

Leeds

A prime location for Government departments and agencies



www.locateinleeds.co.uk

This document was originally produced by Leeds City Council in response to the Lyons Review and the Spending Review announcements 2004 relating to the Government's drive for greater efficiency in the public sector. It aims to provide senior civil servants and government agency staff with essential information about Leeds. More detailed information on Leeds is available on request.

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Our awards

Leeds' offices rated best value for money in Europe

Cushman & Wakefield, European Cities Monitor 2010

UK's best ranked city for cost of staff

Cushman & Wakefield, European Cities Monitor 2010

One of Europe's Top 25 Cities to locate a business

Cushman & Wakefield's European Cities Monitor 2010

UK's Friendliest City to Move to

Gumtree.com Research, 2006

UK's Most Female-Friendly City

Vauxhall Research, 2006

Best UK University Destination

The Independent, 2005

Best Place in Britain to Live

Urban Behaviours survey,
Henley Management College, 2005

Visitor City of the Year

The Good Britain Guide 2004

Britain's Best City for Business

OMIS Research, 2003/04

The UK's Favourite City

Condé Nast Traveller magazine Readers' Traveller Awards 2003

Leeds

a prime location for government departments and agencies



A prime location

Leeds rated highly in the locational research commissioned by Sir Michael Lyons from King Sturge, and also satisfied the locational criteria identified in Experian's related study demonstrating the importance that should be attached to the benefits of 'clustering' of public sector functions in large urban areas to provide a 'critical mass' of career and succession planning opportunities for public sector staff over the long term.

Leeds is already a major location for central government activity. The Department of Health has a significant policy presence in Leeds at Quarry House, as does the Department for Work and Pensions. The regional office of the Homes and Communities Agency is based in Leeds and many other Government departments and agencies have a significant presence in the city, including Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, the Home Office Immigration and Nationality Directorate, the Office for Government Commerce, the Environment Agency, NHS Connecting for Health, NHS Information Centre and the British Library.

The newly created Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission established its headquarters in Leeds in 2009, creating 300 jobs. The Commission's Chair indicated that the crucial factor in choosing Leeds was the high level of relevant skills in the West Yorkshire workforce, especially those in financial services.

Over 105,000 people work within the public sector in Leeds, accounting for 25% of total employment. This includes health, education, national and local government administration.

The public sector in the Leeds City Region employs 350,00 people.

Outside of London, Leeds is the third largest location in the UK for employment in public administration, the second largest for education and the fourth largest for health and social work.

Leeds and its surrounding city region has already developed a strong position as a base for public administration across the north of England, holding significant existing government estate. There is also a major civil service presence in other Yorkshire cities, including York, Sheffield and Bradford. York is just 25 miles away and accommodates the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Central Science Laboratory and the Rural Payments Agency. The Department for Children, Schools and Families has a major presence in Sheffield, which is 35 miles from Leeds along the M1.

Leeds has already demonstrated its ability to support a range of government activity including higher order policy functions. We firmly believe that Leeds provides a cost-effective and business-efficient location for government departments, whilst also satisfying the career and quality of life aspirations of civil servants and their families. We will continue to work in partnership with the private sector and other organisations, including the Chamber of Commerce, the Leeds Property Forum and the Universities, to offer bespoke support and assistance to government departments and their staff.

Leeds

economy, labour market
and communications



Economy, labour market and communications



The strength of the Leeds economy has come from its diversity, which has cushioned it from the economic recessions that severely affected other parts of the UK. Measuring diversity in terms of how closely the local employment structure mirrors that of the country as a whole, then Leeds has consistently been in first or second position amongst UK cities.

Economy

Leeds is one of the UK's most successful cities. With 422,000 people employed in the city, it has the second largest employment total outside London. It has one of the most diverse economies of all of the UK's main employment centres.

It is estimated that there are over 45,000 businesses in Leeds. 300 of these organisations employ more than 200 staff and together they account for 40% of employees.

The public sector employs 105,000 people in Leeds.

Leeds is the UK's largest centre for financial and professional services outside London. With a

workforce of 122,000, it is an integral part of the UK's financial services industry.

Leeds has the UK's third largest manufacturing sector. There are around 1,800 manufacturing firms in Leeds, employing 36,000 people.

Leeds is the UK's largest centre for knowledge-based industries outside of London.

Leeds is also one of the UK's largest centres for the media and communications industries.

Labour market

The increased demand for labour in the next decade will be met from three sources; growth in the Leeds population, including graduate retention; further reductions in unemployment; and increased inward commuting.

The Leeds resident labour force is expected to rise by 12,100 during the next ten years.

Leeds has two excellent universities, and the Yorkshire and Humber region is home to nine universities and three higher education colleges, as well as a regional office of the Open University and the Hull campus of the University of Lincoln.

Each year, the region produces around 50,000 graduates, and many of them choose to stay in the region after graduation.

The University of Leeds has 33,000 under graduate and post graduate students, plus a further 52,000 in continuing education. It has a proven track record of producing high-quality graduates sought after by top employers. The most recent survey indicated 41% remained in the Yorkshire and the Humber region, with 28% in Leeds itself. 85% of graduates were in employment or further study within six months of graduating (2009 Destination Statistics).

