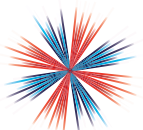


Transforming lives through transport

Leeds City Region Transforming Cities Fund

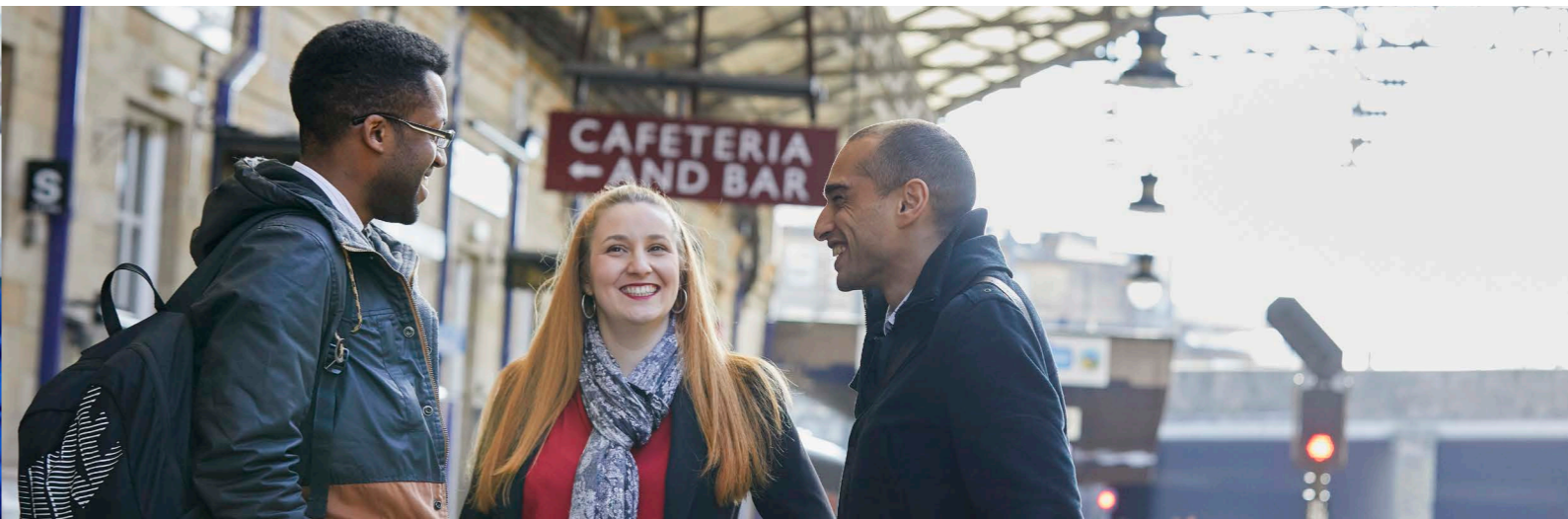
November 2019



**INDUSTRIAL
STRATEGY**

TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

**West
Yorkshire**
Combined
Authority



The Leeds City Region is a growing and vibrant place with huge potential

With a population of more than 3 million people, a Gross Value Added (GVA) of nearly £70bn per annum, and an economy that is set to grow by 47% in real terms by 2036, we are the largest city region economy in the UK, with an output larger than 10 EU countries, and the biggest contributor to the Northern Powerhouse.

92% of people who live in the region also work here. Improving access to jobs by sustainable modes within the City Region is key to tackling the Climate Emergency and boosting quality of life, access to opportunities and productivity for all of our communities.

We want to make sure these improvements benefit as many communities across the region as possible, removing the barrier of accessing an affordable and sustainable transport network for our most disadvantaged communities.

The Transforming Cities Fund will take us a significant step forward to realising our full potential

Building on the success we have delivered through other programmes, such as CityConnect and

Connecting Leeds, where we have been able to provide a step change for people to travel more easily by foot, by bike and by public transport, we intend to deliver these same benefits to more people across the City Region.

The Transforming Cities Fund will be the next major programme of transport infrastructure for our City Region and is essential to reducing reliance on car travel and meeting the Leeds City Region commitment to become a net zero carbon city region by 2038.

As set out in the West Yorkshire Transport Strategy 2040, adopted in 2017, we aim to significantly increase journeys made by public transport, walking and cycling by 2027 – and to reduce car journeys by 3.5% by 2027.

