

Connecting Leeds
Leeds District Consultation Sub Committee (09 April 2018)



In February 2018 Leeds City Council working with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, partners and stakeholders including all transport operators in the city, launched Connecting Leeds, the new name of the transport strategy for the city.

The vision set out for Connecting Leeds is to deliver a transformational stepchange in the transport network and connectivity in Leeds and the wider region, helping to support and bring people, places, jobs, learning and leisure closer together. This will be achieved through improvements to road, rail, bus, park and ride, cycling and walking services and infrastructure, reducing congestion and improving air quality and accessibility in Leeds along with utilising the latest technology innovations.

Enhanced bus travel is an essential element of Connecting Leeds, with the target set of doubling the current 250,000 bus trips made in the city per day within 10 years. To help achieve this, Leeds City Council is currently undertaking a consultation exercise around plans to introduce new infrastructure including bus priority measures on three key routes in the city: Bradford to Leeds via Stanningley, Bramley and Armley; Alwoodley to Leeds via Moortown and Chapel Allerton; and Oakwood and Roundhay to Leeds via Harehills and St James's Hospital.

Over 3,000 contributions to the consultation were received in the first 4 weeks of the exercise. The Connecting Leeds team have delivered over 25 public drop-in sessions, meetings and workshops attended by over 600 people. The consultation has been supported by a major social media, press and advertising campaign. Over 20,000 leaflets, flyers and other materials have been circulated along the bus routes as part of an intensive outreach campaign.

Under the plans, bus priority measures which have proved successful in other areas of the city would be introduced, improving bus journey times and service reliability. Available space on the road network would be maximised to improve efficiency, with enhanced cycling and walking provision also central to the plans.

Additional new infrastructure would see bus stops improved, with new features including offering the latest real-time service and travel information. Connected to the Bradford to Leeds route, Leeds City Council is also seeking views on plans to improve Armley Gyratory to offer better traffic flows and reduce congestion.

The proposals are supported by Leeds' major bus operators, with First Leeds, Arriva Yorkshire and Transdev all backing the plans as part of their broader Bus 18 commitment to make bus travel in the region more reliable, easier to use, customer focused and better for the environment.

The current consultation around bus infrastructure improvements will be followed by further consultations this year around other bus related projects, several major junction

improvement schemes, three new rail stations, transformational changes in the city centre and much more.



For more information around the current consultation and other projects coming forwards please visit www.leeds.gov.uk/connectingleeds