Leeds Metropolitan University has over 30,000 under graduate and post graduate students. It has one of the highest graduate employment rates of all universities, with 93.6% of graduates in employment or further study within six months of graduating. 50% of graduates who found work within six months were employed within the region, with 30% in Leeds alone.

According to the Annual Population Survey 2009, the pattern of qualifications held by the Leeds population is broadly in line with the national average. 31% of Leeds residents held a degree or higher degree level of qualification. 37% of residents in employment held a degree or higher degree level of qualification.

The Annual Study of Hours & Earnings 2010 showed that full-time earnings in Leeds were broadly in line with the national average, with median weekly earnings for men being £477 and for women being £329. This is significantly lower than in London, where median salaries were £587 and £454 respectively.

Communications

Leeds has excellent north-south road and rail links in the form of the M1, A1 and the East Coast Main Line (ECML), and east-west links in the form of the M62 (Liverpool-Hull), M621 and Trans-Pennine rail services (Liverpool-Manchester-Leeds-Hull).

The road journey from Leeds to London is 195 miles, with an average journey time of 3 hours 40 minutes.

Leeds is connected to London by 39 direct trains in each direction each weekday, with a minimum journey time of 2 hours 6 minutes. There is a half-hourly service during the daytime. A major regeneration and remodelling scheme was completed at Leeds City Railway Station in 2002 at a cost of £245 million. The city now has one of the most modern stations in the UK.

Leeds-Bradford International Airport (LBA), one of two international airports in Yorkshire and the Humber, has direct scheduled flights to over 60 destinations, including the key international hubs of Brussels and Amsterdam Schipol.

The Robin Hood Doncaster-Sheffield Airport is 45 miles from Leeds. Manchester International Airport is 54 miles and a little over an hour away by road or direct rail link.

Leeds

property portfolio





Since 1999, £4.3bn worth of major property developments have been completed in the Leeds Metropolitan District, with a further £638m currently under construction and £5.9bn in the pipeline. Developments have included a wide range of office accommodation suitable for large and small end users, which has also resulted in the availability of good quality, refurbished office space.

City centre office schemes

Since 1999, over £2.9bn worth of major property developments have been completed in Leeds City Centre, with a further £4.9bn currently under construction or proposed. 80% of this investment is in office and mixed-use developments.

Mixed-use schemes, which generally include offices, retail and leisure space, and apartments, or a combination of some of those elements, have recently become more prevalent and are helping to build the reputation of Leeds as a '24-hour city'.

From a business perspective, mixed-use schemes provide an excellent environment for staff, and increase security and safety because the area is well-populated outside of office hours.

Examples of mixed-use and office developments that would be particularly suitable for occupation by government departments and agencies are included in this section.

Quarry Hill Background

Quarry Hill is a major redevelopment site located in the eastern quarter of the City Centre, a 12 minute walk from Leeds City Railway Station and only five minutes away from the prime retail quarter.

In 1993, Quarry House (right) was opened on the site to accommodate the large-scale relocation of the NHS Management Executive and the Benefits Agency from London.

2,820 civil servants are currently accommodated in Quarry House – 934 in the Department of Health and 1,509 in the Department for Work and Pensions.

Quarry Hill is now established as a major cultural quarter, encompassing significant



regional developments such as West Yorkshire Playhouse, the BBC Regional Headquarters and Leeds College of Music. New premises for the Northern Ballet and Phoenix Dance Company have recently been completed.

Quarry Hill Future phases

Further developments at Quarry Hill will include a mixed-use development of offices and residential buildings with leisure units on the ground floor, including restaurants and cafés that will spill out onto the open piazzas and pocket parks. Around 46,500 sq m (500,000 sq ft) of offices will be provided on the site along with 140 apartments and a multi storey car park.

The development of an adjacent site at Quarry Hill will include two hotels and 21,000 sq m (225,000 sq ft) of offices.



Property portfolio

The Mint



The Mint is a new-build office scheme consisting of 10,680 sqm (115,000 sq ft) of Grade A office accommodation over 7 floors, along with a full height glazed entrance hall and internal atrium. Flexible individual floor plates of up to 1,465 sq m (15,775 sq ft) are available, along with 65 basement car parking spaces. The building is

environmentally compliant and energy efficient, having received a BREEAM rating of 'excellent'.

Located to the south of the River Aire and a short walk away from Leeds Railway Station and the City Centre, The Mint is located in the rapidly emerging regeneration area of Holbeck Urban Village and is a short distance away from the headquarters of Yorkshire Forward (the regional development agency) and the Lateral building, home to the Government Office for Yorkshire & the Humber, the Highways Agency and the Homes and Community Agency. It is also conveniently located for rapid access to the M1 and M62 motorways via the nearby M621.

The remaining five floors of The Mint are being offered for immediate occupation at an indicative rental of £248.40 per sq m (£23 per sq ft).

Broad Gate



Situated in the heart of Leeds City Centre's retail core, Broad Gate is a mixed-use development containing 14,260 sq m (153,300 sq ft) of Grade A office accommodation over 4 floors on large floorplates of up to 3,650 sq m

(39,290 sq ft), making it ideal for large office and contact centre operations.

Formerly a department store, the interior has been completely rebuilt around an extensive glazed atrium, providing a prestigious modern office space with convenient access to the extensive amenities of the City Centre.