The Transforming Cities Fund will be essential to us achieving this

This programme will support better air quality, and better health and wellbeing for the people who live, work and build their lives here. By connecting more people to economic and education opportunities through affordable, sustainable transport, we will boost productivity and help to create cleaner, healthier and happier communities for the future.

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State for Transport
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

28 November 2019

Dear Secretary of State
Leeds City Region Transforming Cities Fund – Bid Submission

We are pleased to submit to the Department for Transport, the Leeds City Region's submission to the Transforming Cities Fund.

Reliable, affordable, sustainable transport is essential to enable people to access skills and job opportunities, particularly those who face disadvantage, to tackle the climate emergency and to raise our region's productivity. We are shaping our skills, inclusive growth, business support and wider infrastructure programmes to contribute to these objectives. This holistic approach will ensure we have a more significant and meaningful impact on people's lives, on the ability of our businesses and the economy to grow, and on the environment.

Our Transforming Cities Fund package is part of this overall approach. Our submission will deliver a City Region where communities are better able to access a transport network that is more accessible, affordable and attractive. It will also provide people with a more realistic alternative to the car and the choice to make more journeys that are sustainable, healthier, and that ultimately enable our towns and city centres to be re-shaped with people at their heart.

A 21st century transport network is key to creating economic growth around the region, building resilience into communities and helping people to access employment and education opportunities. Through this submission we will address the challenges currently experienced by our most disadvantaged communities, including being cut off from opportunity for employment and not having access to sustainable travel, both for local journeys as well as across the region.

Through the Transforming Cities Fund, we will deliver the future that we want as City Region, one that is responding to a changing economy and the climate emergency, and addresses the concerns and needs of our young people. It will deliver a real step change for our communities across the region, connecting people to economic and education opportunities through affordable, sustainable transport, boosting productivity and helping to create cleaner, healthier and happier communities for the future.

The way we currently analyse the economic benefits of schemes rightly accounts for the impacts on all users. However, we are trying to create a transformational change in behaviour, and to do this we need to put people at the heart of our proposals, to ensure that those walking, cycling or on public transport have the priority they need for a reliable, safe and attractive journey.

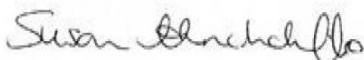
Our approach through the Transforming Cities Fund is to prioritise those using public transport, walking and cycling, as also clearly set out in DfT's guidance. Where we have analysed the benefits to those users, we see a higher value for money for our customers and sustainable transport users. We have a strong strategic case and through TCF we can learn new lessons about how the appraisal system can best support decision-makers in order to contribute to the broader objectives – like tackling inequality and the climate emergency – that we face in the 21st Century.

Through this Programme we will:

- Transform access for our communities of persistent poverty to employment opportunities and skills centres.
- Create smart, clean and liveable places which make cycling and walking the obvious choice for accessing town and city centres – improving air quality and reducing car dominance.
- Transform the public transport and active travel offer from housing and employment sites, ensuring that people are enabled to make sustainable travel choices from day one.
- Make travel by bus an attractive and more reliable offer for commuters through spreading the benefits of 'Connecting Leeds' to the rest of the City Region.

As we work towards economic prosperity for the North, we strongly urge you to respond positively to this submission and its exciting vision for the future of transport in our region.

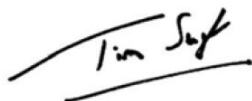
Yours sincerely,



Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe
Chair of West Yorkshire
Combined Authority and Leader,
Bradford Council



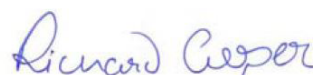
Cllr Kim Groves
Chair of West Yorkshire
Combined Authority Transport
Committee



Cllr Tim Swift MBE
Leader, Calderdale Council



Cllr Richard Foster
Leader, Craven District Council



Cllr Richard Cooper
Leader, Harrogate Borough Council



Cllr Shabir Pandor
Leader, Kirklees Council



Cllr Judith Blake CBE
Leader, Leeds City Council



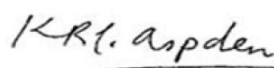
Cllr Carl Les
Leader, North Yorkshire County Council



