



LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY  
**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A  
PROSPEROUS NORTH**



## An introduction from our Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Slee

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Leeds Beckett University is one of a network of 31 Northern Powerhouse universities. Together we comprise one of the strongest sectors in our regional economy: contributing £18bn to GDP and sustaining over 150,000 jobs. We make a formidable contribution to the Northern Powerhouse skills base by educating and training some 518,000 highly skilled people every year. For every £1 we spend on enterprise and innovation interventions we help generate a further £9.70 in downstream economic effects. We are major exporters of education. The Northern Powerhouse universities generate £2.1bn in international export earnings gathered from almost every country in the world. And as major businesses and employers in our own right we are major purchasers of goods via complex supply chains, which create and sustain jobs across our region.

Universities all understand the challenges facing our region. We need to attract and retain more graduates. We need to help drive educational attainment at every level in our society. We need to find ways to reach out to small and medium sized businesses with the support they need to help them grow. And we need to shout louder for a place around the policy-making tables to help ensure the benefits of our world class higher education system are fully realised.

Leeds Beckett University is fully committed to working in partnership with organisations and employers across the North not just to drive growth, but to help everyone participate in it, and benefit from it. We look forward to meeting and talking with you and finding ways we can work together to forward these aims.

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## BUILDING CREDIBLE AND APPLIED RESEARCH WITHIN THE NORTH AND FOR THE WORLD

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Our diverse research areas match industry challenges on a local, national and international scale. External funding has helped our academics build their international network and has increased the University's visibility and standing. The most recent Research Excellence Framework, the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions, highlighted the University's growing reputation for research. For example, Leeds Beckett was ranked second in the country for research in Sport and Exercise Science, Leisure and Tourism, with 59 per cent of our evidence submitted for assessment in these areas deemed 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent'.

This booklet showcases only a small selection of our world-leading research areas, and the experts making a significant contribution to them. To find out more about the depth and breadth of our work, contact us using the details below.

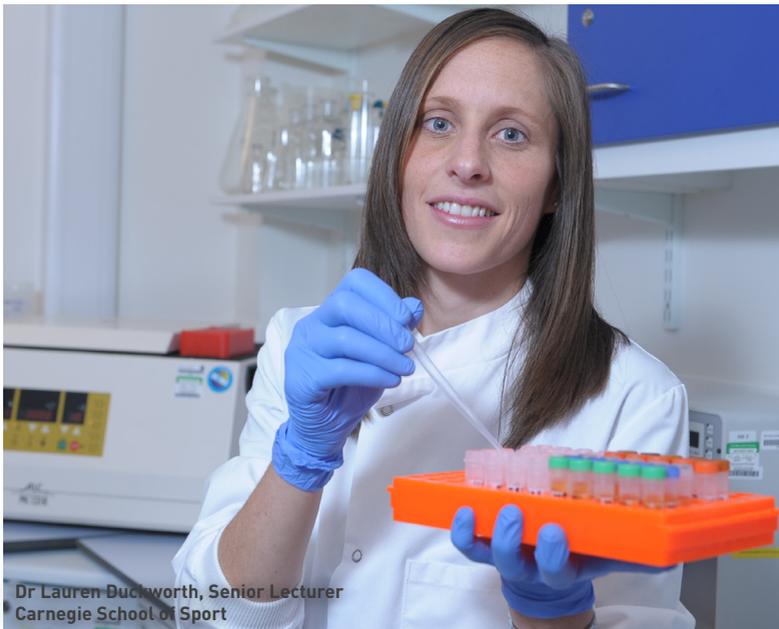
### Find out more

Kathryn Brown, Head of the University Research Office

[k.brown@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:k.brown@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

0113 812 6104

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research](http://leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research)



Dr Lauren Duchworth, Senior Lecturer  
Carnegie School of Sport

# OUR HEALTH AND WELLBEING RESEARCH

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## Professor Claire Surr, Professor of Dementia Studies

Professor Surr conducts research that aims to improve care services and support for people living with dementia, with a focus on workforce development and psychosocial interventions. Her current studies include a large clinical trial examining the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of Dementia Care Mapping, the practice development tool that helps care home staff deliver person-centred dementia care. She is also involved in a national study exploring the ingredients for effective dementia education and training for the health and social care workforce.