The building is available for occupation at an indicative rental of £258 per sq m (£24 per sq ft).

No. 1 Leeds

No. 1 Leeds is situated in the West End of Leeds city centre, a nine-minute walk from the railway station.

No. 1 Leeds is a newly built office containing 11,483 sq m (123,561 sq ft) of Grade A office accommodation over eight floors. It has achieved a BREEAM 'excellent' rating, a Grade B energy performance certificate and 'Secured by Design' status.

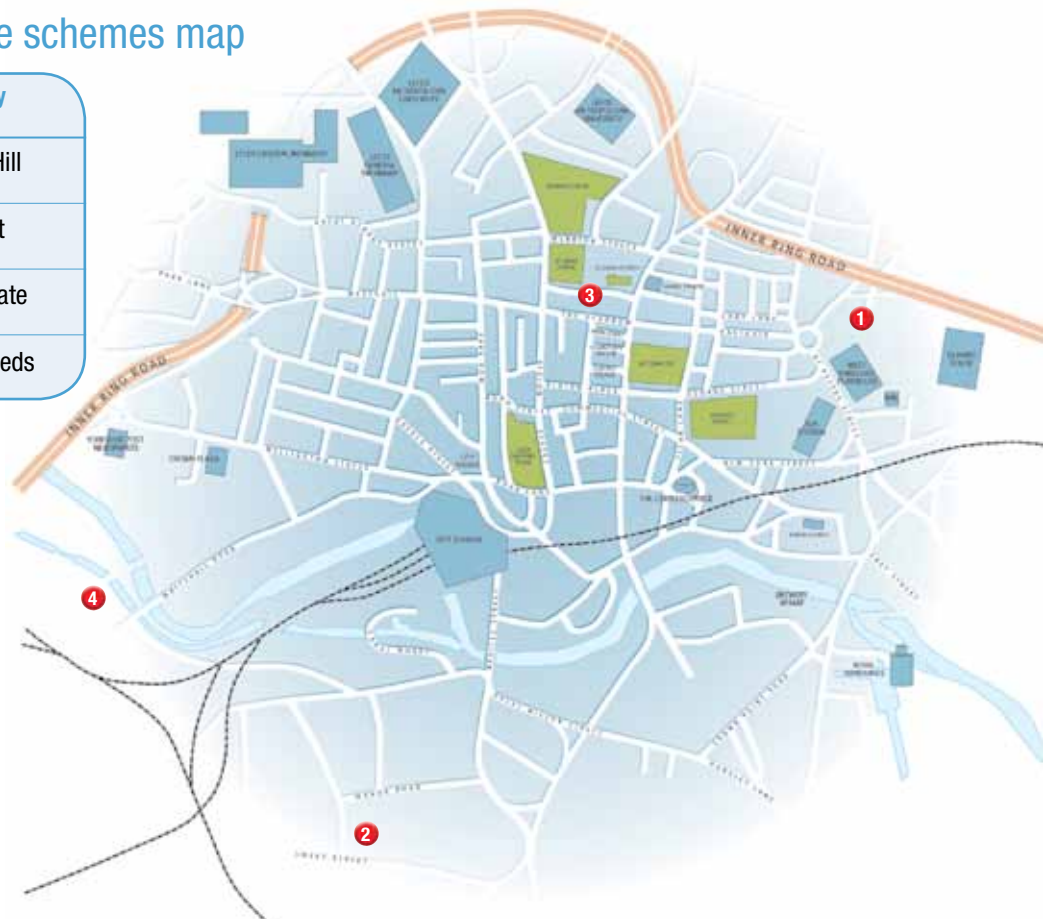
A further 44,093 sq m (474,439 sq ft) of offices could be developed on the Whitehall site under existing planning consent.



No. 1 Leeds is available for occupation at an indicative rental of £258 per sq m (£24 per sq ft)

City centre office schemes map

Map reference number	Property
1	Quarry Hill
2	The Mint
3	Broad Gate
4	No. 1 Leeds



Business Parks

Thorpe Park, Leeds Valley Park and White Rose Office Park are prime examples of business parks suitable for a wide range of uses including shared service centres and contact centres, scientific and technical, R&D and headquarters operations.

Kirkstall Forge will create an integrated community including office, residential and leisure facilities and will provide a unique alternative to a city centre or business park location.

Thorpe Park



Thorpe Park is situated at Junction 46 of the M1 motorway, approximately 6 miles east of Leeds City Centre. It can be accessed direct from the motorway junction, and there is a secondary access from the A63.

The park covers 270 acres and can provide up to 167,000 sq m (1.8 million sq ft) of office accommodation.

More than one third of the total area of Thorpe Park is devoted to a Green Park, which will give Leeds its first major new public park since the 19th century.

Within easy walking distance of Thorpe Park there are excellent facilities including Sainsburys supermarket and accompanying retail park, a petrol station, chemist and day nursery.

Thorpe Park is directly connected to the broadband fibre network and is identified as an international BT e-location.

Thorpe Park has developed a transport plan with the primary objective of maximising accessibility to the business park and minimising travel constraints and associated costs.