Cllr Mark Crane
Leader, Selby District Council



Cllr Peter Box CBE
Leader, Wakefield Council

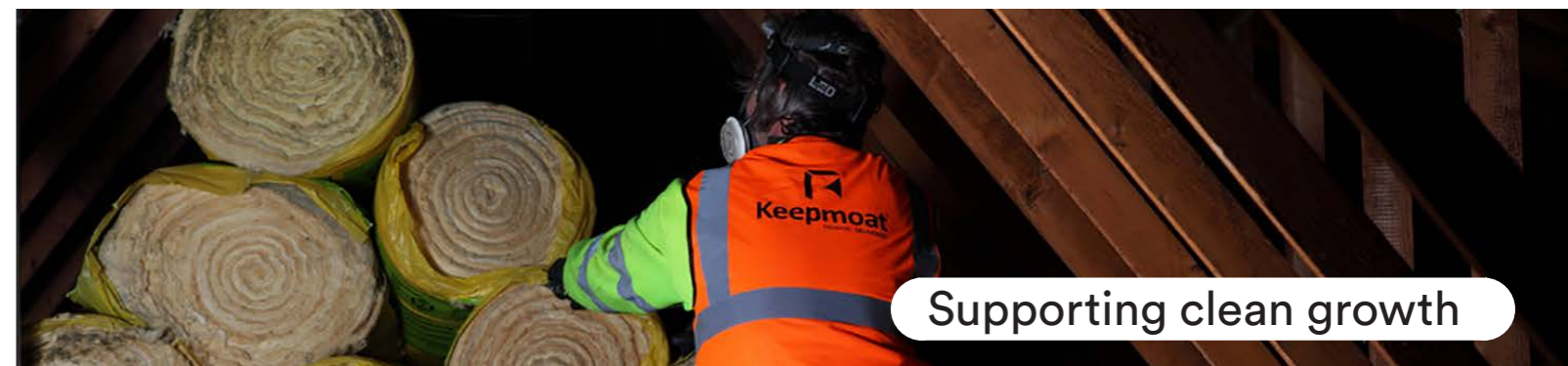


Cllr Keith Aspden
Leader, City of York Council

Connecting people to economic and education opportunities through affordable, sustainable transport, boosting productivity and helping to create cleaner, healthier and happier communities for the future



Boosting productivity



Supporting clean growth



Enabling inclusive growth



Delivering 21st century transport

Creating a cleaner, greener and better connected Leeds City Region

1. Improve journeys by

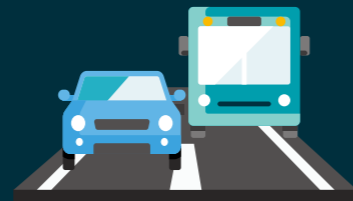


for 1.5 million people

2. Take up to

12 million car trips

per year off our roads by 2036



3. 33 million rail journeys

will be made easier by improvements to rail stations



4.



Increase



bus trips by up to 6%



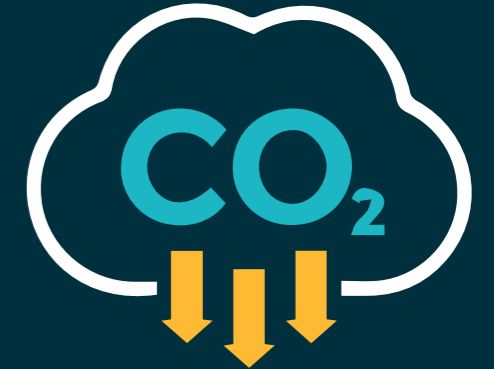
rail trips by up to 4%



walking and cycling by 7%

by 2036 contributing to our targets

5. Against a forecasted increase in carbon emissions from transport, reduce CO2 emissions by up to 1.5% (up to 15,000 tonnes) from car travel by 2036



6.



Create more than 1,100 jobs by 2036



add up to £1 billion to the economy by 2036

7.

