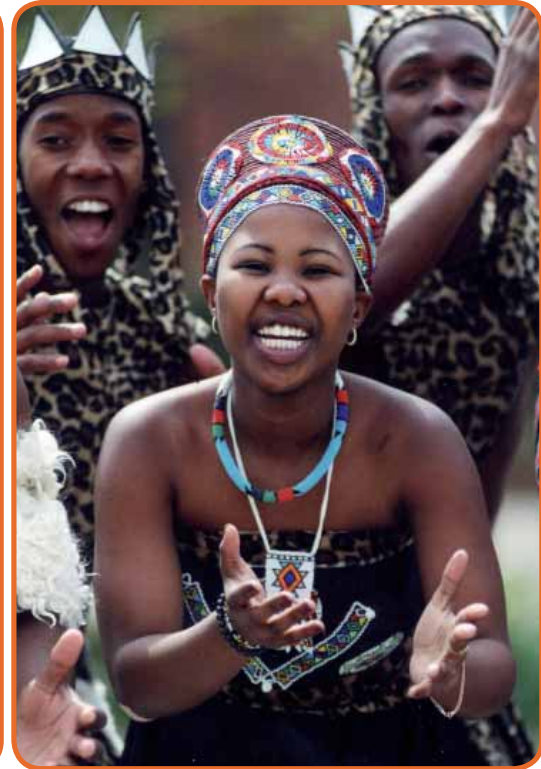




International Leeds



The International Relations team aims to bring the benefits of international cooperation to Leeds, in support of Leeds City Council's priorities.





Our priorities

THROUGH OUR INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS WE WORK ACROSS ALL THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITY AREAS, RANGING FROM LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION TO ARTS AND CULTURE.

IN CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, WE HELP TO INTERNATIONALISE LEEDS AND PROMOTE A SENSE OF A GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP.

WE WORK CLOSELY WITH COUNCIL SERVICES AND OTHER PARTNERS TO MAXIMISE THE AMOUNT OF EXTERNAL FUNDING COMING INTO THE CITY, FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, GOVERNMENT BODIES AND OTHER FUNDERS.



Health & wellbeing

We want to create a city of healthy people, mindful of their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others across the world. We explore ways in which other countries and cultures promote healthy living, and create opportunities to promote the exchange of best practice in health, wellbeing and sport.

We encourage local sport teams to participate in international tournaments and competitions, as a means of bringing different cultures together and enhancing cultural understanding.

Safer & stronger communities

Through internationalising the city and its communities, and in promoting inter-cultural understanding and tolerance, we work to create safer communities, free of racism and xenophobia for the people of Leeds. We work in partnership with the police and other relevant services and organisations to identify and exchange best practice models from around the world.

Regeneration

We research examples of successful approaches to regeneration and development across the world. We seek opportunities to coordinate technical exchange of know-how between local authority practitioners and elected members in Leeds and their counterparts in Europe and beyond.

Working with local people

We support many communities and diaspora in Leeds through international projects and events with a view to encouraging harmonious communities and supporting community cohesion.



Children & young people

We work with schools and youth groups to create opportunities for young people to explore other cultures and languages and to recognise their rights and responsibilities as global citizens. In this way we enable our young people to gain the skills, knowledge and inter-cultural awareness, which they will need to thrive in an increasingly globalised and interdependent economy.

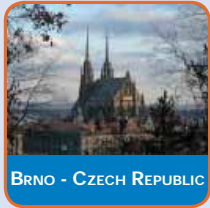
Sustainable economy & culture

We coordinate a city wide partnership for business support agencies and use our networks both at home and abroad to give Leeds leverage in accessing new international trade and business opportunities. We promote best practice projects in the field of innovation, business support and procurement to give the city a competitive advantage in the global economy.

Leeds' cultural life is a key asset that we promote and enhance through international cultural and artistic exchanges, exhibitions and performances.

Our international partnerships

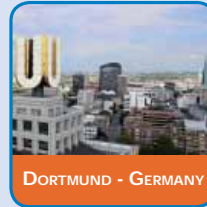
We build partnerships with cities, embassies, government departments and funding bodies throughout the world and work closely with our partner cities to achieve our international priorities through a variety of different projects.



BRNO - CZECH REPUBLIC

WE EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICE ON SERVICES FOR GYPSY AND ROMA TRAVELLERS TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY COHESION IN LEEDS AND BRNO.

WE HAVE BROUGHT EXHIBITIONS, CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC EXCHANGES TO LEEDS ON THE BACK OF THE RUHR VALLEY EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE, IN WHICH DORTMUND WAS AN ACTIVE PARTNER.



DORTMUND - GERMANY



DURBAN - SOUTH AFRICA

OUR EXPERTS IN PROCUREMENT AND BUSINESS SUPPORT HAVE WORKED TOGETHER WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN DURBAN TO EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICE IN THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES.

WITH CHINA HOSTING THE OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS IN 2008 AND THE UK IN 2012, OUR SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICE IN DISABILITY SPORTS.



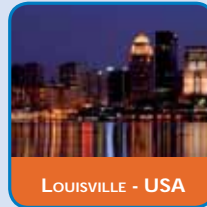
HANGZHOU - CHINA



LILLE - FRANCE

WE ARE LINKING LEEDS AND LILLE PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO HELP THEM TO INTRODUCE MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES INTO THE CURRICULUM AND TO BROADEN THE HORIZONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

COOPERATION WITH THE MUHAMMAD ALI CENTER IN LOUISVILLE IS BEING EXPLORED TO PROMOTE CULTURAL AND RACIAL HARMONY IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM.



LOUISVILLE - USA



SIEGEN - GERMANY

WE BRING TOGETHER COMMUNITY GROUPS FROM LEEDS AND SIEGEN THROUGH, FOR EXAMPLE, EXCHANGES FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND FOR SPORTS AND SCHOOL GROUPS.

Leeds also has links, and works on joint projects with friendship cities including Ballina (Ireland), Barcelona (Spain), Brasov (Romania), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dnipropetrovsk (Ukraine), Nis (Serbia) and Saint Mary (Jamaica).

Local partnerships

Our local partnerships are equally important when it comes to the Council's international work.

We work closely with business support organisations, universities, colleges, schools and the voluntary and community sector.

Increasingly we work with private sector companies to strengthen the position of Leeds in the global economy.



International Leeds

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