

Introduction to the Leeds Academic Health Partnership

What is Leeds Academic Health Partnership?

We are a collaboration of Leeds' universities, our local NHS organisations, Leeds City Council, Leeds City College, the regional health and care partnership, the regional economic enterprise partnership, industry and third sector organisations. The partnership was set up to improve collaboration and put innovation and research at the heart of all our partner organisations and to test ideas and lead projects that support the aims of the Leeds City Ambition, Health and Wellbeing and Inclusive Growth strategies.

Our vision is that all the people of Leeds have the best opportunity to live healthier lives for longer.

Our LAHP mission is that we bring partners together to help solve the city's hardest health challenges.

Our governance and guidance

The LAHP is governed by our Partnership Board. Membership of the Board is at Chief Executive or Vice-chancellor level to ensure senior level commitment, and the Board meets three times per year. Our full membership is shown below:



We also convene a Steering Group from across our partners and support the Leeds Clinical Senate. Both of these groups, and embedded leadership, help guide our work. We have a small operational team hosted by the University of Leeds with some staff matrix managed by our partners and leading key areas. An overview of the governance and team member structure is set out in Appendix 1.

Strategic priorities

We have three broad strategic priorities set by the Partnership Board:

1. to strengthen Leeds as an outstanding learning healthcare system, in which investment and innovation adoption in health and care is evidence-based.
2. to achieve the greatest benefits for Leeds people by working in partnership to secure investments, funding grants and new strategic opportunities which support city priorities.
3. to attract talent and investment by positioning Leeds as a globally-leading health and care research and innovation ecosystem.

Impact of the Partnership

We actively network across sectors and bring together academia, the health and care system, innovation and economy.

- The most recent Innovation Arc health and care workshop was attended by around 80 stakeholders in April 2023.
- We help partners to look for cross-organisation research and innovation opportunities and have brought significant resources into Leeds for example funding for Pinpoint cancer research and the Centre for Personalised Medicine and Health
- We have a series of bids in the pipeline – for example recent support has focused on population health and a major opportunity is the Systems Engineering Innovation hubs for Multiple long-term Conditions (SEISMIC). We've built a new collaboration to develop the phase one proposal based on successful previous bids across sectors.
- We also help the city with its ambition to take an evidence based approach. For example our embedded researcher supported capability building and development of the logic models which underpin the pioneering Leeds Health and Care Partnership's Population Health Boards.
- Previous projects also included the set-up of the Leeds Health and Care Academy – a UK-first - to transform the learning and development for the 57,000 people who work in health and care. The Academy has successfully 'spun out' and now trains thousands each year and has generated over 200 jobs as part of the targeted employment programme in estates like Lincoln Green and opened up wider access routes into health and care for residents of the most deprived areas in Leeds.
- The LAHP also set up the region's first cross-sector healthtech partnership to catalyse the adoption of new health technologies, accelerate economic growth, improve population health and ultimately save lives. This is now a flourishing West Yorkshire Healthtech Cluster hosted by the Combined Authority.

Our governance and guidance

Board

Strategic direction

Comprises chief executives and vice-chancellors of our member organisations. The Board is responsible for oversight of the Partnership and the delivery of its activities.

Steering group

Guidance and support

Comprises director-level members from our partner organisations. The Steering Group is not a formal governance group within the city's infrastructure. Any significant decisions that require sign off from within the system or specific organisations are directed to an appropriate group including the Partnership Board.

Leeds Clinical Senate

Guidance and support

The LAHP supports the Leeds Clinical Senate which is independent of governance responsibilities (within the Integrated Care Board's clinical leadership). Its purpose is to provide a space for clinical and academic leaders that encourages novel collaborative thinking, without boundaries, facilitating an ambition for Leeds to be a Research City for All.

Team members and structure