Support connectivity to



650 housing sites



220 employment sites

that have the potential to deliver




45,000 new homes



1,573ha employment sites

The Leeds City Region Transforming Cities Fund Programme will deliver



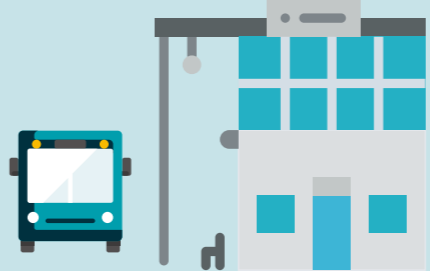
2 new Park & Rides



1 new rail station




4 new foot and cycle bridges



6 new or improved bus stations



new high quality cycle routes along
6 corridors



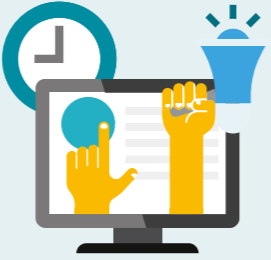
bus priority along
6 key bus routes to create more reliable and faster bus journey times



800 new cycle parking spaces










7 improvements to Rail Station Gateways

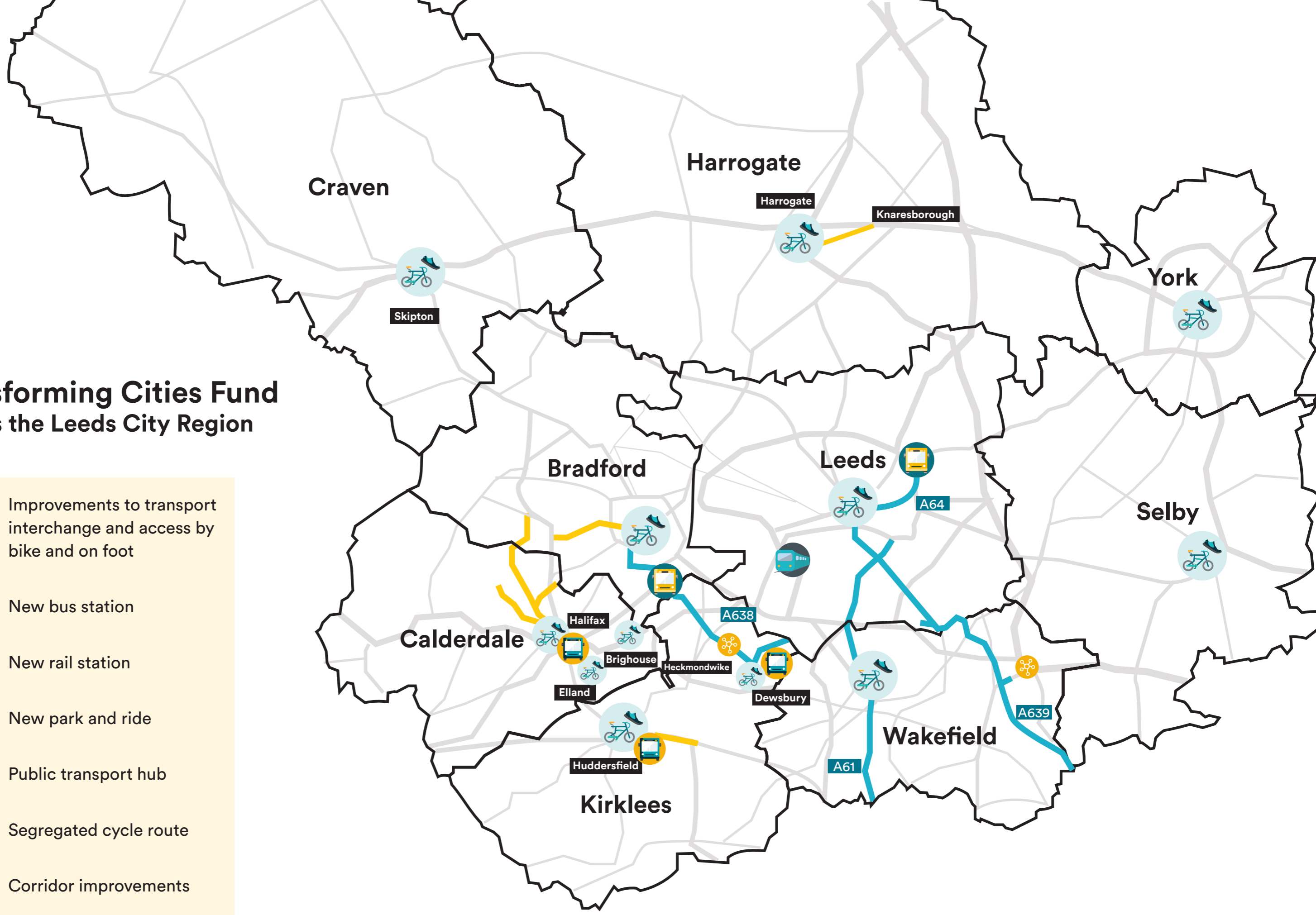


new Real Time Information and improved passenger experience across the network

- Improving access to jobs and skills
- Transforming our town and city centres for walking and cycling
- Enabling direct sustainable access to major development sites including York Central, Olympia Park and White Rose Business Park
- Making bus a more reliable offer across the City Region
- Investing in our places to prepare for HS2, Northern Powerhouse Rail and Transpennine Route Upgrade

