



LEEDS CITY REGION LEGAL SERVICES

A THRIVING CENTRE OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE

“Being located in Leeds City Region allows us to attract new opportunities and the culture here is one that encourages innovation and growth. We are acting for clients who may be based in Yorkshire, but they may well be based internationally or elsewhere in London, Abu Dhabi, Moscow, or Madrid. In Leeds City Region, one can live in the middle of the countryside but work in an international, very happening city.”

SARAH DAY,
MANAGING PARTNER,
DLA PIPER LEEDS

THINK HERE

INTRODUCING

LEEDS CITY REGION

An economic powerhouse with global reach, Leeds City Region offers exceptional opportunities for growth across multiple business sectors. The second largest population centre and economy in the UK, Leeds City Region lies at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse, strategically located between the financial capitals of London and Edinburgh

With key business strengths in financial and professional services, manufacturing, digital and technology, and healthcare, Leeds City Region has a broad based and thriving economy. Home to the highest concentration of higher education institutions in the UK outside of London, the region offers an unrivalled pipeline of talent, as well as research and innovation opportunities.

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



**LARGEST CITY REGION
ECONOMY OUTSIDE OF
LONDON - £62.5BN 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**



**A PIPELINE BURSTING
WITH TALENT: 38,900
GRADUATES ANNUALLY**



**UNRIVALLED QUALITY
OF LIFE**

FINANCIAL, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



The Hiscox Building, York. Image: Make Architects

WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITY

Leeds City Region is the financial capital of the north, the UK's second centre for banking and a leading hub for financial, business and professional services, generating £11.5BN GVA¹ and employing 326,000² people.

THE SECTOR UNDERPINS OUR REGION'S SUCCESS

Highly skilled talent across banking, insurance, legal and accountancy provides a rich financial and professional services sector. This underpins other business sectors in our region, giving them instant access to the support they need to flourish.

CONCENTRATION OF HIGH QUALITY FIRMS

Our well-established clusters of high quality financial and professional services firms, coupled with an open and collaborative business ecosystem, make our region an exciting location for businesses in this sector.

¹ Source: ONS 2014
² Source: BRES 2015



“I’m proud to lead our business in Leeds, proud to live here and proud to be investing.”

CHRIS HEARLD,
NORTHERN CHAIRMAN AND OFFICE SENIOR PARTNER, KPMG

FINANCIAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Leeds City Region was recently named a ‘Financial Centre of Excellence’ by the Department for International Trade. This accolade recognises the strength of our financial cluster and its contribution to the economy as well as the supporting infrastructure and assets. It positions us as an important and growing centre for the financial services sector and as an ideal primary investment destination alternative to the overheated South East of England.

BANKING CAPITAL OF THE NORTH

The largest pool of banking sector talent outside London with over 13,000 employees in Leeds City Region. Home to over 30 national and international banks, as well as the headquarters of three of the five largest UK building societies.

THE UK’S FIRST FINTECH ACCELERATOR OUTSIDE OF LONDON

Capitalising on our strengths in financial and digital services and illustrating our position at the forefront of new technology and industry trends.

ECOSYSTEM

We offer unprecedented access to the right skills, digital infrastructure and business networks, enabling a smooth transition to locating legal services operations here.

LEGAL SERVICES IN LEEDS CITY REGION



**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 14,600 PEOPLE ARE
EMPLOYED IN LEEDS CITY
REGION IN THE LEGAL SECTOR**



**LEEDS CITY REGION
BOASTS OVER 1,560
LEGAL FIRMS**



**8 OF THE 25 LARGEST UK LAW
FIRMS HAVE MAJOR OPERATIONS
IN LEEDS CITY REGION**

With over 114,600¹ people employed in the legal sector at over 1,560² firms, with major firms including the "Big 6":

- DLA Piper
- Addleshaw Goddard
- Squire Patton Boggs
- Eversheds
- Pinsent Masons
- Walker Morris

This extensive legal business base contributes to the £11.5BN¹ GVA of the region's wider financial, business and professional services sector. The City Region boasts a supporting ecosystem of over 165,000³ people employed in the wider financial and professional services ecosystem and a business base of 119,000, which makes it the ideal place to help law firms expand and thrive.

Leeds City Region's legal community is one of the largest and most vibrant in the UK, with a deep pool of experienced legal services employees, with relevant and transferrable skills and expertise. The region is home to an of global law firms serving international clients with specialisms in Real Estate, Intellectual Property, Retail, Finance, International Arbitration, Mergers and Acquisitions, and International Tax.

^{1,3} Source: BRES 2015

² Source: IDBR 2016

DLA PIPER AND SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS BOTH MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FIRMS, HOST THEIR GLOBAL IT AND EUROPEAN SUPPORT SERVICES HUBS RESPECTIVELY IN LEEDS CITY REGION.

Eight of the UK's largest 25 law firms have a major presence in Leeds City Region – DLA Piper, Squire Patton Boggs, Pinsent Masons, Irwin Mitchell, Eversheds, DAC Beachcroft, DWF, and Addleshaw Goddard.

