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# HUNSLET STRAY

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“Leeds City College is pleased to be supporting the Leeds Sustainable Development Group and Sustrans in their work delivering the Stray that will not only provide a safe, direct link from Leeds Bridge to our Campus, but will also start the process of reconnecting Leeds city centre with the South Bank, Hunslet and Middleton”.

Peter Roberts  
Principal and Chief Executive  
Leeds City College

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# INTRODUCTION

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“A cleaner, greener city” is one of the top seven priorities that emerged from the consultation that is now part of the ‘Vision for Leeds 2011 to 2030’ to be the ‘Best City in the UK’.

The Hunslet Stray initiative responds to this and is based on site specific guidance in the Leeds City Council’s ‘South Bank Planning Statement’. The Leeds Sustainable Development Group, in association with Sustrans, has established a partnership with landowners and stakeholders located adjacent to Hunslet Road. Together we are seeking to increase the already impressive level of support for the immediate delivery of the Stray. This part of Hunslet Road forms an important axis between two significant Leeds landmarks: Leeds Bridge and Alf Cooke Printworks, now the Leeds City College Printworks Campus, providing an opportunity to establish a much needed, traffic-free pedestrian and cycle route which will also connect with The Tetley Centre for Contemporary Art and Learning and the new Leeds College of Building site at Hunslet Lane.

The Hunslet Stray will link with further proposed pedestrian and cycle routes to Hunslet, Holbeck and Beeston to the City Centre to the north and to the proposed Aire Valley development area to the east. There is also an opportunity to link with other local routes connecting key areas within the South Bank and, most significantly, with the proposed ‘Cycle Superhighway’ linking East Leeds and Bradford to the north of Leeds Bridge.

The Creation of the Hunslet Stray will act as a catalyst for the delivery of a wide variety of significant projects in the New South Bank area in the heart of the city centre.



Existing View of Hunslet Road from Leeds Bridge

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# VISION

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## The Hunslet Stray will...

- provide additional green infrastructure to help adapt the city to climate change allowing mitigation against flooding and aiding urban cooling within the city
- re-establish this forgotten part of Hunslet Road, an important part of the history of the city
- transform and improve access for pedestrians and cyclists between the City Centre and The Tetley Centre for Contemporary Art & Learning, the City College Printworks Campus and the Leeds College of Building Campus
- provide a direct link with various new developments, both proposed and potential, within a new high quality public realm
- be the first of a series of new 'green-links' with a significant improvement in the bio-diversity of the area
- create opportunities for families and young people to spend time outdoors by providing appropriate facilities
- deliver an early part of the proposed City Centre Park for a more active/ outdoor way of life improving health and wellbeing, particularly for young people
- reconnect the South Bank to the City Centre, linking with a new green park on Meadow Lane and a proposed new pedestrian/cycle bridge leading to the Sovereign Street pocket park
- reconnect the City Centre on both sides of the river to the Aire Valley, Hunslet, Beeston and Middleton
- acts as a catalyst for sustainable infrastructure and residential (family) development in the South Bank
- provide the opportunity for a ground-breaking, truly public/private partnership with strong civic leadership and positive community engagement





Leeds City College Printworks Building

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# VISION

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## Projects will include...