Transforming Cities Fund Across the Leeds City Region

-  Improvements to transport interchange and access by bike and on foot
-  New bus station
-  New rail station
-  New park and ride
-  Public transport hub
-  Segregated cycle route
-  Corridor improvements





What this means across the region

Bradford

- Transform the city centre to reduce traffic and improve air quality, creating a pleasant environment for people to move around by public transport, by bike or on foot
- Improved access for people on foot to Bradford Interchange and walking routes between Bradford Interchange and Bradford Forster Square rail stations
- Create transformed connectivity and active travel links between Bradford Interchange and regeneration schemes in the wider city centre
- A new Park and Ride in south Bradford to ease congestion and boost investment in a key development area
- Bus corridor improvements, enabling a 10 minute journey time from the South Bradford Park and Ride to the city centre
- A high quality segregated cycle route linking west Bradford to the city centre connecting communities with employment opportunities and improving cycling links for the university



What this means across the region

Calderdale

- Improve access to Halifax rail station, including a new footbridge
- New bus facility for Halifax linked to the Calderdale College site which is due to open in January 2020
- Make the centre of Halifax more accessible; enabling people to travel more easily by bike or on foot into and across the town centre
- High quality segregated cycle route linking north Halifax to the town centre
- Improved routes by bike or on foot to the new Elland rail station
- New cycling and walking routes through Brighouse town centre



What this means across the region

Craven

- Skipton rail station and bus station will be better connected through improved routes for people travelling on foot or by bike
- Enhanced cycling and walking routes will link Skipton Academy and Craven College with the town centre as well as high value jobs in financial, engineering and technology sectors
- These schemes will support the delivery of the wider masterplan for Skipton and support future employment growth. They will transform the town centre to encourage more journeys by active or sustainable modes and reduce congestion



What this means across the region

Harrogate

- Access to Harrogate rail station and bus station will be made easier through the creation of a more pedestrian friendly environment
- New cycle and walking routes will provide improved access across and to the town centre and the north of Harrogate better connecting people with healthcare, employment and new housing developments
- A new high quality segregated cycle route to Knaresborough will provide a step change in cycle connectivity to Harrogate, Starbeck and Knaresborough rail stations
- Transforming Cities Fund will support regeneration plans in Harrogate Town Centre and ensure that rail franchise improvements are maximised



What this means across the region

Kirklees

- Transform access to Dewsbury town centre with a revitalised bus station and high quality walking and cycling routes within the town centre and to Kirklees College
- Public transport to and within Huddersfield town centre will be improved, with a refurbished bus station, upgrades to Huddersfield Rail Station and new cycling and walking routes linking the stations and their wider catchments. These improvements will support the delivery of the Transpennine Route Upgrade
- A new high quality segregated cycle route will link Huddersfield town centre to east Huddersfield
- Improvements to bus interchange and waiting facilities with a new bus hub at Heckmondwike
- Improvements to bus reliability and cycling between Batley and a major development site at Chidswell and on towards Leeds



