



EAUC Annual Conference University of Leeds 23 – 25 March 2015

CHALLENGING CONNECTIONS

Incorporating the Student Sustainability Summit, Further Education Sustainability Summit and Transformational Leadership Summit

Workshop 19: A Sustainability Strategy for the University of Leeds – Becoming the Architects of Possibility

Claire Bastin, Sustainability Manager, University of Leeds, Sustainability Service



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A Sustainability Strategy for the University of Leeds: Becoming the Architects of Possibility

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**Leadership and
Governance**



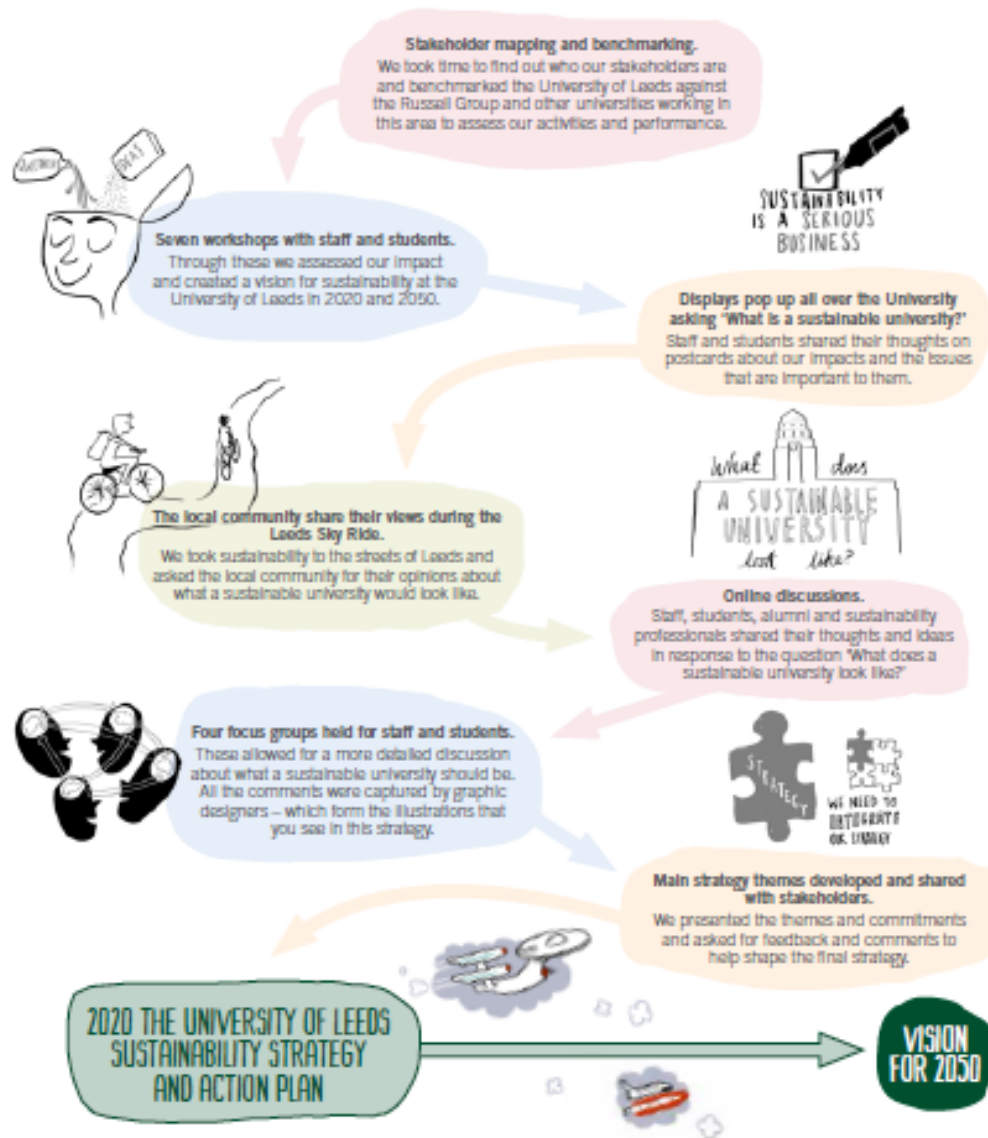


- The story so far: developing a strategy for the University of Leeds
- What will we look like in 2050?
- Adopting and embedding the themes of the strategy
- Action planning and commitments
- Organisational change: 'Being bold'
- Working with stakeholders and partners
- Challenging connections