There are already over forty five occupiers at Thorpe Park, including the Thorpe Park Hotel and Spa, IBM, Hewlett Group, National Grid, Northern Foods, Dr Oetker, GE, the Leeds Mental Health Trust and the University of Leeds.

The Icon Building at Thorpe Park achieved a BREEAM rating of 87.55%, the highest ever for a commercial building in the UK.

An amenities facility has recently been completed and will contain a medical centre, restaurant, café, sandwich shop and convenience store.

Offices can be built on a design and build basis for occupiers, and the developers are also continuing with a programme of speculative building, with current buildings on site offering 2,676 sq m (28,808 sq ft), 955 sq m (10,286 sq ft) and 286.51 sq m (3,084 sq ft). Indicative rental levels start at £200 per sq m (£18.50 per sq ft).

Leeds Valley Park

Leeds Valley Park is situated three miles south of Leeds city centre and is at the intersection of the M1 and M621 and within two miles of Junction 29 of the M62.

This is a landmark office development totalling 50 acres with planning consent for 67,818 sq m (730,000 sq ft). Phase 1 was completed in October 2003 and comprises three office buildings plus an amenities suite.

BAE Systems has located its Centre of Excellence for Electronic Systems and Technology at Leeds Valley Park, and Arla Foods has moved its headquarters there. Ventura has opened a call centre in the third building.

Phase 2 of the scheme comprises two office buildings of 7558 sq m (81,300 sq ft) and



5720 sq m (61,545 sq ft) at an indicative rental of £205 per sq m (£19 per sq ft). These are available for immediate occupation.

A further two phases are planned, providing options for a further 450,000 sq ft of prime office accommodation, with potential for construction on a design and build basis.

White Rose Office Park

The White Rose Office Park is situated on the Leeds outer ring-road, three miles south-west of the city centre. It is a five minute drive from Junction 28 of the M62, giving easy access to the M1 and M621.

The Northern Directorate of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs is based at White Rose Office Park, together with DePuy International, HSBC, O2 and West Yorkshire Police.

Occupiers benefit from the proximity of the White Rose shopping centre, situated next door to the park and giving staff all the benefits of an in-town location. A regional bus station is also situated at the shopping centre.



Occupiers also have full use of 'The Hub' – conference, catering, bar and health club facilities in a stand-alone new building on-site.

Planning consent has been given for 2,880 sq m (31,000 sq ft) at No. 3 Munroe Court. This is available as a pre let and has an indicative rental value of £215 per sq m (£20 per sq ft).

Property portfolio

Kirkstall Forge



Kirkstall Forge is a historic 56-acre site located four miles from Leeds City Centre. This mixed use development will include offices, residential units and leisure amenities.

The development will include an intimate and safe residential community in a woodland and riverside setting, with sustainable public transport links via a new rail station with a

journey time of only 6 minutes to Leeds city centre, and a new bus route.

Proposed leisure and associated amenities include a hotel, restaurants and wine bars, convenience shopping, a day nursery, cycle routes, woodland walks and a running track.

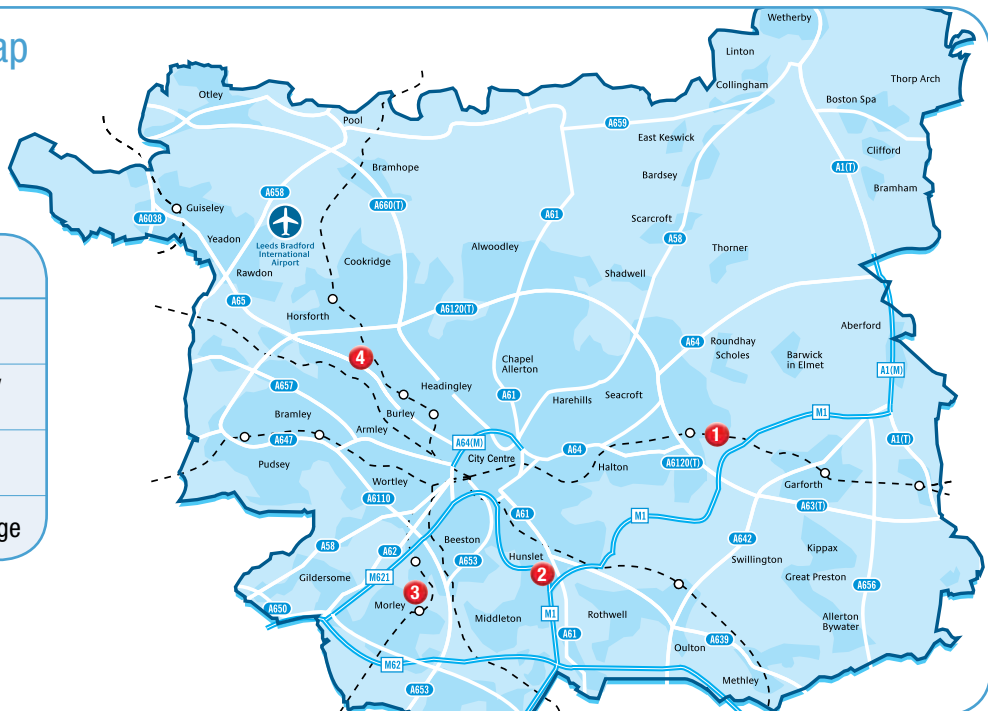
The office element of the scheme includes three buildings, each of 9,294 sq m (100,000 sq ft), but this can be tailored to meet the needs of the occupier. The developers are offering two distinct options to occupiers:

‘Benchmark’ - grade A offices constructed to the highest standards which will seek to achieve a BREEAM ‘very good’ or ‘excellent’ rating, at a rent of £215 per sq m (£20 per sq ft) based on a 15 year lease;

‘Synergy’ - in which occupiers will be invited to partner the developers in the design of the offices and the tailoring of the lease terms to suit their bespoke business requirements.