What this means across the region

Leeds

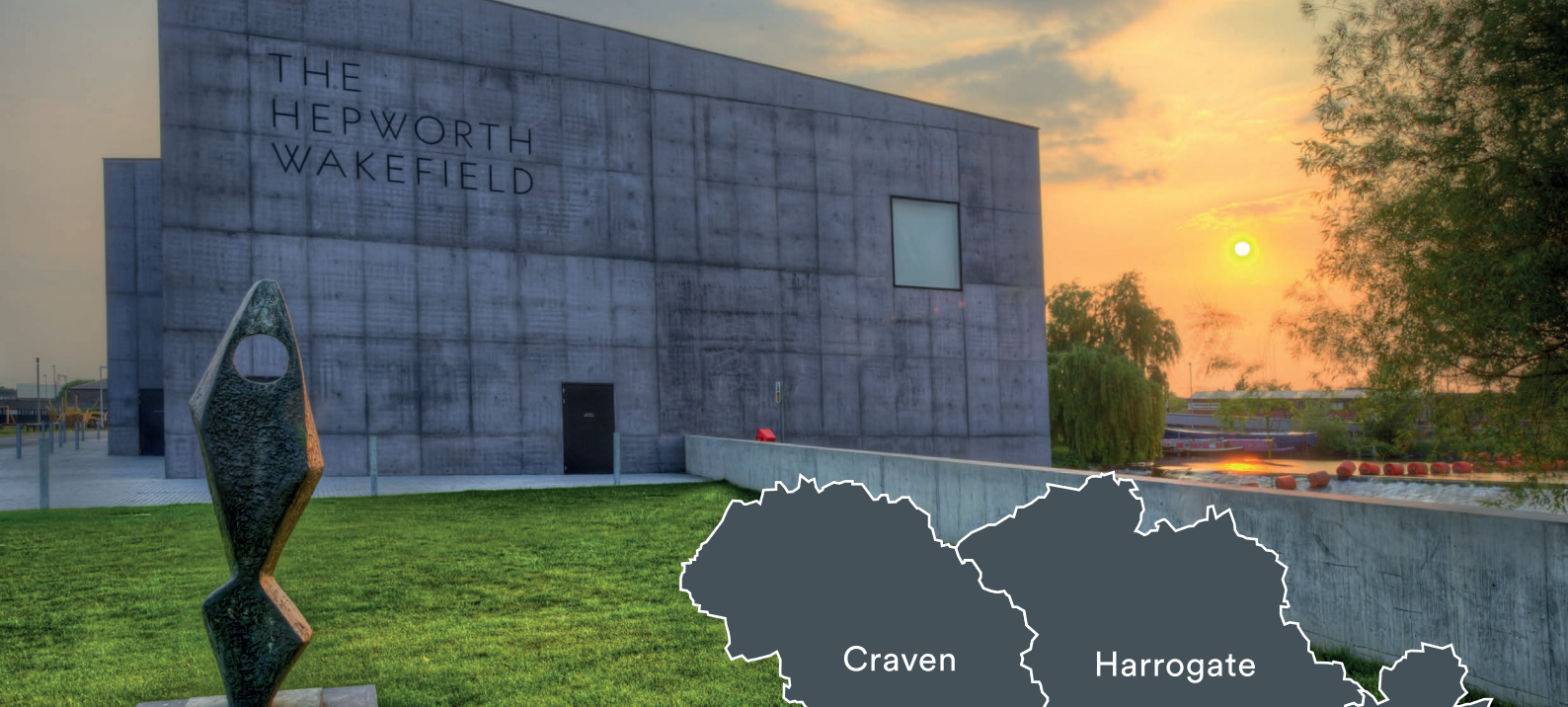
- Major works to the front of Leeds rail station will improve access for people travelling to the station by foot or on bike, including a 700 space secure cycle parking facility
- Improvements to Leeds rail station will help prepare the city for delivery of High Speed 2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail
- New high quality cycle infrastructure will link communities on the edge of the city centre, enabling more people to access Leeds city centre and new jobs and colleges in Leeds South Bank by bike
- New bus priority measures to east Leeds will improve capacity for commuters travelling from the east of the City Region to Leeds city centre. This will also reduce congestion and improve reliability for residents and commuters
- A new rail station at White Rose will increase capacity to accommodate future employment growth, support access to key employment and retail centres and provide an interchange between bus and rail services. Communities of Churwell, Millshaw and Cottingley will have greater access to jobs and education opportunities through these improvements