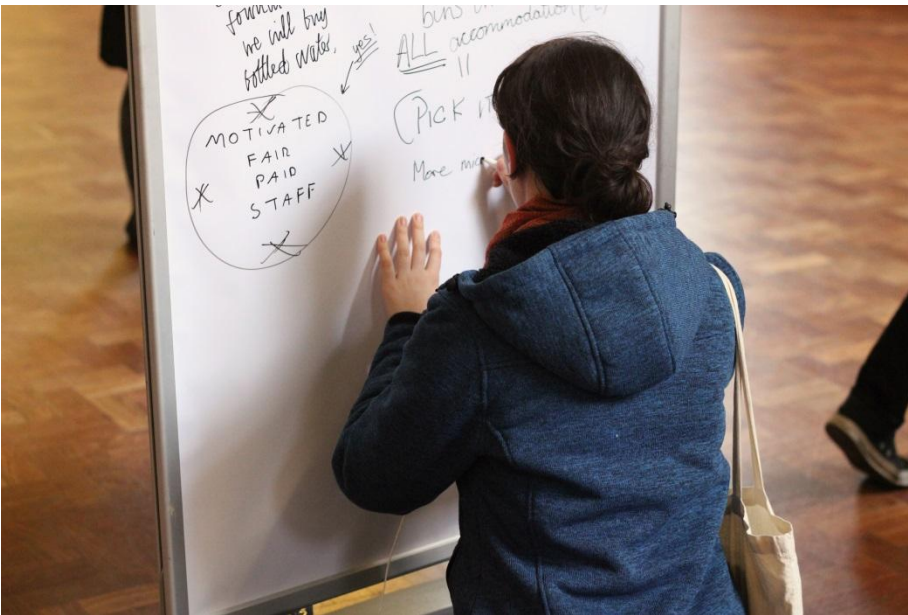
THE STORY SO FAR...

Creating this strategy has involved a wide-ranging development process with staff, students and wider stakeholders. It's people who will make the strategy a success, so it's critical to involve them at every step...



The story so far:

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/sustainability/>



WHAT WILL THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS LOOK LIKE IN 2050?

This strategy considers the work we have to do until 2020, but we're already thinking far beyond that date to what a sustainable University of Leeds will look like in 2050...



2020

We're a zero carbon, zero waste institution

All our students know and understand sustainability

We have an open, accessible campus that is interconnected with the city

Our campus is a test bed for new ideas and an exemplar of sustainable design

Sharing space, equipment, skills and knowledge across the institution is the norm

Our supply chain is sustainable and we continuously strive for further improvement and innovation

Our research addresses the grand challenges of sustainability and is accessible to all

All staff have the capacity and knowledge to make sustainable decisions, and this is the norm

We're an equitable and open employer that creates opportunities across the spectrum of our activities

We're an inspiration in the city and our campus and culture is used as a blueprint for other organisations to follow

2050

Challenging the status quo and making a real difference is the norm

2014-2020

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

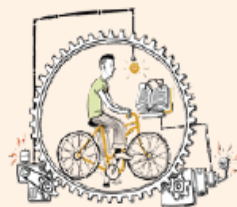
- We will embed sustainability across the whole University.
- We will create and support proactive collaborative networks.
- We will develop robust management systems.
- We will establish governance and accountability structures that drive sustainability and place it at the heart of our institution.



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

Embedding the themes of the strategy:

In our action plans and commitments

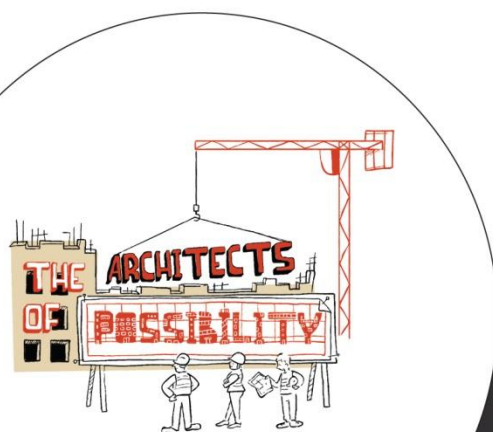
Through organisational change

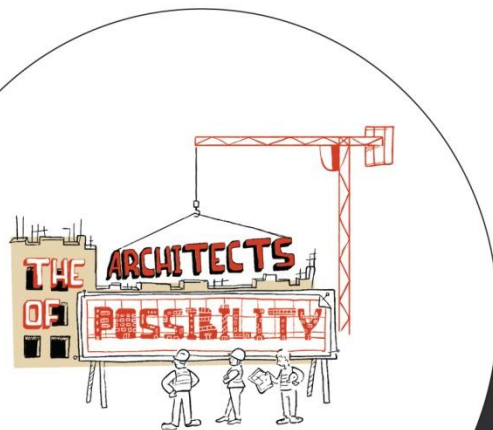
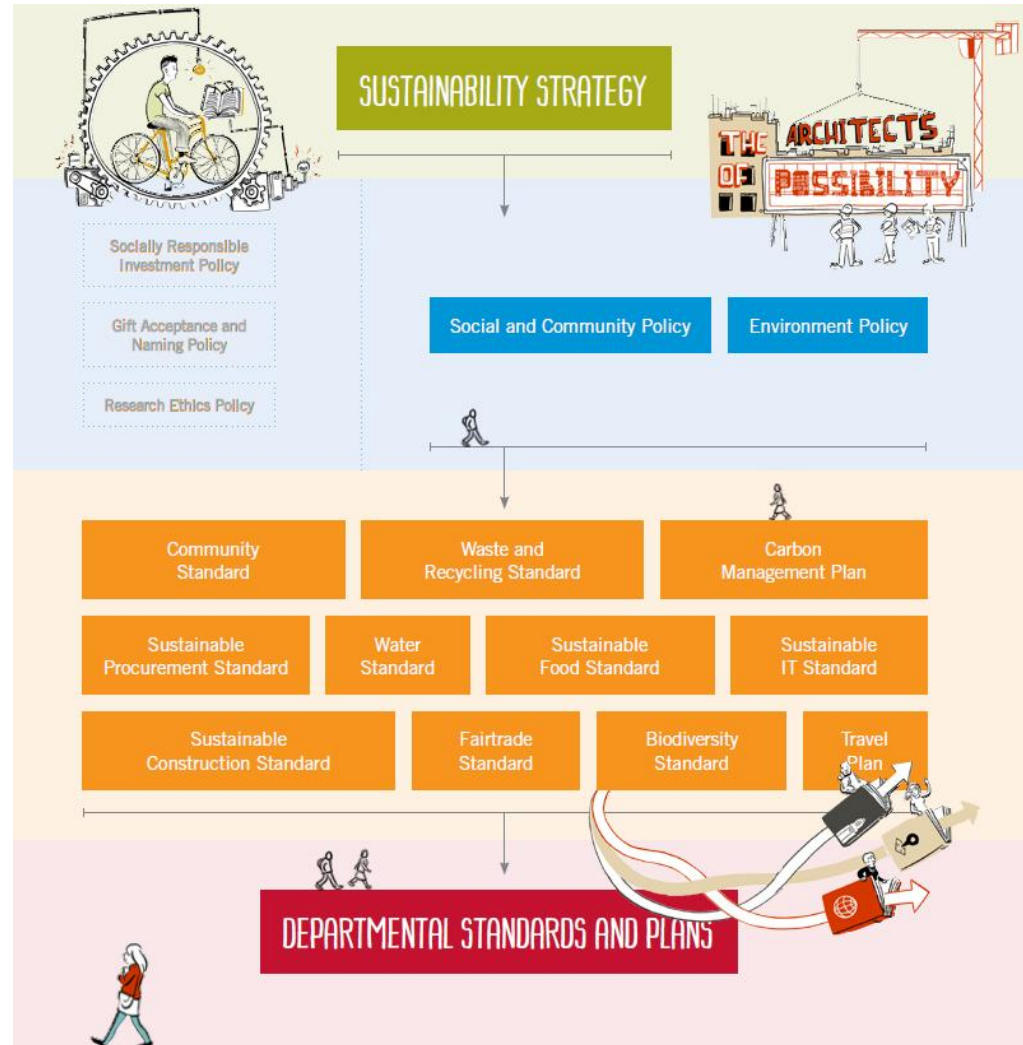
With our stakeholders and partners



