

POLICY UPDATE

June 2024



West & North
Yorkshire Chamber
of Commerce

POLICY UPDATE: JUNE 2024

Regional / National

Members of the Chamber's Policy & Representation team attended 'Climb24', a technology sector conference in Leeds.

The team also attended British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Annual Conference in London.

Various calls and meetings with the BCC's Policy & Public Affairs team also took place on topics including skills and employment, transport, property and infrastructure, and devolution. With the backdrop of the General Election campaign underway, these meetings are preludes to future lobbying and representation with the next government and various ministers plus future MPs.

Leeds

The Property Forum event focused on how out-of-town centres have flourished around the area over the last generation. Presentations on White Rose Park, Thorpe Park and Kirkstall Forge all revealed how they contribute to the overall economy with job creation and economic growth.

Leeds Manufacturing Alliance met, looking at best practice and finding more showcase exemplars.

Team members attended the Leeds Rail Programme Board, receiving a series of updates on projects including station improvements, line upgrades and related future plans.

Bradford

Employment/Skills

The third Bradford Employment & Skills Board took place at Bradford University. Due to the General Election, some speakers sent apologies. Katie Rigarsford (LSIP Project Manager) spoke and discussed the latest news regarding the plan.

Celebration/Event

A member of the P&R team attending the Bradford2025 celebratory dinner, at Cedar Court. This was to celebrate the two-year anniversary of the region being awarded the title. Attendees got the chance to see some of the talent and culture that will be shown throughout 2025.

Property Forum

The second Property and Economic Forum happened at the Light Cinema in Bradford City Centre. Members and attendees heard from Bradford Council regarding the current road works in the City Centre and the aims to create an inclusive, greener and business-friendly environment. Muse Developments also joined the forum to showcase their plan to build 1,000 new city center homes in Bradford.

Leadership Group

An additional Leadership group meeting took place at Schofield Sweeny, due to the amount of work happening in Bradford. Muse Developments presented their City Village plans. Providing visual examples, costings and time frames. Members got their first chance to see and hear these plans. Katie Rigarsford (LSIP Manager) also introduced herself and offered her knowledge on education and skills within Bradford.

Council

A third meeting of the year happened at City Hall, Bradford with the P&R team and Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw. Alex and the team discussed a business case for the Southern Gateway/Train Station, BD Live, Local Plan, Employment sites in the district and the possibility of the Chamber being involved in the naming of the food court at Dalrey Street Market.

UKREiiF/Showcase Week

Members of the Property Forum Steering Group who attended UKREiiF in May, joined together to discuss the successes and to highlight what areas can be focused on next year. This includes adding to the Showcase Reel that was produced by one of our members, FAUM Architecture.

Stakeholder Meetings

Date	Brief details
4 Jun	Attend UKICE (UK In a Changing Europe) State of Trade webinar
4 Jun	LSIPs (Local Skills Improvement Plans) Stakeholder Comms Update
5 Jun	Bradford Employment & Skills Board
5 Jun	Attend 'Climb 24'
6 Jun	British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Policy Group
6 Jun	Bradford Council Labour Market discussion
6 Jun	Aire Rivers Trust re upcoming Bio-Net Gain conference in Shipley
7 Jun	Digital Skills event, Harrogate
10 Jun	Leeds Rail Programme Board
10 Jun	Leeds Quality, Place & Space sub-group
11 Jun	UKICE Migration Conference
11 Jun	Leeds Property & Economic Forum
11 Jun	LSIPs Project Managers Support
11 Jun	Bradford Manufacturing Week (BMW) Steering Group
11 Jun	Y&NY Leadership Group
12 Jun	Leeds Executive Lunch
13 Jun	Leeds Manufacturing Alliance
14 Jun	WYCA Gateway Evaluation Review
17 Jun	Centre for Cities webinar on election manifestos
18 Jun	Bradford Property & Economic Forum Steering Group
19 Jun	IERUK Anti-Racism Taskforce
20 Jun	Leeds Waterfront Group
21 Jun	Meeting with Keyland Developments (member prospect and also P&R Group membership clarification)
21 Jun	Nestle meeting (account managed)
25 Jun	WYCA Fair Work Charter Steering Group

25 Jun	Bradford Leadership Group
26 Jun	Business Desk Building Resilience breakfast
27 Jun	Bradford 'City of Culture Readiness' Group
27 Jun	BCC Annual Conference
28 Jun	Luminate Employer Board