Business parks map

Map reference number	Business park
1	Thorpe Park
2	Leeds Valley Park
3	White Rose Office Park
4	Kirkstall Forge



Leeds

living, learning and leisure



Relocating to Leeds



Leeds is a thriving city, rich in culture and heritage, with lots to discover and something for everyone to enjoy. By day, the prosperous business centre provides employment for residents of Leeds and the surrounding city region. By night, Leeds comes alive with restaurants, bars, clubs and entertainment.

But the fast-paced, buzzing city centre is complemented by stunning local countryside, including the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, which lie within easy reach. As a place to live and to work, as a place to visit and to learn, the city is up there with the very best.

Relocation assistance

The City Development Directorate of Leeds City Council can pull together a multi-disciplinary team to help organisations planning to move to Leeds.

One of the objectives of the team is to assist employees and their families before and during their move to the area. The team will undertake presentations to staff and their families, either in the workplace or during visits to the city. Presentations include information on housing, schools and education, leisure facilities and attractions

in and around the area, the local economy and factors affecting partner employment. The team also works with local estate agents who can give a range of information on house types, areas and prices.

This approach has proved very successful with the Benefits Agency (now DWP), the NHS Management Executive (now DoH), British Telecom Mobile Communications (now O2), and The Royal Armouries Museum, when they moved their headquarters to Leeds. More recently, the Department has worked with the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care.

Housing

Leeds is one of the greenest cities in Europe with parkland, golf courses and green belt making up over two thirds of its area.

Within a few miles of the centre, the city opens out to a wider landscape of open countryside and numerous smaller townships and villages. This provides a wide range of accommodation to meet every lifestyle.

One of the most significant recent changes has been the dramatic increase in city centre residential developments. In 2008, the estimated residential City Centre population was around 15,700. This could increase to 28,700 residents when all of the residential schemes under construction and proposed have been built.

Average house prices in Leeds vary greatly. Houses in the northern suburbs are generally more expensive than those south of the river. Young people on relatively modest salaries are still able to get onto the property ladder in Leeds, and house prices in other parts of West Yorkshire are lower still.

At the other end of the spectrum, £1m houses are to be found in villages and open countryside and yet within a 30 minute commute of Leeds.



The triangle formed by Wetherby, Ilkley and Harrogate on the northern edge of Leeds (dubbed the 'magic triangle' by estate agents) contains the most desirable and expensive houses in the region. Here, attractive towns and villages are located only 50 minutes, at the most, from the centre of Leeds by car, or 30 to 40 minutes by train.

Well within commuting distance of Leeds are Harrogate, a former spa town with a wide choice of top end of the market detached houses, and York, with sought after town houses in, or near to, the historic core.

The following table compares the average price of residential property sales completed during March 2011 in Leeds, West Yorkshire, Yorkshire and the Humber, Greater London and England and Wales.

March 2011 Average House Prices (£s)					
	Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Flat/ Maisonette	Overall
Leeds	261,661	140,512	93,430	152,393	131,875
W Yorks	216,543	115,719	77,252	120,429	116,391
Yorks & Humber	201,025	109,201	77,124	108,358	120,567
Greater London	593,971	345,446	307,995	302,270	336,828
England & Wales	255,940	152,784	122,248	148,854	160,996

Source: Land Registry

Commuting



Extensive road and rail networks make for fast and convenient travel around the West Yorkshire conurbation and beyond. Commuting to or from Leeds and its neighbouring districts by either car or public transport is therefore easy and commonplace. 67% of commuters into Leeds travel by car, 17% by bus and 15% by train.

Average travel to work times in the morning peak are 27 minutes in West Yorkshire, compared with 44 minutes in London.

Both bus and rail fares are relatively low for travel within West Yorkshire. Weekly, monthly or annual MetroCards can be purchased for travel by bus, rail or a combination of both, for unlimited travel across West Yorkshire, or for particular zones.

A full MetroCard, giving virtually unlimited travel on buses and trains within West Yorkshire, costs £32.50 per week, £122 per month, £365 per quarter or £1,280 per year (April 2011). A West Yorkshire-wide unlimited bus pass is £765 per year.

Road networks

Leeds is situated at the crossroads of the M1 (linking the North of England through South Yorkshire to the Midlands and South East) and M62 (linking the east and west coast ports of Hull and Liverpool).

Most of the West Yorkshire conurbation, together with Barnsley and much of Harrogate, lies within 30 minutes drive of the city.

Road travel within the Leeds District is made easy by the 'spider's web' of arterial routes crossed by the inner and outer ring-roads.

The road network has been improved by the extension of the M1 to join the A1, east of the city centre, enhancing road connections to the North East and Scotland, and removing a great deal of through traffic from the city centre fringe and the suburbs.