BEING A POSITIVE PARTNER IN SOCIETY

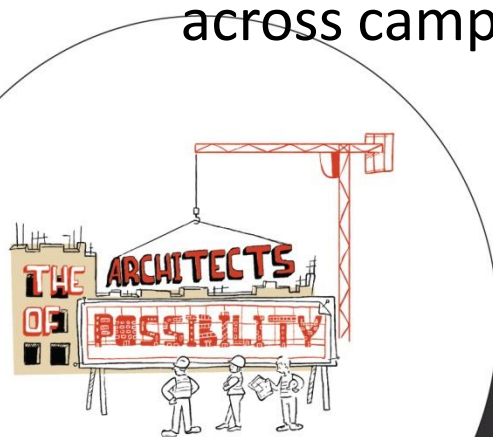
COMMITMENTS	INDICATOR	ACTION	COMPLETED BY
We will build external engagement to further develop internal and external capacity and knowledge, and influence wider policies.	Partnerships to enhance social, environmental and economic wellbeing are being developed. Third sector organisations are being supported to develop knowledge and capacity. We have open and two-way discussions with key stakeholders in the City Region.	1) Use participatory approach to identify local research needs.	2015 onwards
		2) Link the skills of our staff and students with the needs of the local community.	2015 onwards
		3) Develop professional mentoring scheme.	2015 onwards
		4) Link research activity with community interest and need.	2014 onwards
		5) Communicate research activity with local community through public engagement and partnership activities.	2014 onwards
		6) Develop strategic partnerships with key leaders in the field of sustainability.	2014 onwards
We will lead by example, share best practice, learn from others and ensure our research is accessible both locally and globally.	We are a leader in sustainability. We work with staff and students to support impact and engagement work relating to sustainability outside the University. We share experience with a wide range of stakeholders.	1) Share our experiences through publications and conferences. Work with internal and external partners to communicate research to wider stakeholders.	2014
		2) Develop an external workshop and lecture series.	2015 onwards
		3) Develop and widely publicise Living Lab project to include community benefit.	2015
		4) Facilitate students working with and sharing their work with the local community.	2015 onwards
		5) Increase community and schools visits and access to the University campus; for example the Sustainable Garden, the Bike Hub, bee hives and University events.	2014 onwards
We will take our responsibility to society seriously, as an employer, good neighbour and in creating opportunities.	We work with others in the city to create positive, socially sound opportunities. Sustainability will be a core part of our contracts. Staff will be remunerated in a fair manner.	1) Investigate ways to build social value into contracts and establish a mechanism as part of the procurement process to assess social value of contracts.	2015
		2) Investigate new initiatives to enhance local employment for example apprenticeships.	2015
		3) Ensure all university staff are paid a living wage.	2016 onwards
		4) Investigate ways of working proactively with the city to create opportunities locally.	2015 onwards

