6.2	99.8	5.8
Gt. Britain	997.8	5.1	944.1	4.8
<b>FEMALE:</b>				
Leeds MD	7.3	2.6	6.3	2.3
W Yorks	21.8	2.9	17.7	2.4
Leeds CR	26.6	2.7	21.7	2.2
Y&H region	49.3	2.9	39.3	2.3
Gt. Britain	501.6	2.6	412.3	2.1

## Comparison with other local authorities

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

	Nov 2011		Nov 2010	
	Total	Prop	Total	Prop
Leeds	23,958	4.3	22,432	4.1
Bradford	18,131	5.5	15,011	4.6
Calderdale	6,305	4.8	5,604	4.3
Kirklees	12,033	4.5	10,795	4.1
Wakefield	8,800	4.2	7,955	3.8
<b>WEST YORKS</b>	<b>69,227</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>61,797</b>	<b>4.2</b>

## Claimants by Ward

	Nov 2011	% Prop Nov 2011	Prop change 10-11
Adel & Wharfedale	300	2.3	+0.3
Alwoodley	429	2.7	0
Ardsley & Robin Hood	376	2.4	+0.1
Armley	1,478	7.5	+0.7
Beeston & Holbeck	1,279	7.6	+0.6
Bramley & Stanningley	873	5.3	+0.8
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	1,844	10.6	+0.9
Calverley & Farsley	394	2.5	+0.1
Chapel Allerton	1,145	6.6	+0.3
City & Hunslet	1,537	5.9	+0.4
Cross Gates & Whinmoor	637	4.2	+0.4
Farnley & Wortley	886	5.2	+0.3
Garforth & Swillington	258	1.9	+0.1
Gipton & Harehills	1,841	9.8	+0.9
Guiseley & Rawdon	225	1.4	-0.1
Harewood	169	1.5	+0.2
Headingley	511	2.3	-0.2
Horsforth	286	1.9	+0.1
Hyde Park & Woodhouse	1,078	3.9	0
Killingbeck & Seacroft	1,277	7.8	+0.9
Kippax & Methley	338	2.4	0
Kirkstall	883	4.7	0
Middleton Park	1,442	8.1	+1.0
Moortown	409	2.5	-0.1
Morley North	444	2.7	+0.4
Morley South	552	3.5	+0.4
Otley & Yeadon	368	2.4	+0.1
Pudsey	526	3.5	+0.1
Rothwell	360	2.6	+0.2
Roundhay	443	2.7	-0.3
Temple Newsam	651	4.4	+0.1
Weetwood	533	4.2	+0.3
Wetherby	177	1.4	0
<b>Leeds MD</b>	<b>23,958</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>+0.2</b>
<b>IoD 2010wards</b>	<b>7,941</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>+0.8</b>
<b>Leeds City Region</b>	<b>83,633</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>+0.4</b>
<b>Core Cities</b>	<b>167,385</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>+0.5</b>

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.