What this means across the region

Selby

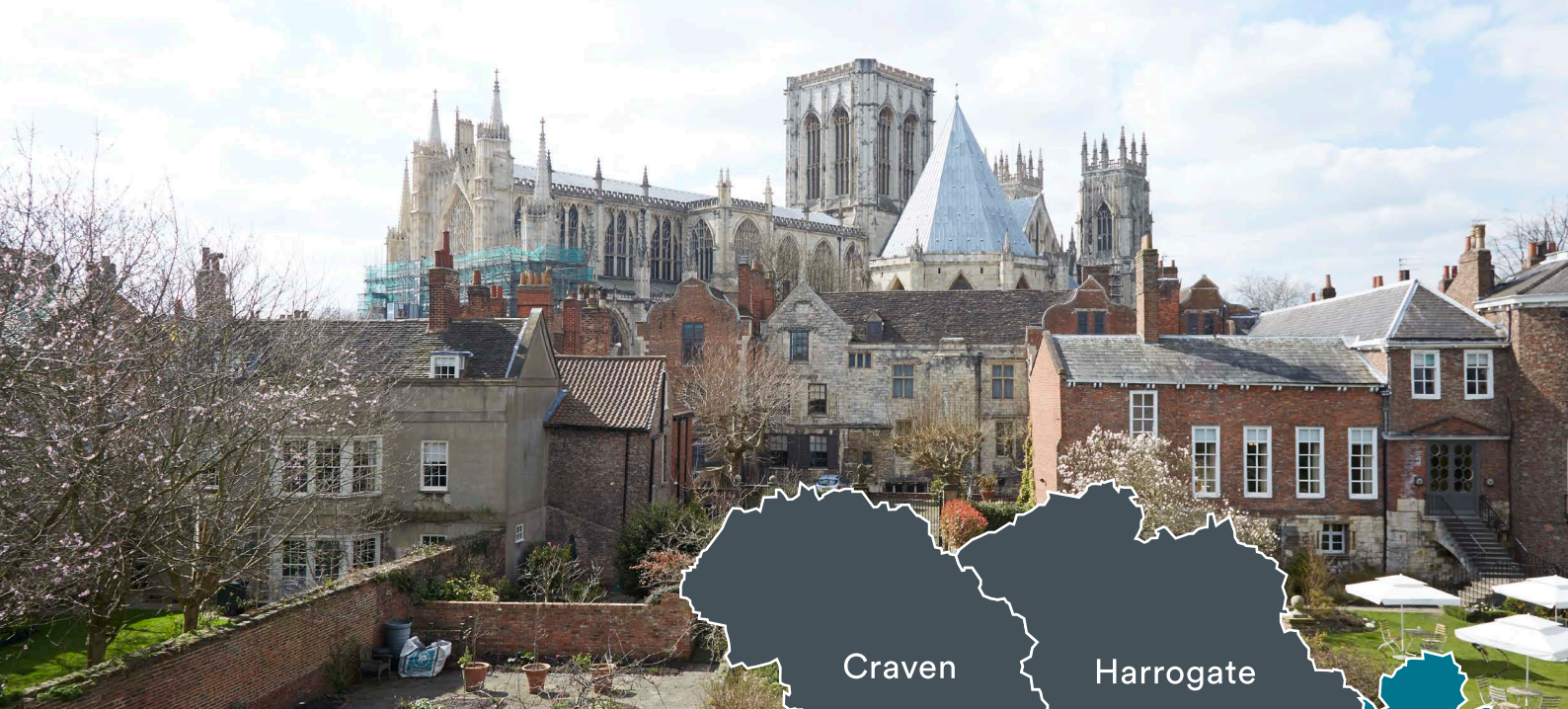
- Selby rail station will be placed at the heart of new housing and employment developments through new cycling and walking routes to the town centre, housing and employment sites
- A new station plaza for Selby rail station will improve accessibility and passenger experience
- Connections to Selby bus station will be improved through a new bus and rail interchange
- A new footbridge will provide direct access to the Olympia Park site, the town's primary future employment site



What this means across the region

Wakefield

- Wakefield city centre will be transformed with a reduction of traffic in the Northern and Civic Quarters, complemented by enhancements made to cycle and walking routes
- This includes a new cycle route between Wakefield Kirkgate rail station towards the town centre and improved access to Wakefield bus station by foot
- This will be complemented by new bus priority and cycling and walking infrastructure on the A61 and A639 corridors, improving journeys by sustainable modes between Leeds and Wakefield



What this means across the region

York

- Access to York rail station will be transformed for future growth
- The front of the station reconfigured to improve capacity for pedestrians, cyclists and create an improved bus and taxi interchange – greatly improving access by sustainable modes
- New cycling and walking routes into the station from the city centre will improve accessibility
- These improvements will also support York Central, a major development site behind the station, set for 90,000m² commercial space and 2,500 new homes

The Leeds City Region: Transforming Cities Fund submission has been developed in partnership by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority with our partners across the region