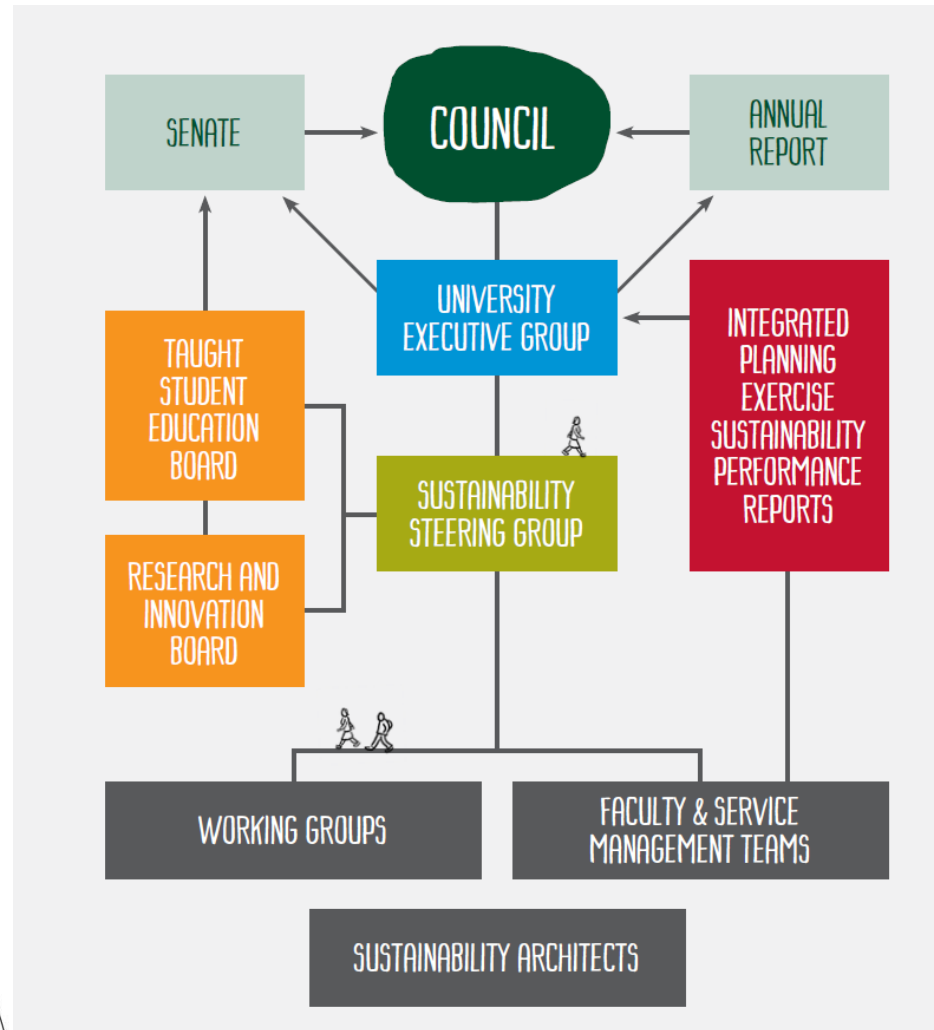




Through organisational change

- Working with University Executive Group (UEG) to embed sustainability in our management roles and responsibilities
- Sustainability reporting feeds in to Integrated Planning Exercise
- Sustainability Steering Group feeds in to UEG
- Collaborating with staff across the University and with community, public and private sector partners and stakeholders
- Developing staff and student Sustainability Architects roles across campus to help deliver the strategy



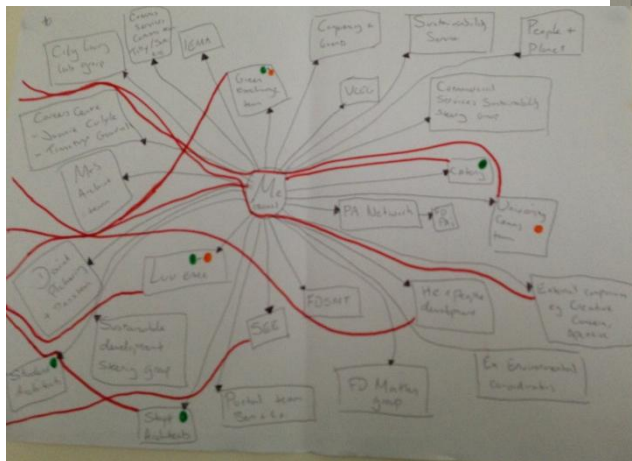
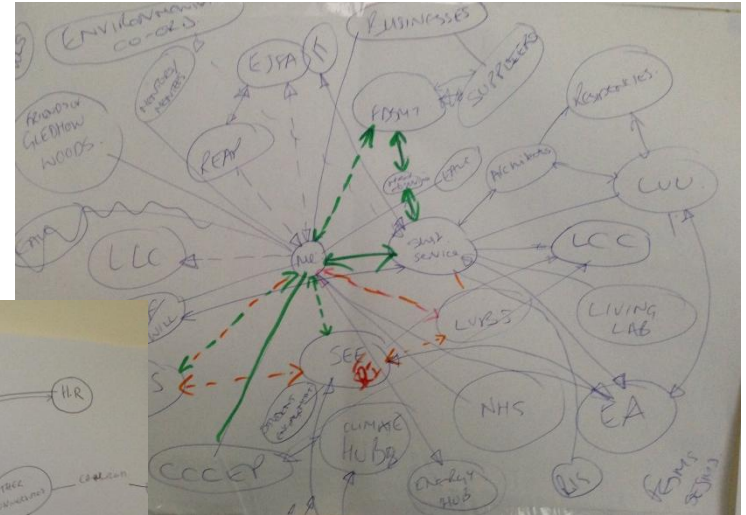
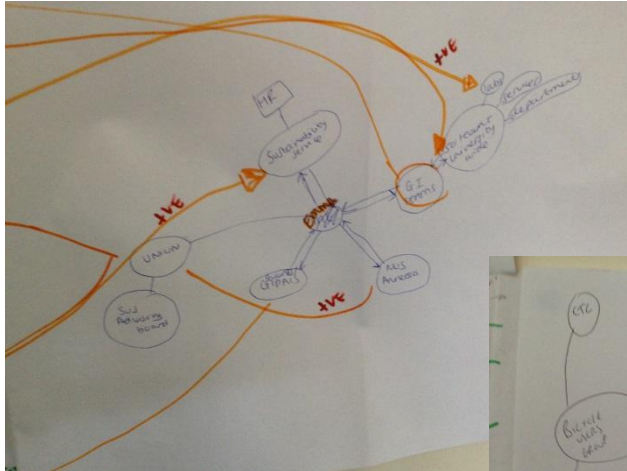