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## Professor Pinki Sahota, Professor of Nutrition and Childhood Obesity

Backed by £49 million from the Big Lottery Fund, the Better Start Bradford project aims to provide children in Bradford with the best possible start in life through improving their health, social, emotional, educational and language development. The exciting and imaginative programme of evidence-based and science-based prevention and intervention is underpinned by strong partnerships between the local community, public agencies, the voluntary sector, Leeds Beckett University and the universities of Leeds, York and Bradford.

Find out about our full range of research and academic expertise: [leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research)

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# OUR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH

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## Professor Ian Strange, Professor of Planning

The research we undertake is focused on the production of pure and applied knowledge that contributes to the creation and management of a sustainable built environment. While the reach of our research is wide, a lot of this work is based in and focused on the North of England. The impact of our research, for example in the provision of more energy efficient housing, stronger neighbourhood and community planning, and the cultural heritage of places, is contributing to a more research-informed policy environment that can make our Northern towns and cities more sustainable and resilient.

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## Professor Chris Gorse, Professor of Construction and Project Management



Through our partnerships we have developed new products and insights that have opened up opportunities for enterprise. We are working with communities to ensure water, communications, energy and health and wellbeing services are provided. We are embracing change for greater economic resilience, developing an energy efficient and sustainable infrastructure that will enable the North to innovate and succeed.

Find out about our full range of research and academic expertise: [leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research)

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# OUR CULTURAL AND SPORT RESEARCH

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**Dr Katy Shaw,**  
Principal Lecturer in  
Contemporary Writings

**My work on cultural representations of the 2007-08 credit crunch (as understood through the case study of Northern Rock) repositioned the role of the region in a global financial crisis. My latest monograph, Hauntology, seeks to understand the ways in which residual cultures of Northernness are 'haunting' conceptions of, and approaches to, the Northern Powerhouse today.**

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**Professor Jim McKenna,**  
Professor of Physical Activity and Health

**We have established the Yorkshire and Humber Physical Activity Knowledge Exchange network to encourage knowledge exchange between key physical activity stakeholders in the area. The network comprises regional academics, public health practitioners, sporting partnerships, active schools, leisure services, medical professionals and private and voluntary organisations. It allows our research team to share their latest research on obesity, physical activity and programme evaluation.**



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# BUILDING BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE NORTHERN ECONOMY

Leeds Beckett University is a modern, professional university that builds partnerships across the North and creates enterprising graduates who are working for and with companies, anchor institutions and communities. We are proactive in our approach to business and stakeholder engagement. We bring vibrancy and a keen sense of purpose to all of our partnerships, ensuring we listen to needs and respond in the considered and professional manner expected of a forward-thinking, applied university for the Northern Powerhouse.



**"Leeds Beckett University has a refreshing approach to engaging with local businesses. It has been a strategic higher education partner for Wakefield Council for six years. It plays its role as a regional anchor institution with integrity and passion to help individuals and organisations grow and achieve their potential."**

Joanne Roney, Chief Executive of Wakefield Council

As an anchor institution, we contribute an estimated £520 million to the economy every year, and play a crucial role in the development and prosperity of the Leeds City Region and the North of England.

We also have an international reach with longstanding links and partnerships in China, India and Africa, and we use these relationships to help support our local SME communities.

Through the management of and our association with member networks we have connections with over 10,000 businesses in the Leeds City Region.

As well as being focused on the Northern Powerhouse's core cities, we're proud to be working with our partners listed below who recognise the benefits our University can bring to their communities. We take the University into the heart of these communities through our network of University Business Centres, where we focus on developing the SME sector and its supply chains, which are the bedrock of the Northern economy.



## Find out more

Simon Baldwin  
Head of Enterprise Services  
s.baldwin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk  
0113 812 3228  
leedsbeckett.ac.uk/eiahub

Dr Tina Conkar  
Regional Development Manager  
t.conkar@leedsbeckett.ac.uk  
07824 482501

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To find out more about how Leeds Beckett University  
is contributing to the Northern Powerhouse,  
visit [leedsbeckett.ac.uk/northernpartnerships](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk/northernpartnerships)