

COUNCIL MEETING – 13th September 2023

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A1 TO WP2	12/9/23	12/9/23

Submitted by:	Councillor Jonathan Pryor
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

Delete All after “This Council recognises” and replace with:

“... the necessity of building a strong local economy through Community Wealth Building Strategies. Council is proud of our Leeds Model.

Council notes there is a long tradition of Community Wealth Building across the Labour, Co-Operative and Trade Union Movement and Leeds has seen the benefit of this.

Leeds aims to become a **Real** Living Wage City and Council is proud to have been paying the Living Wage Foundation Real Living Wage since 2015, to all council workers, including apprentices and homecare workers who work for external providers commissioned by the Council.

During a time of outsourcing and privatisation by many local authorities, Council takes pride in the fact that the vast majority of Leeds City Council services are provided by in-house teams, with one of the largest in-house workforces of any council in the UK.

Leeds Anchor Network brings together **14** of the city's biggest institutions to maximise the benefits of employment, procurement, infrastructure, service delivery behaviours for local people.

Council is aligned to the TUC’s ‘Great Jobs Agenda’, ensuring that jobs are good jobs and has policy against detrimental practices such as ‘fire and rehire’. Council will continue to work with the whole Leeds Anchor Network through its Employment Group to adopt best practice in areas including recruitment, mental health, and pay and conditions.

As part of the Leeds Best City Ambition launched in May 2022, Council is also working with the Anchor Network in several areas.

- A project funded by the Health Foundation aims to improve health inequalities in the most disadvantaged communities, connecting people to quality jobs and identifying new pathways to employment.
- Work is ongoing to ensure that investments help reach the Carbon Net Zero by 2030 target, working with Leeds City College to develop a pipeline of projects around green jobs to create good employment for the present and the future that also secures the local economy with much needed skills.
- Locality working in our most disadvantaged communities, tackling poverty and inequalities, increasing the footprint for working in priority neighbourhoods to cover all of the 12 most

disadvantaged neighbourhoods, whilst also retaining a focus at the ward level on the city's 6 priority wards.

- Broadening the work with the Leeds Anchor Network to include the private sector through a Business Anchor Network. By investing in the local area where they operate, businesses are supporting potential workforces, suppliers, and customers. Having a meaningful local impact is often necessary for contracts with the public sector, a powerful motivator for employees and can be an important differentiator for businesses seeking to attract diverse and talented people. This work is essential in shaping the whole Leeds economy and the private sector would benefit significantly from a healthier and more productive workforce. Tools and resources will be made available for any business in Leeds that wants to re-invest in the city to create benefits for residents and communities.
- A Leeds Community Anchor Network has also been created; a Leeds-wide network of trusted third sector and faith organisations to better listen to communities, and find community solutions to improve access to meaningful employment in the city.

Council will continue to build on the work of the Neighbourhood Improvement Board as part of the city-wide strategic approach to tackle inequality and poverty linked to the Best City Ambition.

Council will continue to support Leeds Credit Union who have over 37,000 members as part of a sustainable co-operative, assisting people who may be struggling for acceptance by traditional financial institutions to access financial products and services in a commercially viable way.

Council notes that jobs across West Yorkshire in the creative and cultural sector have risen by 17%, with 48,000 creative, cultural and sports roles advertised in the region over the past year. Already this demonstrates how targeted local investment in this sector from Leeds City Council and the Mayor of West Yorkshire, leads to more local jobs.

Council has adopted the Social Progress Index in order to go beyond 'traditional' ways of measuring economic success, raise our ambition and continue our commitment to inclusive growth and give demonstrable evidence of economic and social progress.

Leeds City Council is part of an Inclusive Growth Network; our Economic Policy team works with a range of bodies, which include CLES and NEF. The inclusive Growth Strategy is currently being refreshed to set out a plan to 2030, and as part of this Council has committed to increasing local spending from its budget of approximately £1 billion and supporting more local businesses to tender for work.

The Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) was involved in supporting early work on local spending through our Anchor Network and Council welcomes its continuing work including a live research project on gender inclusion, and greatly value the work CLES carried out in Leeds in 2019 to achieve local community wealth building.

Council notes the recent LGA Peer Review of Leeds City Council recently describing the work done as deep and collaborative partnership and we know that these successes in Leeds are down to this partnership working across local organisations, businesses and our third sector. Council will continue to work to improve our city's economy.

Council acknowledges that these successes have come internally from the city, and our greatest barrier to future successes of Leeds are ongoing Government cuts, which to Leeds City Council alone have totalled £2.53 billion since 2010."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Pryor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
