OUR CITY

With nearly 800,000 residents and over 29m visitors annually, Leeds is the third largest city in the UK.

Through our Inclusive Growth Strategy, we’re shaping a compassionate city that has a strong economy benefiting everyone, where people and businesses grow, and where inequality and deprivation is reduced.

Our mission is to be the ‘best city for digital’. Through Leeds City Council’s Smart Leeds programme we will deliver new and innovative services and solutions which improve citizens’ lives.

We will promote Leeds as a city ‘test bed’ where innovation is embraced, and build on existing foundations which have made Leeds a city where people want to invest, visit, live, study and stay.

FOUNDATIONS

It’s important that we get the basics right.

To build the ‘smart city’, we need; the best digital infrastructure; to ensure people have digital skills; to promote the publication and reuse of open data; to make informed data-led decisions; and to work collaboratively across all sectors.

These are the foundations upon which we will build a smarter Leeds.

WORLD CLASS CONNECTIVITY

WE ARE working with government and private sector suppliers to ensure people and communities have access to the best possible broadband speeds.

WE ARE exploring all opportunities for Leeds to become a test bed for 5G and Small Cells.

WE ARE building a district-wide Long Range Wide Area Network which will bring about Internet of Things opportunities.

WE ARE equipping more community buildings with free council wi-fi.

WE WILL work towards equipping all council houses and flats with access to the lowest priced broadband.

WE WILL deliver Full Fibre broadband to public buildings across the district to speed up the further roll out to residential and commercial premises.

IMPROVING DIGITAL SKILLS AND CAPABILITY

WE ARE delivering the 100% Digital Leeds programme, increasing the capacity of the third sector to give residents the skills they need to improve their lives through digital.

WE ARE building the UK’s largest and most successful tablet lending scheme to give third sector organisations the equipment and connectivity they need to pilot new approaches to digital inclusion.

WE ARE helping community groups to deliver digital inclusion at a hyper-local level through a £100k grant scheme.

WE ARE installing free wi-fi in more community locations.

WE ARE creating a network of Digital Champions who promote the benefits of digital inclusion, signpost people to training and support their neighbours, communities and colleagues.

WE ARE working with Good Things Foundation and encouraging organisations to join the Online Centres Network, which works to tackle digital and social exclusion.

WE ARE hosting events and workshops for community groups, bringing organisations together to raise awareness and expand the digital inclusion network across Leeds.

COLLABORATION AND TECH FOR GOOD

WE ARE working collaboratively across all sectors to create and deliver new and improved services.

WE ARE working closely with partners to realise the benefits of what open data can do in aligning to our smart city priorities.

WE ARE promoting the ‘tech for good’ movement where new innovation brings about positive impact and change to people and communities.

WE ARE working closely with the hospitals and universities to promote, influence and take advantage of the city’s new Innovation District.

WE ARE working with stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds to create innovative solutions to city challenges through our award winning Innovation Labs process.

WE WILL investigate the creation of a city Living Lab to test new innovation prior to large scale deployment.

WE WILL extend our public engagement work to ensure more citizens are involved at every stage.

DATA AND ANALYTICS

WE ARE working with other organisations in the city and across the North to encourage them to open up their data on Data Mill North to promote greater transparency and reuse.

WE ARE working towards creating a City Data Analytics Office which will analyse and interpret data from a variety of sources to provide insight.

WE ARE working with city experts such as the Leeds Institute of Data Analytics who can interpret ‘big data’ which can help inform decision making.

WE WILL explore how Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence can assist us with better data-led decision making.

WE WILL continue to ensure that Information Governance considerations are at the heart of our decision making, that citizens are informed, and that data security, ethics and privacy are embedded into all of our work.

WE WILL increasingly use and make available spatial data which can help us better understand our communities.
Leeds is one of the most popular and fastest growing cities in the UK bringing about benefits, opportunities and challenges.

A growing population is adding to existing housing shortage pressures, increased traffic on our roads continues to be a problem, and an increasingly ageing population means extra pressures on our health and social care system.

Furthermore, we recognise that as one of the largest cities in the UK, we have a duty to clean up and protect our environment for future generations.