Key players have recently demonstrated their commitment to the region by investing in major new property developments, including -

- **Squire Patton Boggs**, who employ 330 people in Leeds, moved into 32,000 sq ft of office space at 6 Wellington Place when construction was completed in April 2016
- **Addleshaw Goddard** have taken 50,000 sq ft of space at 3 Sovereign Square which they moved into in November 2016
- **Gateleys plc** the UK's first publicly-quoted commercial law firm on the London Stock Exchange, has significantly increased its presence Leeds legal market, moving its growing team into new offices
- **Shulmans** moved into the brand new 10 Wellington Place in 2014, their headcount has since doubled to 155
- In addition, **Shoosmiths** have taken a pre-let at Plaform and will open in Leeds in May 2017

TALENT

Leeds City Region is at the forefront of developing innovative pathways into employment in order to meet the skills and workforce demands of the future. We recognise that ability to recruit suitably qualified candidates is critical to investing and growing your business.

BPP Law School launched a private sector-led legal apprenticeship pilot scheme in the city and its' success led to a national rollout of the scheme.

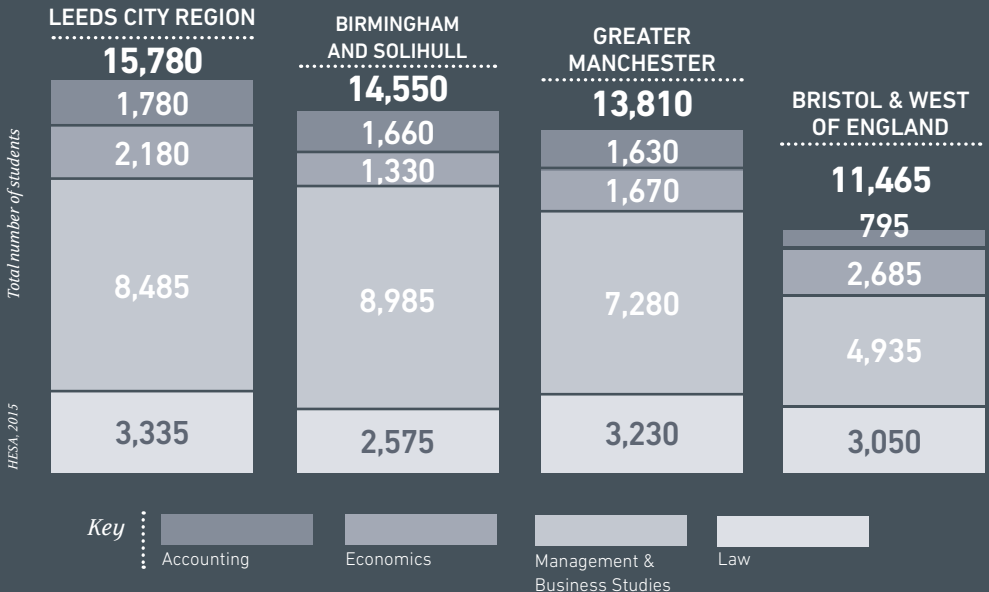
The region is home to nine higher education institutions, which collectively produce a highly skilled talent pipeline that is one of the most multi-disciplined in the UK. It is able to attract and retain graduate talent with 74%, irrespective of where they studied, finding employment in the wider area and only 7% moving to London. (HESA 2015)

The region's higher education cluster includes two Russell Group Universities, the University of Leeds and the University of York, and boasts seven Law Schools across the City Region.

In the Research Excellence Framework 2014, York Law School was joint first for the excellence of its research, 4th for its impact and was ranked overall 5th in the UK, with 46% of its publications classed as 'world leading' (4*) and 34% 'internationally excellent' (3*).

The University of Leeds also ranked in the top 10 for the excellence of its research and research impact, and is one of the top 100 law schools in the world (QS Rankings).

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS



OVER 115,000
MULTI-DISCIPLINED
STUDENTS FROM 150
COUNTRIES STUDY IN
THE REGION

THE LEEDS-LEGAL
APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME,
LED BY THE CITY REGION'S
LEGAL FIRMS, PROVIDES AN
ALTERNATIVE ROUTE INTO
THE LEGAL PROFESSION

8 UNIVERSITY LAW
SCHOOLS AND LEGAL
TRAINING PROVIDERS
PRODUCE OVER 3,000 LAW
GRADUATES ANNUALLY

LEXISNEXIS DEVELOPS SOFTWARE R&D CENTRE IN LEEDS CITY REGION

“This new Leeds facility is a key strategic investment, designed to help us achieve our ambitious business growth targets. We have a clear vision for the development of our integrated product portfolio, and this is an important step in our ongoing evolution.”

ANDY SPARKES,
GENERAL MANAGER,
LEXISNEXIS ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS

LexisNexis Enterprise Solutions, the major services technology solutions provider has established a new centre of excellence in Leeds.

The Centre of Excellence will lead on product development for LexisOne, the company's enterprise resource planning solution for law firms, and Lexis Visualfiles, its legal workflow and case management system.

Over 50% of the top 250 law firms in the UK use LexisNexis Enterprise Solutions' technology. Source: LexisNexis

WELL PLACED FOR SUCCESS



2 HOURS FROM LONDON KING'S CROSS
6 HOURS FROM PARIS AND
BRUSSELS BY TRAIN



**LEEDS/BRADFORD -
HEATHROW UNDER 1
HOUR BY AIR**



**MANCHESTER
AIRPORT**
1 HOUR BY TRAIN

The Hepworth, Wakefield



Cleveland Way, North Yorkshire Moors



first direct arena, Leeds



Cover image: 6 Wellington Place, Leeds

GET IN TOUCH TO FIND OUT MORE

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