

ADOPTION STATEMENT

LEEDS CITY CENTRE WEST: INNOVATION ARC NORTH SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD)

IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 14 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012

The Leeds City Centre West: Innovation Arc North Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for Leeds City Centre West was adopted by Leeds City Council on 30 October 2023

Background

Leeds City Council has prepared the Draft ‘Leeds City Centre West: The Innovation Arc (North) - Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)’. This document details guidance for future development and transformation of the ‘Innovation Arc’ – an area to west of the city centre which is home to many of the city’s educational, healthcare, and cultural institutions. The SPD outlines the Council’s vision to develop the area over the next 20 years and will amplify existing planning policy in the area. The city’s ‘Innovation Arc’ covers an area of 132 hectares bordered by Little Woodhouse, Hyde Park, Burley and New Wortley and contains three university campuses, the Leeds General Infirmary, the courts buildings, the Town Hall, Leeds Art Gallery, the city’s library and museum, and City Square and the railway station.

The SPD covers movement and connectivity, public spaces, land use and opportunities, heritage and culture, and sustainability. It includes ambitions for improvements to roads, public spaces, walking and cycling links, public transport routes, green spaces and buildings. The document will be used to shape and guide future Planning Applications by developers, the delivery of new infrastructure, as well as supporting funding bids.

The SPD was adopted with modifications taking account of [representations made / or any other matter:

Phase 1	Requests to alter the boundary of the Innovation Arc SPD	<p>While this document necessarily requires a defined geographic boundary, which needs to be limited in order to provide a robust basis for implementation, it is acknowledged that innovation extends beyond this geographic boundary and takes place across the city. The boundary has been altered slightly to include Leeds Arts University, City Square and Queens Square.</p> <p>The document will be amended to provide a city-wide context and to clarify the rationale for the planning boundary set out on page 37.</p>
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Phase 1	Requests to include further context and narrative concerning the city's wider 'Innovation' story	Further text added to provide context to Leeds innovation story.
Phase 1	Requests to include an 'Implementation' section to provide greater clarity on the next steps to achieving the Vision.	An implementation section has been added to the Document.
Phase 1	Requests for greater emphasis on the River Aire & Canal connection linking the Leeds Innovation Arc to the South Bank	This connection has been emphasised in the text on page 111 and is shown on relevant plans.
Phase 1	Requests for specific guidance for key public transport routes and greater detail on how they would interface with future Mass Rapid Transit plans	The Document has been amended to include street-level principles in key areas.
Phase 1	Requests to remove the envisaged route for Mass Transit in this part of the city from maps and text relating to routes or specific streets.	Mass Transit routes are removed from the SPD. However, in recognition of the ambition for this area to be served by high quality public transport connectivity, a network map of public transport priority routes is identified. To provide additional guidance, public transport priority street design principles will be added to the document to reflect this.
Phase 1	Requests for greater detail regarding the proposed car parking strategy for the SPD area	The public transport section of the SPD has been re-drafted to consider the holistic needs of the city centre. The comment is noted but the purpose of this document is not to detail a car parking strategy for the area.
Phase 1	Requests for further icons and buildings/places to be added to the maps used within the SPD	Further icons added as requested.
Phase 1	Requests for further detail which celebrates the heritage and cultural assets within the Arc's boundary.	Text added which reflects and celebrates the unique character and identity of Innovation Arc neighbourhoods.
Phase 1	Further detail highlighting the importance of Leeds Arts University and the role the institution plays in the area.	Further text is added to highlight the importance of Leeds Arts University and the role the institution plays in the area.
Phase 2	Emphasis on the importance of Temple District's inclusion within the SPD boundary. The response highlights the significance of connectivity between the City Centre, South Bank, and Temple District for	The vision section of the SPD to be further amended to clarify that the Innovation Arc is not the only place where clusters of innovation will happen in the city.

	maximising the benefits of the Innovation Arc. Revisions to the wording of the vision and narrative to better reflect the relationship between the Innovation Arc and surrounding neighbourhoods was suggested, mainly the Temple District.	No amendments to the boundary of the area on the basis there is sufficient policy guidance relating to Temple.
Phase 2	Suggestion to amend the name of the document to reflect that this area is not the exclusive location for innovation in the city.	The naming of the Innovation Arc SPD to be changed to 'Leeds Innovation Arc (North)'
Phase 2	The strategic plan for the Innovation Arc (found on page 115 of the SPD Document) reveals designated locations for enhancing public spaces near the three Universities and other parts of the city. LAU feel there is a discrepancy in the allocation of space for improvements. The area outside LAU is smaller, only covering half of the campus's exterior length, while the area outside the University of Leeds and Leeds Beckett University is significantly larger.	Public realm enhancements to be extended along Blenheim walk to Blackman Lane. The SPD document will be updated to reflect this.

Availability for Inspection

The SPD, the Report of Consultation and this Adoption Statement are available to view on the Council's website

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents-and-guidance/adopted-supplementary-planning-documents>

The documents are also available for inspection at the Council's principal Office: Merrion House, 110 Merrion Centre, Leeds, LS2 8BB (Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm) (Wednesday 9:30 am – 4:30pm)

Any person with sufficient interest in the decision to adopt the SPD may apply to the High Court for permission to apply for judicial review of that decision. Any such application must be made promptly and in any event not later than 3 months after the date on which the SPD was adopted.

Date: 30 October 2023