



**LEARNING AND LEGACY** THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN CREATING HEALTHIER, HAPPIER CITIES EAUC 20th Annual Conference 25th - 26th May 2016

# Being a Positive Partner in Society: Community Capacity Building Through Mentoring

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#### This presentation...





...is designed to provide you with useful information about the University of Leeds Community Mentoring Scheme:

- Our strategic underpinning
- The benefits of community mentoring
- The Community Mentoring Scheme
- The role of the Sustainability Service



#### **Sustainability Strategy**







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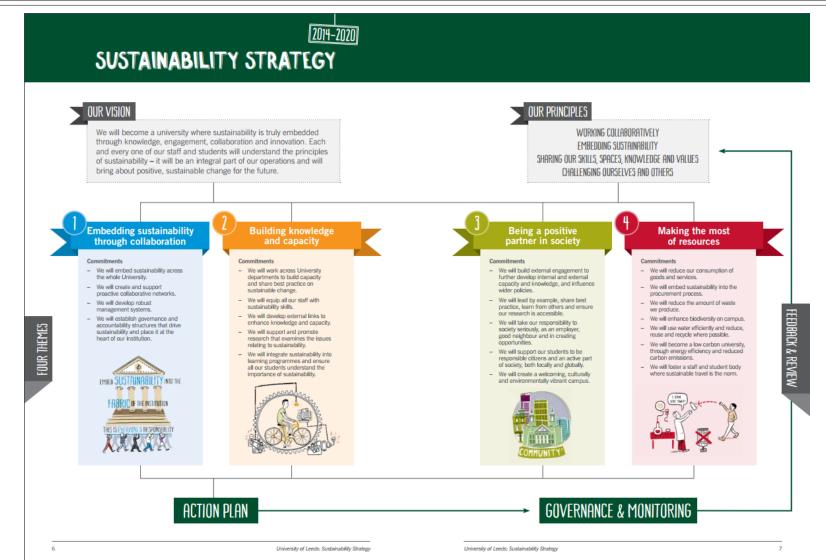
"The University of Leeds has a clear responsibility to have a positive impact on society, something we take very seriously. This means making our economic, social, environmental, and cultural responsibilities a priority alongside our commitment to education and research excellence."

## Strategy themes and commitments









# What are the benefits of mentoring?



Effective mentoring benefits everyone involved. At the core is the relationship between the mentor and the mentee, with the development of the mentee as the key focus.

## **Benefits for the Mentee**





- Gain encouragement and support to realise business and personal potential.
- •Provides a safe environment to test out ideas and suggestions.
- •Gain from the mentor's expertise to grow the capacity, skills and capabilities of your organisation.
- •Equip you to run your organisation in a more sustainable way.
- •Provide confidential, impartial advice and offer a friendly ear with which to share frustrations as well as successes.
- •Offers access to other sources of information, advice or support.
- Offers an outside perspective.
- •Help to release and develop resourcefulness.

## Benefits for individual staff mentors





- •Staff, gain insights from the mentees background and history that can be used in their personal and professional development.
- Increased staff satisfaction and productivity.
- •Improved staff knowledge, experience and skill base leading to innovative thinking and stronger leadership and management skills.
- •Re-energises staff career.
- Break down of silo mentality.

## **Benefits for University**of Leeds





- •Provide evidence of research impact and public benefit to feed into the REF.
- Demonstrates a commitment to training and development
- •Improved retention and reduced staff turnover.
- Low cost professional training.
- •Developing the leadership and management skills vital for future leaders of research, teaching and other departmental and faculty activities.
- Contribute to Positive Partner in Society strategic theme

#### The Community Mentoring Scheme





A local organisation is matched to a professional or academic member of University staff whom will commit to building a relationship and guide them on a specific area of work, such as writing a funding bid, developing a marketing campaign or sustainable business modelling.



### The Community Mentoring Scheme





- •Participants must commit to at least one monthly 90 minute meeting.
- The minimum commitment for a mentoring partnership is six months. Typically, a mentoring partnership lasts for 12-24 months.
- •Mentoring match and administration through SUMAC, developed by the University of St Andrews.
- •Supported by Voluntary Action Leeds (VAL). A charity providing direct support services and specialist advice to third sector organisations across Leeds.

### Role of Sustainability Service





- •Identify and approach local organisations to benefit from the mentoring scheme.
- Identify and match suitable University staff to local mentee organisations.
- •Support mentors with training, advice and guidance on an individual project basis.
- Collate project reports to report evaluation.
- Report findings internally

#### **Discussion**





Over to you with any questions...

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