The recently opened East Leeds Link Road has further enhanced accessibility, giving the City Centre's inner ring road a direct road connection to the M1.

Train services

Leeds city railway station is within easy walking distance of the whole of the city centre and is an important rail travel centre for both local metro travel and intercity services.

Leeds is at the centre of the West Yorkshire rail network and there are rail links to most local towns, with around five to ten trains per day each way on most routes.

Bus services

Leeds has comprehensive bus services, and dedicated bus lanes and guided buses have been introduced to reduce bus journey times on some of the main arterial routes into the city centre.

Subject to the new government's approval, commuting in Leeds could be greatly enhanced by 2016 with the introduction of 'New Generation Transport', a modern trolleybus system which received initial government funding approval in March 2010.

Jobs for partners and dependants

When families move to Leeds, as part of an organisation's relocation, individual members of the family may need to look for employment. This section gives a brief overview of the Leeds economy. For more detailed information, visit: www.locateinleeds.co.uk

Leeds has a working age population of 534,000, which is one of the largest of any UK city outside London.

Leeds has one of the most diverse economies in Great Britain, with employment distribution reflecting that of the country as a whole. There are an estimated 46,000 businesses in Leeds, with 300 companies and organisations employing over 200 people. The city therefore offers rich and varied employment opportunities.

The service sector, including the public sector, financial and business services, media, distribution, leisure and retailing is the biggest growth area for employment, and currently employs 357,650.

Leeds is the third largest manufacturing centre in the UK, with 36,000 employees. Engineering, printing, chemicals, food, clothing and textiles, and furniture are the main sub-sectors.

It is also worth noting that due to the ease of commuting, the wider city-region offers significant job opportunities for people living in Leeds. Although far more people commute into Leeds, over 52,100 Leeds residents commute each day to towns and cities beyond the Leeds district.

Healthcare

Primary care

NHS Leeds is the primary care trust (PCT) for Leeds and is responsible for ensuring that the people of Leeds have access to the health services they need.

With a budget of over £1 billion, NHS Leeds is one of the largest PCTs in the country and commissions healthcare services for over 750,000 Leeds residents.

NHS Leeds is charged with three main functions :

- commissioning a comprehensive and equitable range of high quality responsive and efficient services, within allocated resources;
- directly providing high quality responsive and efficient community-based services (through its arms length provider) where this gives best value; and
- working with Leeds City Council to engage with the local population to improve health and wellbeing, reduce inequalities and promote sustainable community development.

Hospitals

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust was formed in 1998 and is one of the largest in the UK, with an annual budget of £930 million, and over 13,000 staff.

The Trust consists of six main units: Leeds General Infirmary (LGI), St James's University Hospital, Chapel Allerton Hospital, Seacroft Hospital, Wharfedale Hospital, and Leeds Dental Institute.

Living in Leeds



Leeds General Infirmary is a major teaching hospital providing a range of regional specialities including paediatric, neurological and maternity care. April 1998 saw the opening of the £92 million Jubilee Building, one of the flagships of the NHS, which brought together highly specialised neurosurgical services as well as the Yorkshire Heart Centre, plus the hospital's intensive care facilities, a new Accident & Emergency department and an operating theatre complex.

£34 million has been invested across the city to centralise children's hospital services at Leeds General Infirmary and adult acute medicine and older people's services at St James's Hospital.

St James's University Hospital is Europe's largest teaching hospital.

A new world class cancer treatment wing has recently been built at St James's (pictured). The £220 million facility, which opened in December 2007, is the UK's largest regional cancer centre.

Independent hospitals

There are a number of smaller independent hospitals offering a range of healthcare services in Leeds from basic nursing to complex surgery. These include a Nuffield Health Hospital and two Spire Hospitals (formerly BUPA).



A good education for all is vital to the continued success of the Leeds economy and to the prosperity and quality of life of individuals. It is at the heart of regeneration, allowing people to access new opportunities, creating pathways out of poverty, which stimulate the local community and the economy.

Schools in Leeds

The number of pupils in compulsory education in Leeds in 2009 was 107,054. There are 263 primary, secondary, academy and special education schools, as shown in Table 1 opposite.

The previous government's 'Building Schools for the Future' (BSF) programme has delivered complete rebuilds and major refurbishments to 14 schools across Leeds. Importance has been placed on providing high quality, fully-inclusive learning environments, with greater access to ICT facilities and increased emphasis on schools as being the centres of their local communities.

Attainment in compulsory education in Leeds, compared to attainment in the whole of England, is summarised in Tables 2 and 3.

Detailed information about schools in Leeds may be found in the publications 'Starting school in Leeds' and 'Starting secondary school in Leeds', published by Leeds City Council. Copies can be obtained by contacting: 0113 222 4414.

Independent Schools in Leeds

The provision of preparatory and senior schools throughout the area is quite extensive. Within Leeds these include:

- The Grammar School at Leeds
For girls and boys between 3 and 18 years.
- Fulneck School, Pudsey
For girls and boys between 3 and 18 years.



- Gateways School, Harewood
For girls 2 to 18 years and boys 2 to 7 years.