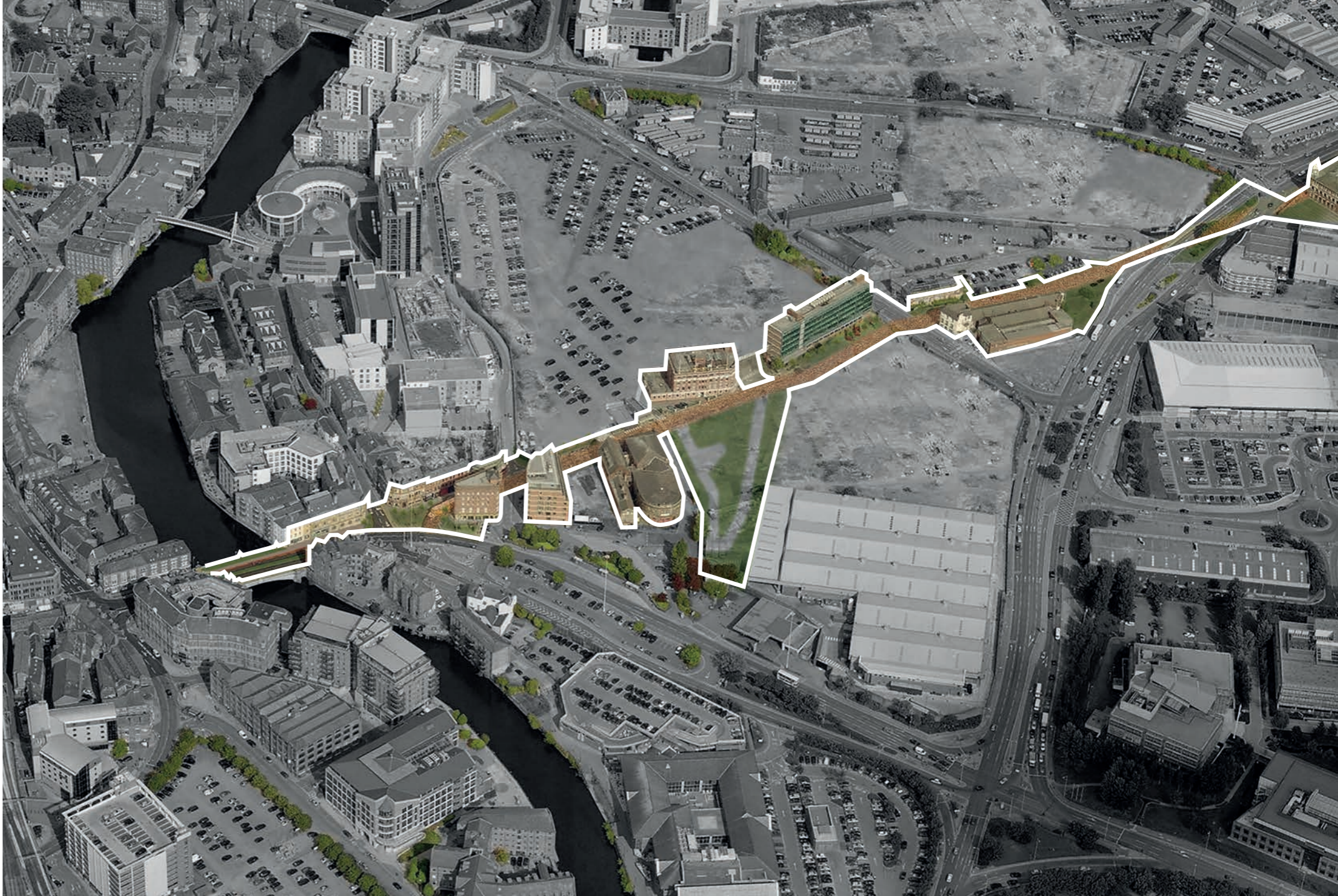
- high quality green infrastructure and highways at a variety of scales which may include new trees, green roofs, pocket parks and places to sit
- a 'Heritage Trail' - a significant educational/tourist facility using 'state of the art' technology to communicate the importance of this part of our city and to be a part of the 'cultural' offer
- contemporary arts activity to improve the landscape and to engage residents and visitors
- the revitalisation, restoration and greening of Leeds Bridge and its approaches
- an open-air, multi-purpose arena and a Winter Garden for both formal and informal events
- internet connectivity as part of the 'digital' ambition for Leeds to be ahead of the game for the development of a 'large scale' truly sustainable urban community within our city centre
- subsequent development of the surrounding 'brownfield' land, contributing to a prospect for residential developers to start family accommodation in the city centre
- the reduction in the over provision of roads in this part of our city centre
- heat networks, waste re-cycling, sustainable urban drainage, and 'Smart Energy' systems contributing to the 'low carbon city' agenda
- the 'greening' of Bridge End and Meadow Lane to provide a real incentive for the early provision of a new pedestrian bridge across the river from the Sovereign Street 'pocket park' providing a green link to the new South Entrance to Leeds City Station and onwards to the cycle / pedestrian routes along the Leeds Liverpool canal and Aire / Calder Navigation



