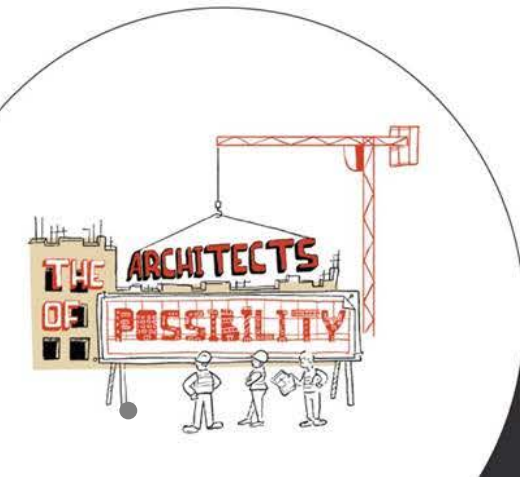


Leeds Living Lab: The journey so far

Thom Cooper

Sustainability Programme Officer

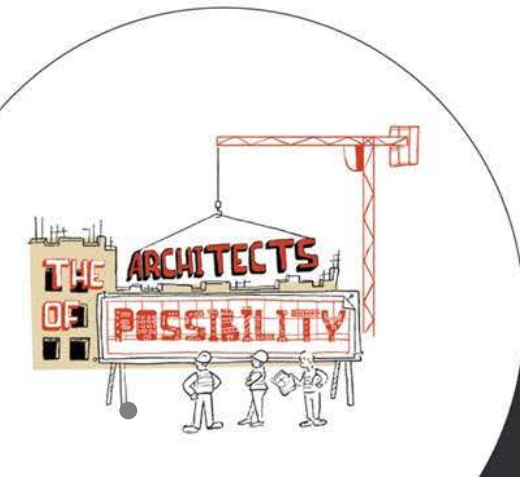
t.c.s.cooper@leeds.ac.uk



Overview

- How we developed the Programme
- Our purpose and principles
- How it works
- Case studies

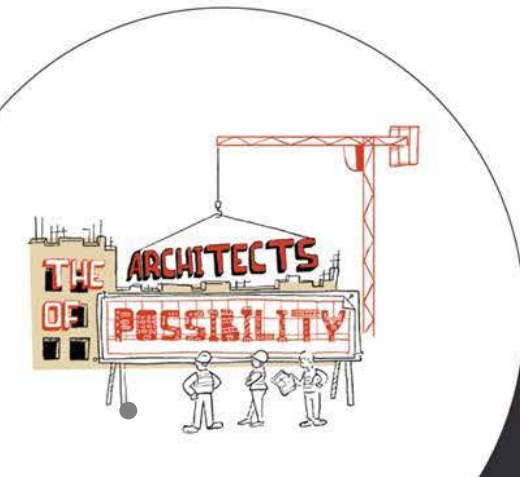
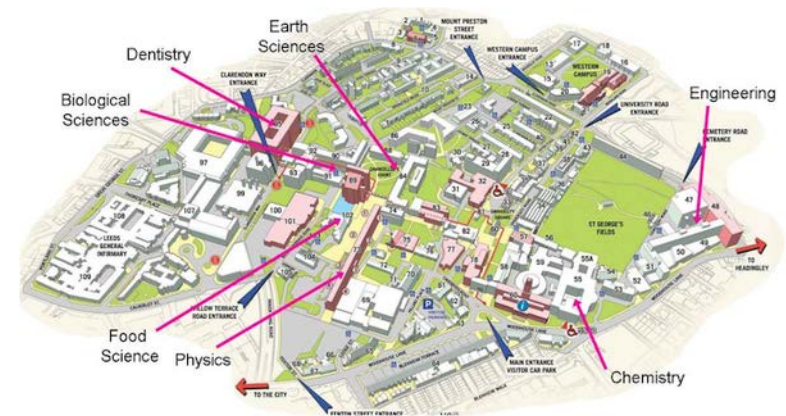
#LivingLabUoL



Developing the Leeds Living Lab

Key things to keep in mind:

- We didn't start from scratch
- Lots of external good practice
- Needed to establish what a living lab was to us
- EAUC principles and guidance