Challenging Connections



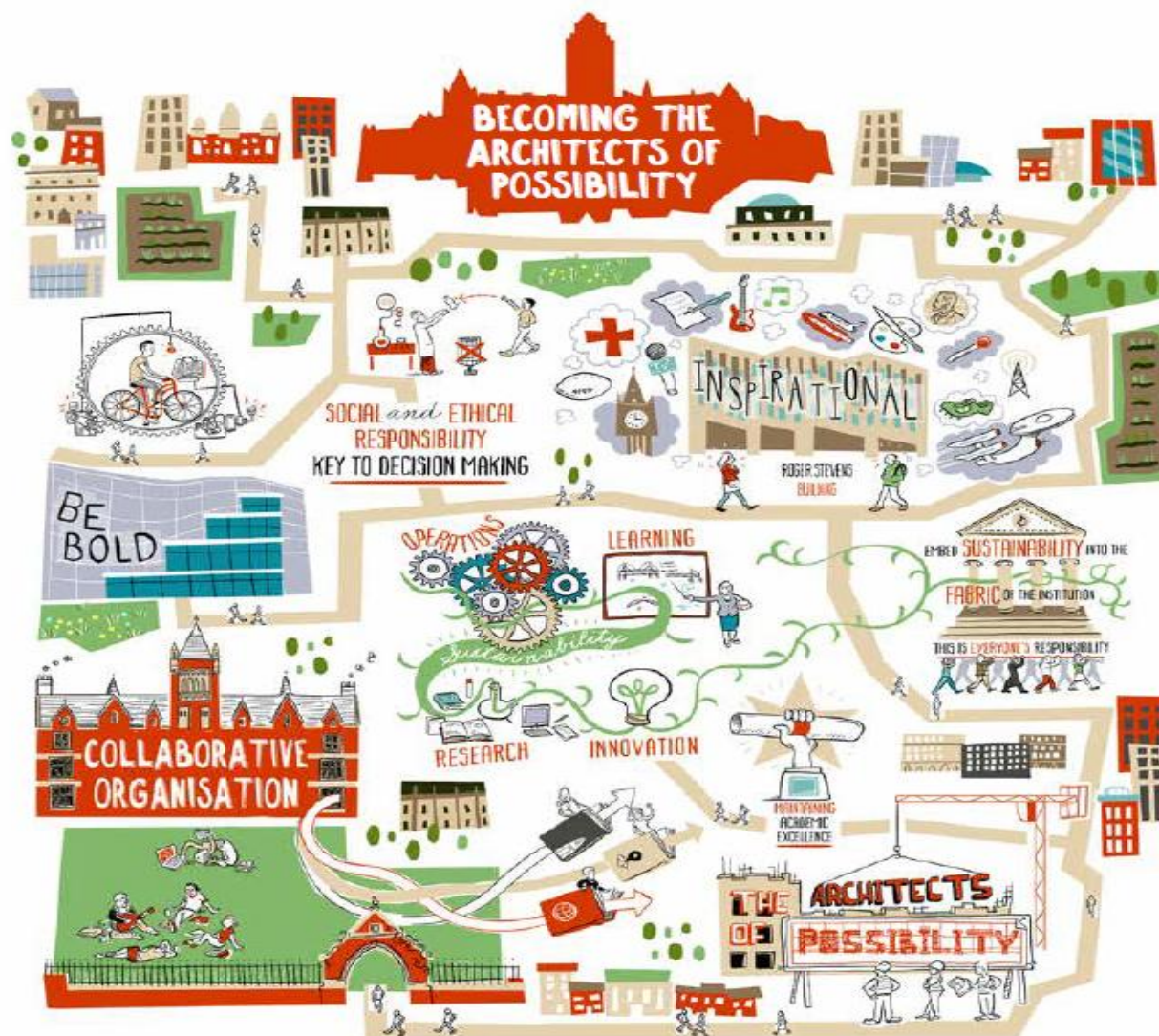
Leadership and
Governance



Challenging Connections



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Challenging Connections



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Thank you! Any questions?

- Potential challenges – and how we can overcome them
- Our connections you could make? How can people in the room help?
- Who do you need to challenge internally?