



Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

ADEPT President's Awards 2020

Entry form

Award category:	Delivering clean growth
Title:	Connecting Leeds: Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme delivering clean growth
Entrant:	Leeds City Council with partners
Main contact name and email address:	Helen McGrath Helen.mcgrath@leeds.gov.uk
Partner/s (if applicable):	WSP, BAM Nuttall, John Sisk & Sons, Capita, Mott Macdonald, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Magpie, Steer, First Buses
Headline summary (150 characters, c. 30 words)	
Connecting Leeds is a £270 million transformational change programme intending to deliver inclusive growth and low carbon transport not just now, but into the future.	

Please attach any supporting photos separately as jpg or png files.

Please paste links to any supporting video evidence here

Link 1	https://youtu.be/HjHTgNV6b0k
Link 2	https://youtu.be/6iXQ4_dMGSQ



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500-word project outline (please ensure you address all the judges' criteria – for more info see [here](#))

Leeds City Council declared a climate emergency in March 2019 and is working towards a net-zero carbon city by 2030. Multiple public and private organisations are working together in partnership as 'Connecting Leeds' to address the climate emergency through a transformational change programme.

The 200 strong team have been working collaboratively since 2017 on the delivery of 11 transport schemes throughout Leeds within a tight budget and concerted 5-year programme. This has necessitated a flexible, collaborative approach between the client team, design and build contractors and consultants including working from a co-located office, flexible interpretation of contracts and a programme approach to budget management.

The £39m Stourton Park and Ride (P&R) scheme is a great example of a project that has sought to build on the obvious benefits of mode switch and work towards becoming net zero. The key objective of the P&R is to reduce car-dominance by offering a sustainable alternative that will have positive environmental benefits. Air quality has been improved by planting 11,000 trees that complement existing vegetation to create a new parkland, the introduction of electric buses and the provision of an onsite solar panel farm (funded by European Regional Development Funding).

The scheme includes carports that incorporate solar panels in the roofs and the solar energy generated will provide electricity to 26 vehicle charge points, lighting inside the terminal building, and all electrically operated equipment on the P&R site. The charging points and the revenue generated from their use will be re-invested to finance their future operation and maintenance. The solar panels will deliver value for money by way of excess power being fed back into the national grid on a sleeving arrangement, meaning it can be used to offset electricity costs at Leeds City Council schools and community centres. The battery storage facility has also been future proofed should future demands dictate additional capacity.

The scheme is an example of conscious thinking about carbon and the P&R carbon savings attributed to tree planting and the solar panels suggest around 50% of carbon savings will come from user benefits (mode switch), 30% from carbon sequestered by the trees planted at the site and a further 20% from solar power generation.

Pedestrian footways and a strategic cycle route are also provided through the site to enhance non-motorised user connectivity to/from the south of Leeds and the Leeds cycle network. The P&R is also being delivered in parallel with the A61 South bus corridor scheme that links the P&R and the city centre, providing a faster route to/from the City. The P&R site will be fully operational in Autumn 2021 and will create a sustainable and self-sufficient asset for Leeds City Council that harnesses solar power, the first of its kind in the UK.

Leeds City Council is also working with partners to change travel behaviours, particularly on the back of the Covid-19 global pandemic. A city wide 'Walk it, Ride it' campaign to be launched in May 2021 will hope to change behaviour on a small scale before being rolled out on a larger scale in Leeds and surrounding districts. Working alongside the physical infrastructure improvements this would deliver clean growth, not just now but into the future.

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