With 3 world-class universities, NHS Digital, NHS England, one of the fastest tech sectors in the UK, ODI Leeds and Co>Space North and the UK’s only internet exchange north of London, Leeds is well placed to face these challenges head-on.

Housing Standards and Growth, Travel and Transport, Climate Emergency, and Health and Wellbeing are our main priority areas.

That’s not to say we’re not doing lots elsewhere because we are: these areas however offer the greatest opportunities to positively impact on all of our lives and improve the health of the poorest, the fastest.

We see technology and innovation as an enabler to helping us deliver new and innovative services to those who live, study, work and visit our great city.

Ours is a collaborative approach. Leeds is bursting with skills, enthusiasm and a can-do approach. Bringing the right people together will enable us to ensure our city continues to grow and provide the best opportunities for all.

WE ARE promoting the ‘Leeds Standard’ as the sustainable standard for all new homes to be built to.

WE ARE investigating how smart sensor technology can help us manage our housing stock more efficiently.

WE ARE working with government and the private sector to investigate how technology can help us manage our council houses and improve health outcomes.

WE ARE continuing to work with residents to ensure they understand the roll out of the online-only Universal Credit system.

WE ARE delivering free and low cost wi-fi to some council flats and community buildings.

WE ARE using data about housing in the city to target cost effective carbon reduction measures focusing particularly on the council’s portfolio of homes.

WE WILL identify smart ways of assisting council tenants to report repairs and contact the council for assistance.

WE WILL work with city planners to ensure innovation is embedded in new projects and programmes.

Local government in Leeds has shifted and it’s about enabling better outcomes for people and business, rather than an inward focus on service efficiency.

Dylan Roberts, CDIO, Leeds City Council

If we can use information, data and artificial learning to target our resources more intelligently, it could have a massive benefit.

Adam Crampton, Housing Leeds
ENGLISH

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

We are promoting the use of open data and data analytics to improve health and wellbeing outcomes.

We are leading with healthcare partners across the region to deliver Local Health and Care Record Exemplar programme.

We are working closely with health colleagues, universities, major digital companies and SMEs to investigate how technology can deliver better outcomes through innovative health and social care solutions.

We are continuing to develop and promote the Personal Held Record, Helm, providing patients with the ability to manage their own health data that will span Yorkshire and Humber.

We are working with Public Health and communities to develop the CareView app for the city to address social isolation.

We are working with the health sector to promote the Leeds Care Record providing a joined-up approach to sharing health data.

We are ensuring our digital inclusion work has a strong focus on people with health, care and support needs.

We are investigating how we can bring together community open data from a variety of different organisations and sectors into a single repository to reduce duplication and promote common standards; providing the end user with a single, accurate and trusted source, no matter where they land.

We will investigate and test how new generic digital products, such as wearables, Internet of Things, smart speakers etc. can assist people to better manage their health and care and to tackle social isolation.

“Leeds has a strong history of innovation. Providing information and data to people about their own health and wellbeing will help them take control of their own lives.”

Mick Ward, Adults & Health

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

We are introducing a new Clean Air Zone to improve the city’s environment and bring about health benefits for all.

We are collecting city centre air quality data which will be used as part of a Leeds Beckett University Heat Island Effect study to help us better understand the urban environment.

We are the lead local authority for hydrogen conversion in the country with a vision that Leeds could be one of the first cities in the UK to convert to 100% hydrogen.

We are installing Leeds PIPES - the city’s flagship District Heating Network.

We are replacing all street lights with LEDs and introduce more part night operation into a further 8,000 lights that will eventually result in a carbon saving of approximately 8,823t CO2 per annum.

We are working towards upgrading the entire council 350-strong vehicle fleet to electric, the largest local authority electric fleet in England.

We are investigating how we can reduce in-work travel to help reduce the city’s CO2 emissions.

We will look into how Internet of Things devices can help us improve our environment.

CONTACT US

EMAIL
smartleeds@leeds.gov.uk

TWITTER
@SmartLeeds

TELEPHONE
0113 378 4571

WEBSITE
datamillnorth.org.uk/smart-leeds

ADDRESS
Merrion House, Leeds City Council, LS2 8BB