Preparatory schools in the Leeds areas include Froebelian, Moorlands and Richmond House. Outside the Leeds district, but within easy reach of Leeds there are many other independent schools.

For further information, contact The Independent School Council Information Service, 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1. Tel: 0171 630 8793. www.isc.co.uk

Table 1

Schools in Leeds		
Type of school	Number of schools	Number of pupils
Primary (4-11)	219	59,921
Secondary (11-16)	35	43,235
Academy	3	3,005
Special	6	893
Total	263	107,054

Source: October 2009 School Census

Note: excluding pupils on roll at Pupil Referral Units

Table 2

Key stage 2: % of pupils achieving pass at level 4 or above in English			
	2008	2009	2010
Leeds	81%	79%	81%
England	81%	80%	80%

Source: DfE

Table 3

Key stage 2: % of pupils achieving pass at level 4 or above in Maths			
	2008	2009	2010
Leeds	77%	77%	80%
England	79%	79%	79%

Source: DfE

Table 4

Key stage 4: % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A*-C or equivalent including English and Maths			
	2008	2009	2010
Leeds	46.4%	45.9%	50.6%
England	48.4%	50.9%	53.4%

Source: DfE

Table 5

Year 11 pupil leaver destinations, %		
Destination	2000	2008
Stayed at school	38	43
Further education	28	36
Employment with training*	13	7
Employment without training	4	1
Work based training	3	3
NEET**	7	7
Other	4	2
Not known	2	0
Full time education	67	79
In learning	83	90
Number in cohort	8003	8738

Source: Connexions Leeds

* includes locally recognised training

** NEET = not in education, employment or training

Colleges of Further Education and Higher Education

Around 89% of 16 year olds in Leeds continue in some form of education or training after compulsory education, an increase of 7% since 2000 - see table 4 on the previous page.

There are currently over 80,000 students in the seven colleges of further education and higher education in Leeds (including those in part-time, short course and adult education). Colleges in Leeds range from large, inclusive, community-oriented institutions offering a huge array of subjects and courses to specialist facilities in niche vocations. The colleges are listed below.

- Leeds City College
- Joseph Priestley College
- Leeds College of Building

- Leeds College of Art
- Leeds College of Music
- Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College
- Northern School of Contemporary Dance

April 2009 saw the merger of Park Lane, Thomas Danby and Leeds College of Technology into a city-wide 'super college' of over 40,000 students, attracting an extra £200 million worth of funding and leading to a wider provision of courses and the creation of state-of-the-art learning facilities.

In addition, there are 38 training providers who deliver a range of programmes from NVQ 1 to Advanced Modern Apprenticeships and four lifeskills training providers.

Universities

With over 60,000 students, Leeds has three universities which complement each other well. From the traditional academic University of Leeds and Leeds Met to the newer Trinity which focuses on continued professional development (CPD) and training.

University of Leeds

The University is acclaimed world-wide for the quality of its teaching and research. One of the largest universities in the UK, it is also one of the most popular among students for undergraduate courses.

An emphasis on innovative research and investment in high-quality facilities and first-rate infrastructure means that no fewer than 35 departments are rated internationally or nationally 'excellent'.

During the last academic year over 33,300 students were attached to 700 different first-degree programmes and 474 postgraduate degree programmes. A further 52,000 men and women were enrolled on short courses with the University.

A recent survey of graduates from the 2008/2009 academic year showed that, 85% of graduates were in employment or further study within six months of graduating (2009 Destination Statistics).

Leeds Metropolitan University

Leeds Metropolitan University has over 41,000 students studying at three campuses and is one of the largest and most popular universities in the UK.

The University's full-time students are drawn from around the globe, though many are from the region.

The University has one of the highest graduate employment rates of all universities. In 2007, 93.6% of graduates were in employment or further study within six months of graduating.

Leeds Trinity University College

Leeds Trinity has just under 3,000 students at its campus in Horsforth, about six miles northwest of Leeds city centre.

Courses offered include undergraduate, postgraduate and foundation degree courses in three faculties: Media, Business and Marketing; Education; and Arts and Social Sciences.

93% of Leeds Trinity's students get a job or go on to further study within six months of graduation.

Open University

The Open University in Yorkshire has 70 staff and 500 part-time tutors supporting the 8,000 local students.

It is one of thirteen regional centres throughout the country and is the largest provider of undergraduate part-time higher education in the region for almost every subject area.

Other universities in the region

The Yorkshire and Humber region is home to nine universities and three higher education colleges, as well as a regional office of the Open University and the Hull campus of the University of Lincoln.

The other universities in the region are: University of Bradford, University of Huddersfield, University of Hull, University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University, University of York and York St John University.

For further information about universities in the region, visit www.yorkshireuniversities.ac.uk.

Excellent nightlife, restaurants, bars, shopping and value for money are amongst the many attractions quoted by readers of *The Traveller* magazine – the leading, independent travel guide published by Condé Nast – who named Leeds as *The UK's Favourite City* (September 2003). Leeds was also named *Visitor City of the Year* by *The Good Britain Guide* 2004.

Parks and gardens

Leeds is one of the greenest cities in Europe, brimming with fine parklands, countryside trails and plantsmen's gardens. There are seven major parks in Leeds including the 700-acre Roundhay Park, and the grounds of Kirkstall Abbey.