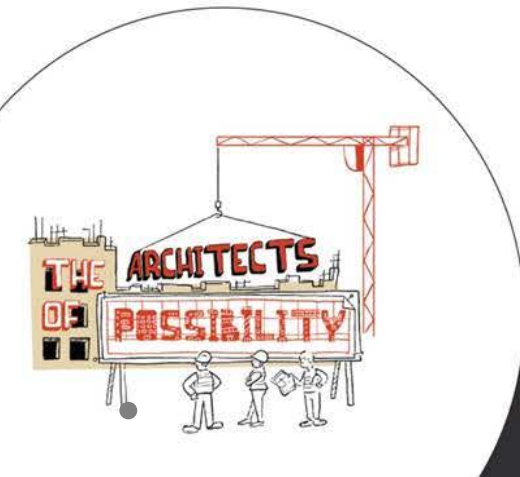




PRINCIPLE

CORE PRINCIPLE

Real-world sustainability challenges	Yes
Formal participation	Yes
Stakeholder partnerships	Yes
Co-creation and co-implementation of transformations	No
Transdisciplinarity	No
Learning Loops	No
Geographically-bounded test-bed	No



SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

OUR VISION

We will become a university where sustainability is truly embedded through knowledge, engagement, collaboration and innovation. Each and every one of our staff and students will understand the principles of sustainability – it will be an integral part of our operations and will bring about positive, sustainable change for the future.

OUR PRINCIPLES

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY
EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY
SHARING OUR SKILLS, SPACES, KNOWLEDGE AND VALUES
CHALLENGING OURSELVES AND OTHERS

1 Embedding sustainability through collaboration

Commitments

- We will embed sustainability across the whole University.
- We will create and support proactive collaborative networks.
- We will develop robust management systems.
- We will establish governance and accountability structures that drive sustainability and place it at the heart of our institution.



2 Building knowledge and capacity

Commitments

- We will work across University departments to build capacity and share best practice around sustainable change.
- We will equip all our staff with sustainability skills.
- We will develop external links to enhance knowledge and capacity.
- We will support and promote research that examines the issues relating to sustainability.
- We will integrate sustainability into learning programmes and ensure all our students understand the importance of sustainability.



3 Being a positive partner in society

Commitments

- We will build external engagement to further develop internal and external capacity and knowledge, and influence wider policies.
- We will lead by example, share best practice, learn from others and ensure our research is accessible.
- We will take our responsibility to society seriously, as an employer, good neighbour and in creating opportunities.
- We will support our students to be responsible citizens and an active part of society, both locally and globally.
- We will create a welcoming, culturally and environmentally vibrant campus.



4 Making the most of resources

Commitments

- We will reduce our consumption of goods and services.
- We will embed sustainability into the procurement process.
- We will reduce the amount of waste we produce.
- We will enhance biodiversity on campus.
- We will use water efficiently and reduce, reuse and recycle where possible.
- We will become a low carbon university, through energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions.
- We will foster a staff and student body where sustainable travel is the norm.



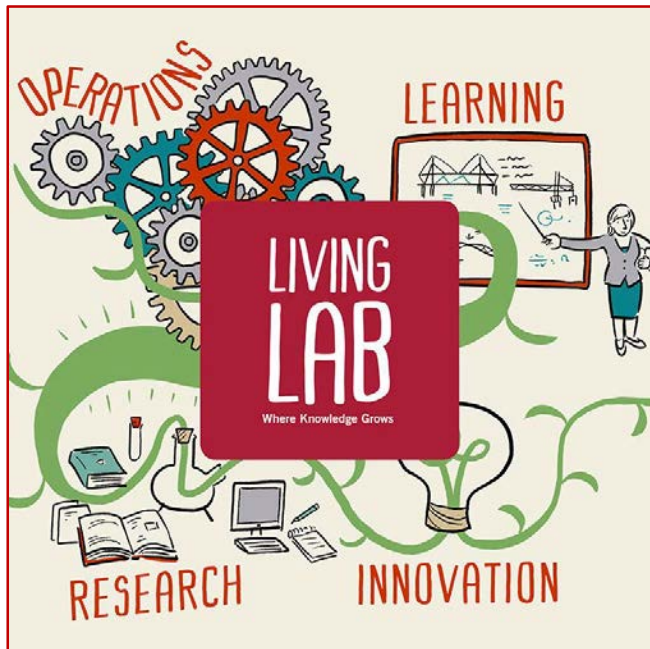
ACTION PLAN

GOVERNANCE & MONITORING

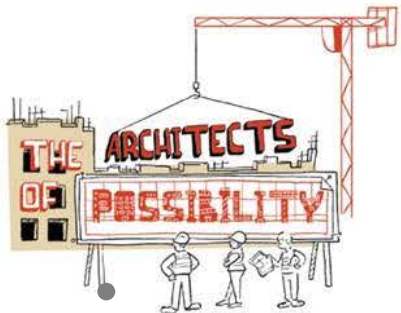
FEEDBACK & REVIEW

FOUR THEMES

The Leeds Living Lab...