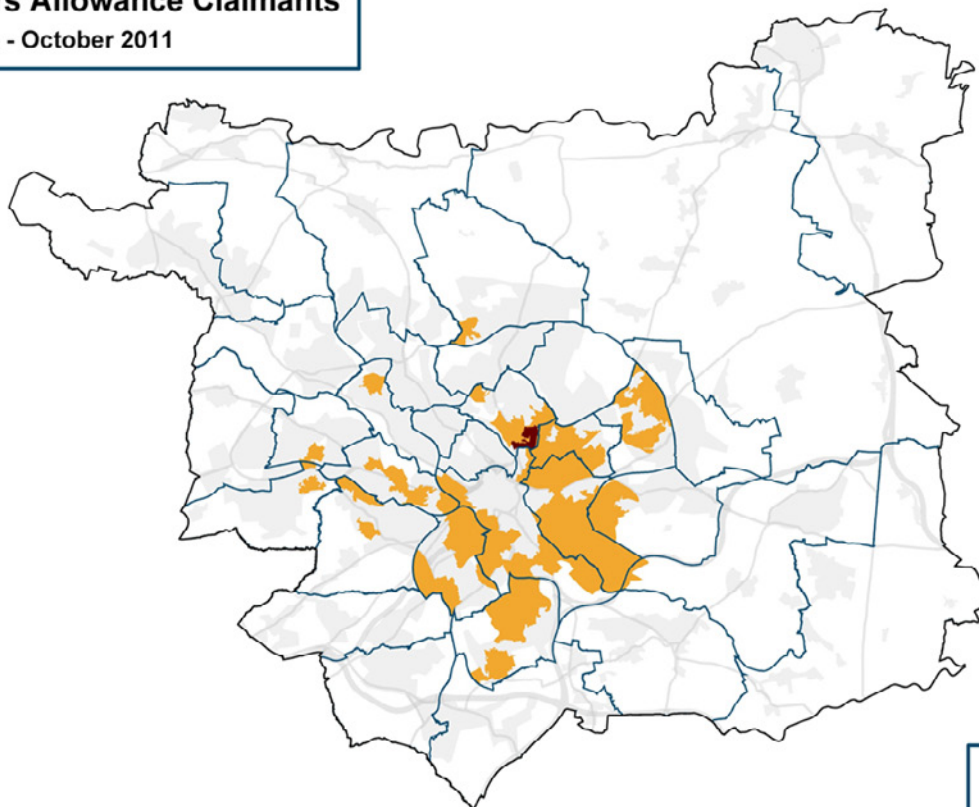
## Localised Unemployment

In October:

- 74 of the 476 localities (areas with working age populations of approximately 1000 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 overall decrease of two localities that meet the monitoring criteria compared to the previous month.
- The claimant count in the JSA localities to be monitored is 8,922 (rate 11.1%), a decrease of 183 on the September count of 9,105 (Rate 10.9%). The October '11 count is 1,230 claimants more than in the previous year when there were 7,692 (10.5%) claimants in JSA localities that met the monitoring criteria.
- The ten localities with the highest JSA claimant rates (13.6% to 24.1%) 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'	rate 24.1%	Chapel Allerton
▪ 'Foundry Mill Terr, Brooklands'	rate 16.1%	Killingbeck & Seacroft
▪ 'Wickham St. Seftons, Harlechs'	rate 15.8%	City & Hunslet
▪ 'Stratford St, Beverleys'	rate 14.7%	City & Hunslet
▪ 'Haselwoods, Rigtons'	rate 13.9%	Burmantofts&Richmond