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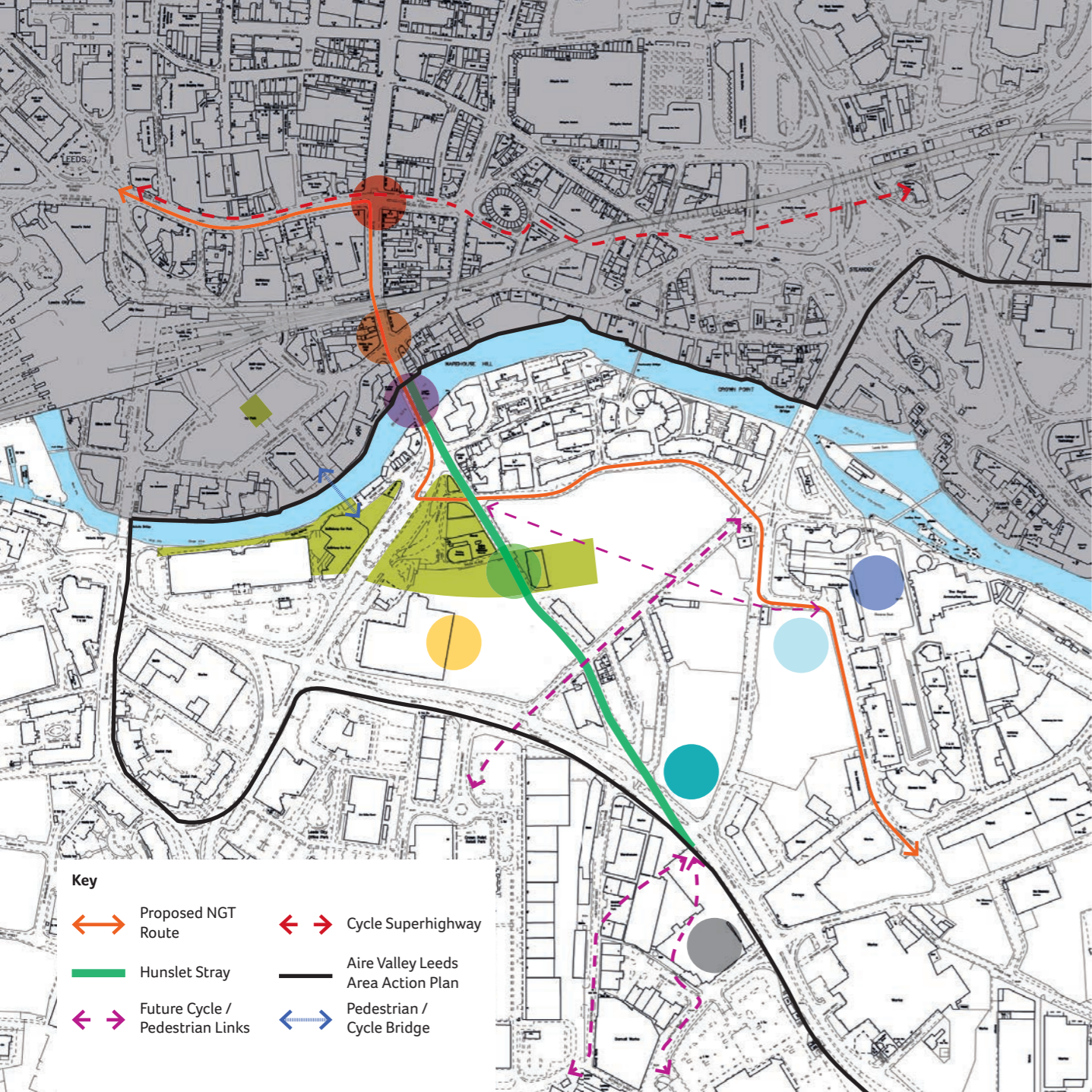
# VISION

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# CONTEXT



The Leeds Bradford 'Cycle Superhighway' provides the opportunity for the Hunslet Stray to connect to a wide network of cycle routes. March 2015.



The well-established route of the 'Trans -Pennine Trail' will link with the Hunslet Stray to the north of Leeds Bridge.



Leeds Dock has a comprehensive 'renewal' project that will facilitate a local link to the Hunslet Stray launching 2014.



LCC's 'South Bank Planning Statement' proposes Office, Leisure, Community, Educational, Hotels & Residential development in the New Lane area, adopted October 2011.



The Tetley Centre for Contemporary Art & Learning has a new green area adjacent to the route of the stray, opened November 2013.



NGT will facilitate the revitalisation and restoration of Leeds Bridge, a historic river crossing. The present cast iron road bridge dates from 1730 and is Grade II Listed.



Leeds College of Building 'New Campus' due for completion January 2015.



Leeds Dock proposed NGT stop the first part of an integrated rapid transport system for Leeds 2019 / 2020.



City Centre Park as LCC's South Bank Planning Statement. Adopted October 2011 with pedestrian/ cycle link across river to Sovereign Street as LCC's Planning Statement. Adopted July 2011.



Leeds City College new 'Printworks Campus', at the Grade II Listed Alf Cooke Printworks has already contributed to the regeneration of the New South Bank area, opened September 2013.





Proposed View of Hunslet Stray from Crown Point Road

# WAY FORWARD

Various activities have already commenced to progress the delivery of the Hunslet Stray and each of the activities can be usefully identified as 'projects'. The required resource to progress these has been provided by Contributors to the Leeds Sustainable Development Group by a 'Project Champion' and/or where appropriate, a 'Sponsor'.

Already identified activities:

- Green Infrastructure
- Heritage
- Digital Ambition
- Contemporary Arts Activity
- Low Carbon City
- Pedestrian Bridge
- Open Air Arena
- Winter Garden
- Family Residential Accommodation

The Leeds Sustainable Development Group's 'Hunslet Stray Working Group' with active support from a wide range of interested parties has already commenced delivery of the necessary actions to 'open-up' the route.

To facilitate the 'projects' associated with the creation of the Hunslet Stray, the following key steps are proposed:

- Formalise the established project management, design and delivery team.
- Establish and pursue all available sources of funding (already commenced) to facilitate a strategic appraisal, a project brief and the management, design and delivery of the project.
- Create a strong working relationship with key Members and Officers within the Leeds City Region, to establish an effective public/private working partnership.
- Liase with the local community and landowners not already involved, to facilitate strong community engagement and the widest possible consultation.
- Prepare a strategic appraisal of the Hunslet Stray in the context of the potential bid for the European City of Culture bid, as a 'baseline' before a detailed brief is established.
- Establish an outline programme for delivery.
- Prepare a cost plan and risk register.



Prospectus prepared by Architecture 519 and Root3 on behalf of the Leeds Sustainable Development Group and Sustrans with graphic design by The Archipelago.

Thank you to the following for their valuable support:

architecture<sup>519</sup>



YORKSHIRE  
DESIGN  
GROUP



aql

root3



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A CLEANER,  
GREENER CITY

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