



LEEDS CITY REGION

LEGAL SERVICES



WELCOME TO THE LARGEST CITY REGION OUTSIDE LONDON

NORTHERN
POWERHOUSE

LEEDS CITY
REGION

Our competitive and cost effective region offers access to the right talent, infrastructure and business networks, and is a leading UK centre for financial and professional services and a major legal services hub.



Largest city region economy outside of London - £66.5 billion GVA



Largest workforce and business base outside of London



The UK's second centre for banking



2 hrs from the global financial and legal capital of London



Office costs are over 55 per cent lower than London city for grade A headline rent per square foot (Colliers Q4 2017)



Largest concentration of Higher Education Institutions outside London



A pipeline bursting with talent 38,900 graduates annually



Unrivalled quality of life



Home to over 120,000 businesses offering excellent commercial and client opportunities

FASTEST JOBS GROWTH

The extensive legal business base contributes to the £11.5 billion GVA of the region's wider financial, business and professional services sector. Between 2010 and 2015 Leeds experienced the fastest legal sector jobs growth in a major legal centre, ahead of London, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol¹ with employment increasing by 20 per cent in this period, almost five times the rate of growth in London².

Leeds also recorded the fastest growth in solicitors firms amongst major UK legal centres².

¹Source: The City UK

²Source: IDBR 2016

DID YOU KNOW?

- Two thirds of the UK's legal expertise is delivered outside of London
- 58,900 people are employed in legal services across the UK's Northern Powerhouse
- Over 14,400 people are employed in Leeds City Region in the legal sector
- Leeds City Region provides a home to over 1,560 legal firms



'Leeds is home to a wide variety of law firms with a diversity of sizes and structures, ranging from international players to highly specialised niche practices, trusted to deliver world-class advice and services across the world.'

CATHERINE MCGUINNESS, POLICY CHAIR, CITY OF LONDON

LEGAL INVESTMENT GROWTH TIMELINE

- 2016**
 - US-owned **Squire Patton Boggs** moved over 200 staff to a new Leeds office at Wellington Place to benefit from a raft of facilities, including a client suite, collaborative office working space and a rooftop terrace
 - International law firm **Addleshaw Goddard** completed its move to 3 Sovereign Square, a landmark new development for over 460 members of staff
- 2017**
 - The **Government Legal Department (GLD)** announced it is opening a regional centre in Leeds
 - Leeds-based Bond Dickinson LLP and US-based Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice, LLP combined to create **Womble Bond Dickinson**
- 2018**
 - Innovative law firm **Rradar** expanded into Platform as the firm more than triples the size of its team
 - Shoosmiths**, who originally agreed a 10 year lease at Platform has now signed up for an additional wing to grow its team and service a growing client base
 - Walker Morris** are moving to a new office in Leeds which is undergoing a £10 million refurbishment, bringing 500 of its staff together under one roof. This investment will make Walker Morris the largest single site law firm outside London
 - Reed Smith** launched Reed Smith Global in Leeds to provide a creative environment for lawyers, analysts and business service professionals
 - The **Ministry of Justice** announced it will move to 5 Wellington Place attracted by modern collaborative working environments and the proximity to the train station

'With its strong talent pool, high quality real estate, growing technology offering and 2-hour connection with London; Leeds is the perfect location from which to launch our billion dollar start-up.'

**TAMARA BOX, MANAGING PARTNER
EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST, REED SMITH**

'Leeds is a vibrant city in which to do business and is one of the largest legal markets outside London. Being a part of the city offers us an exceptional opportunity to service new and existing clients, some of whom are the largest national and international corporates operating in the region.'

**PAUL STOKEY, LEEDS OFFICE HEAD,
SHOOSMITHS**



A LIFESTYLE TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN THE VERY BEST TALENT

Our region is more than just a great place to locate your business.

The Lonely Planet recognised Leeds in its Top 5 European Places to Visit in 2017, the Hepworth Wakefield won the prestigious Art Fund Museum of the Year 2017 and Craven is ranked as the

happiest place in the UK to live¹. From the urban cosmopolitan lifestyle on offer in our cities to the rural tranquility and outdoor pursuits within the North Yorkshire Moors and Yorkshire Dales, Leeds City Region offers a compelling quality of lifestyle accessible to all.



¹ Source: ONS 2017

OUR TEAM CAN ASSIST WITH:

- De-risking investment cases financially and operationally
- Provisions of facts and figures to ensure realistic business case assumptions
- Property searches
- Labour market and skills insights
- Introduction to business networks and contacts

LEEDS CITY REGION

FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

**JENNIE FROST | BUSINESS
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