



WIG

The Whitehall & Industry Group
connecting the sectors



'Technology & Digital' Series SMART LEEDS - Building a smart city

Expert Insight

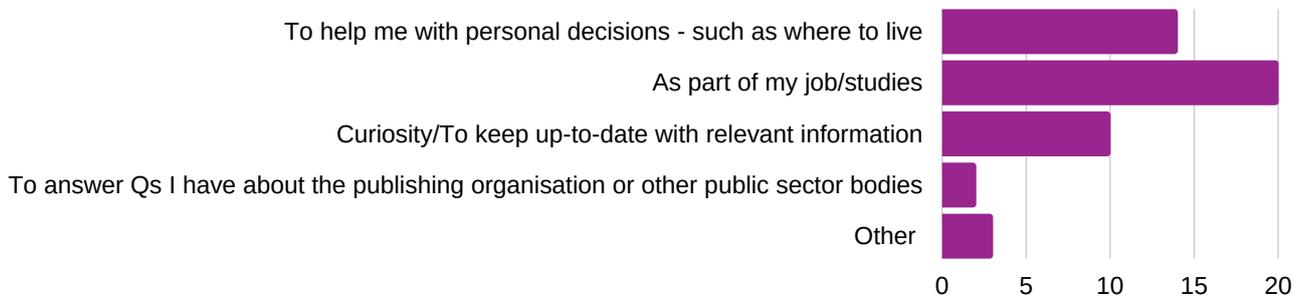
We were joined by Stephen Blackburn, Data & Innovation Manager, Leeds City Council to share insight into the work being undertaken through the SMART LEEDS programme, as the council strives to make Leeds the best place to live, work and visit. He touched on points including:



- The foundations of the programme, built around open data, digital inclusion, and collaboration.
- The living labs or 'mini smart cities' which have been established to trial initiatives before being deployed at scale.
- The key priority areas for Leeds, including health & wellbeing, housing standards, travel & transport, and climate change.
- The success of some initiatives such as Careview, an app which helps address social isolation, which has now been picked up by other cities across the UK and Europe.

Cross-sector Opinion

Over 70 WIG members from across the sectors tuned in live, we asked them: What would be the main reason you would search for information on a city or national data repository?



Our members' questions

The attendees raised a number of important questions, some of the issues discussed included:

- How the Full Fibre Network is funded and the timescale of funding income and spend.
- Where Leeds City Council has had success in getting the private sector to release data and any tips in how to succeed.
- The extent to which the consideration of cyber security issues is built into the development of smart city projects.
- The most appropriate funding channels for smart concepts/ innovative propositions and whether going forward it will be about making them self-funding.

WIG members can listen to Stephen's presentation [here](#)
To see our full programme of webinars, visit www.wig.co.uk