...brings together colleagues and partners from research, teaching and operational teams to co-produce innovative and transformational solutions to real-world sustainability challenges, using the campus as a test-bed. It is interdisciplinary and drives continual, sustainable improvement by tackling global challenges at the local scale.



Our principles

Align with and underpin the University's Strategic Plan and Sustainability Strategy

Support the Research Themes; be about people, processes and infrastructure

Integrate sustainability-related research, student education and University operations

Identify, test and embed transformational solutions to 'real world' challenges

University-based solutions; scalable and transferable to our cities and regions

Co-created and participatory to drive experimental learning and enhanced participation

Interdisciplinary and delivered in partnership for mutual benefit to increase impact

Playing a leading role in the global debate and development of sustainable living labs

How it works...

- Identifying, developing and facilitating projects
- Identifying funding, match funding and seedcorn funding, supporting applications
- Programme management – all the parts as a whole!
- Network growth and development – key groups, events and teams
- Communications and engagement – promoting and celebrating what we're doing



Air Quality Living Lab

Summary: Launching at the end of November 2017, this project has begun to monitor, measure and map air quality across the University campus. The team have developed a web-based dashboard to present the data and maps to staff and students (and externally) for research and analysis as well as providing vital insights for consideration in campus management and development. Further extensions of the project in 2018 will see work on commuter exposure and relationships between indoor and outdoor air quality

Partners: School of Earth & Environment, Sustainability Research Institute, Estates Services, School of Civil Engineering, Institute of Transport Studies, Sustainability Service

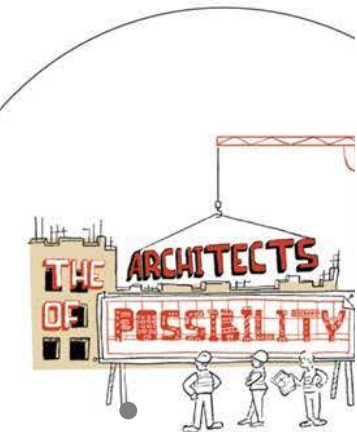
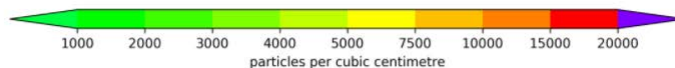


Air Quality Living Lab

Outputs: A map of campus air quality zones, an online dashboard of air quality with open data, recommendations for air quality improvement, commuter exposure engagement and awareness for staff and students

Impact: The ability to influence management and decision making (University, City scale and beyond) for the benefit of health, wellbeing and environment e.g. University Travel Plan. Improved health and wellbeing of staff and student commuters. Scalable and transferable method through open data and highly relevant to the Leeds Clean Air Zone.

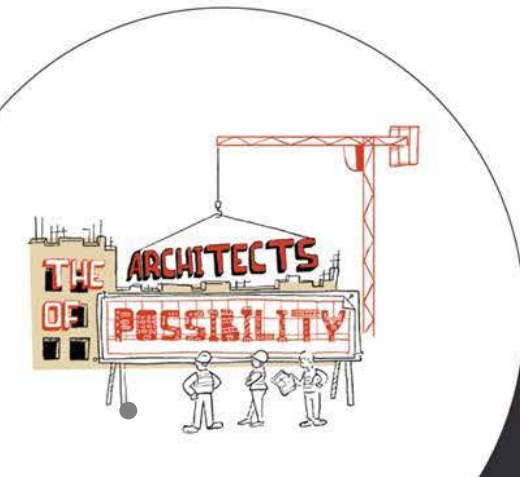
Concentration map for all walks on 2018-01-29



iTree Leeds: Campus Survey

Summary: A natural capital assessment of the trees and green spaces on campus, this project began as a pilot study for wider research across the City. It has already hosted two student placements, produced two dissertations, and engaged fourteen student volunteers, delivered a workshop for Facilities Directorate colleagues and a community engagement day.

Partners: School of Earth & Environment, Leeds4Trees (including Leeds City Council), Estates Services, EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Bioenergy.



iTree Leeds: Campus Survey

Outputs: Natural capital valuation of campus trees, database of financial value of campus tree services, pilot for city-wide rollout, recommendations for applying the information in decision making e.g. most valuable trees to protect, most valuable species to plant and where

Impact: Enhanced ability to take environmental costs and opportunities into account in campus development decision making. A scalable tool trialled for the benefit of the City and relevant globally.



Other projects

- SuDS and biofiltration
- Living Lab for Food Waste
- Last Mile Deliveries
- Mixed Ability Sports
- Co-created, interdisciplinary, research-led teaching space on campus...



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