### Job Seekers Allowance Claimants Claimant Rate - October 2011



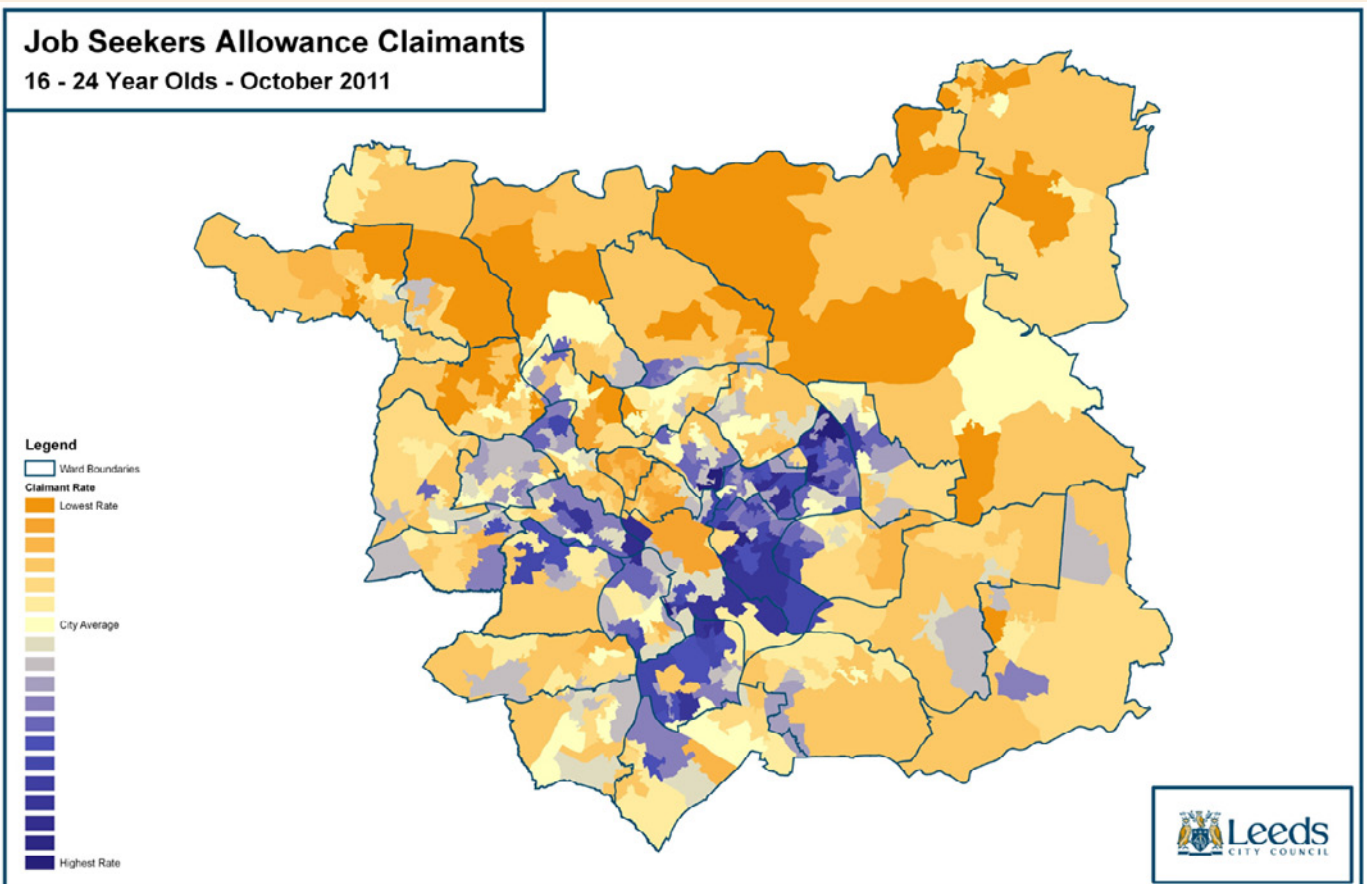
**Legend**  
 □ Ward Boundaries  
 Claimant Rate  
 Less than 8.4%  
 8.4% - 16.8%  
 More than 16.8%



## Youth Unemployment

- 56% of JSA claimants in Leeds are aged between 25 and 49, with 30% aged between 18 and 24. Those aged 50 and above account for 13% of claimants and 0.1% are under 18. There has been very little change in the proportion of claimants per age group compared to the previous month and year.
- The JSA claimant rate for 16-24 year olds at a locality level ranges from 0 to 26.9%, this compares to a city 16-24 rate of 5.3% and an overall claimant rate for the city of 4.3%.
- The ten localities with the highest JSA 16-24 claimant rates (16.9% to 28.7%) are in the wards of: Chapel Allerton, Killingbeck & Seacroft, City & Hunslet, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Armley, and Gipton & Harehills
- The five localities with the highest JSA claimant rates are:
 

▪ 'Granges, Hamiltons, Francis St'	26.7%	Chapel Allerton
▪ 'Ramsheads, Limewoods, Monkswoods'	22.6%	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill
▪ 'East Park Drive, Glensdales, Raincliffes'	21.1%	Killingbeck & Seacroft
▪ 'Wickham St, Seftons, Harlechs'	19.3%	City & Hunslet
▪ 'Foundry Mill Terr, Brooklands	18.4%	City & Hunslet



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