Museums, stately homes, art galleries

Leeds is the home of two prestigious national attractions, the Royal Armouries Museum, and the Thackray National Medical Museum.

Leeds' cultural, historical and architectural heritage is abundantly reflected in its other museums, stately homes and art galleries, including Abbey House Museum, the fine mansions of Harewood House, Lotherton Hall and Temple Newsam, the city's Art Gallery, and The Henry Moore Sculpture Centre. A new Leeds City Museum opened in September 2008.

Pubs, restaurants, café bars and clubs

Leeds offers a huge and exciting choice of venues and a cosmopolitan range of food. Venues include Victorian pubs, continental style street cafés, waterside restaurants, American diners, and fashionable wine bars.

There are now over 300 bars, pubs, restaurants, cafés and café bars in the city centre alone.

The number of night clubs has also grown considerably in recent years, boosted by the large student population and encouraged by



the city council's '24 Hour City' initiative. There are now over 30 night clubs in the city centre.

Theatres, Entertainment

Leeds has a full calendar of events all year round offering entertainment of all sorts from fun events for children and families, to top quality productions for theatre and music lovers.

Theatres include the Grand Theatre, home of Opera North, which hosts music and dance productions on national tour; West Yorkshire Playhouse, which has the busiest programme of any UK provincial theatre, and has a reputation for its modern productions; and



City Varieties, a fine Victorian music hall made famous by TV's 'The Good Old Days'.

A new Civic Theatre has been built as part of the redevelopment of the historic Electric Press building overlooking Millennium Square.

Leeds has a very strong music and dance culture, in both formal traditional, and ground breaking new forms. As well as Opera North it is home to Phoenix Dance, the Northern Ballet Theatre, and the Leeds International Piano Competition, and hosts the International Concert Season and the Leeds International Film Festival.

Large scale, outdoor events are a Leeds speciality. These attract hundreds of people and the free entrance events include Opera in the Park, Party in the Park, and Classical Fantasia at Kirkstall Abbey. Millennium Square also hosts a number of live concerts throughout the year, as well as established events such as the German Christmas Market and seasonal ice rink. The Leeds Festival is held annually in August at Bramham Park, near Wetherby.

Sport



Leeds has excellent sports facilities, whatever your requirements, be it as spectator or participant, novice or athlete.

Leeds City Council operates 17 leisure and recreation centres and 16 swimming pools throughout the district.

Leeds also has a wide range of private facilities including a David Lloyd sports and leisure centre, climbing wall, gyms and fitness centres.

The city boasts 21 golf courses, from exclusive private clubs to pay and play courses.

For those who like a challenge, the course of the annual Leeds Half Marathon is one of the most demanding in the country.

Spectator sports in Leeds include football at Elland Road, home of Leeds United; international and county cricket at the famous Headingley sports ground; and a good selection of first-class rugby, including Leeds Rhinos (rugby league) and Leeds Carnegie (rugby union).

Horse racing takes place at Wetherby, and eventing at the Bramham International three-day event. The racecourses of York, Doncaster and Pontefract are all within easy reach.

Shopping

The Lonely Planet's website states "Leeds is the 'Knightsbridge of the North', the shopping mecca whose counter is just getting longer. Its heart is lined with busy pedestrianised streets, packed with shops, restaurants, upstanding Victorian edifices and stunning arcades. From cutting-edge couture to contemporary cuisine, Leeds will serve it to you on a plate... or in a stylishly designed bag."

Leeds city centre is the main regional shopping centre and its superior range of shops and attractive city centre attracts people from all over the country. There are over 1,000 shops to be found in the stylish pedestrianised high streets, shopping centres, Victorian

arcades, historic buildings and yards and the Edwardian markets.

The Victoria Quarter is one of the most stunning retail settings in the country, and was home to the first Harvey Nichols store to be opened outside London, complemented by the top gents outfitters, Gieves and Hawkes, and designer stores including Vivienne Westwood, Paul Smith, Louis Vuitton and Brora.

The magnificently restored and recently-refurbished Corn Exchange is a Grade I Listed Building which contains a unique speciality food destination with a number of gourmet restaurants and speciality food shops, together with small independent boutiques.

A 260,000 sq ft John Lewis store will be the centre piece of the proposed £650 million Eastgate Quarters development in the city centre, containing over 1 million sq ft of retail and leisure space.

The £350 million Trinity Leeds development (below) is under construction in the heart of Leeds' retail quarter, and will feature 1 million sq ft of retail space.

Leeds also has a number of retail parks, out of town shopping centres and market towns within its boundaries.



Beyond the Leeds district

Leeds offers an exciting variety of countryside and historic attractions on its doorstep. Many major attractions are within easy reach: Haworth, home of the Bronte sisters; Ilkley Moor, the countryside which inspired Yorkshire's own anthem; the walled city of York, with its magnificent Minster, the Shambles and Jorvik Centre, and the elegant spa town of Harrogate.

To the north are the Yorkshire Dales - a National Park - which inspired James Herriot to write his novels on life as a vet. The North Yorkshire Moors, Peak District and Lake District are all easily accessible.

The seaside resorts of the East Coast, including Whitby, Scarborough, Bridlington and Filey, are also within easy reach.



Contacts and further information

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