

Nicola Furbisher

JC wraps up the evening.

Thanks for watching/taking part all - full coverage plus video in the Yorkshire Evening Post tomorrow.

19:17

Nicola Furbisher

Show of hands. Only one in favour of trolleybus. All the rest not.

19:16

Nicola Furbisher

MD: I think NGT will bring benefits. I don't think the argument (for) has been as well-articulated as it could have been.

19:14

Nicola Furbisher

JB: Leeds is a radial city and split into bits. We're living in urban villages that never mix. We need to bring our city together. We should have a proper discussion on transport for the whole city (round of applause).

19:15

Nicola Furbisher

JL: NGT is not just spending £250m on buses and wires it's about trying to move people more quickly through an urban environment. We're trying to get that balance right between improving public transport and not building great motorways and dual carriageways.

19:13

Nicola Furbisher

Another member of the audience to JL: 'How can a bendy bus on wires going down an existing road make a huge difference to congestion? This is North Korean style self-belief! (round of applause from audience)

19:11

Nicola Furbisher

JL: I read every word of the inquiry. NGT is just part of a package of improvements.

19:05

Nicola Furbisher

Gentlemen from the floor: Trolleybus increases congestion and will result in a cut in bus services and result in inferior public transport service.

19:06

Nicola Furbisher

Question from the floor: A woman suggests inquiry showed congestion would increase as a result of trolleybus. Challenges JL. 'You don't know what evidence was provided because you didn't did you?'

19:04

leeds citizen

@leedscitizen

Giving the [yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/your-leed...](https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/your-leed...) debate a whirl #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 19:00, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

JL: I refute the suggestion that it is a flawed case and misinformation has been sent to the department of transport.

19:02

Nicola Furbisher

JL: The case for NGT is compelling. How do you try and move people around the city more effectively? How do we encourage people to use park and ride? How do we use roads and railways better?

19:03

Nicola Furbisher

Question from: Question from Susan Sleeman: On the NGT website under the heading Public Inquiry Closes, Councillor Lewis, states that "the case for

Nicola Furbisher

JL: There has been a lot of consultation in the Whitfield area. Decisions have not been taken

the scheme remains compelling". Councillor Lewis has not attended the Inquiry so my question is, has he not heard about the cross-examination of NGT consultants by experts and other concerned parties, which exposed the many flaws and errors in the case for a trolleybus system, including misinformation being sent to the Department for Transport in order to get approval and obtain funding for the scheme?

19:01

Nicola Furbisher

A member of the audience comments about huge levels of fly tipping in her area. 'Litter is a huge problem', she says. MD offers to meet her afterwards to discuss.

18:55

Nicola Furbisher

JB: I think there is an onus on communities - a sense of responsibility that we have to pick up our own litter.

18:54

Nicola Furbisher

Question from Helga Adams:

Leeds seen with foreign eyes is seen as a very dirty. What has happened, for example, to litter wardens?

18:50



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

Anti trafficking network and joint working with @Hopeforjustice being discussed to help victims of human trafficking #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 18:40, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

JB: It's taken years to get credit unions recognised. It's a big message we need to get across.

18:44

Nicola Furbisher

lightly or behind closed doors. People have had an opportunity to have their say. We have tried to involve people at every stage.

19:00

Nicola Furbisher

Question from Jeff Fahey: We live on the Whitfield Estsate in Hunslet and the trolleybus is going through the middle of the estate.

This area has been under the radar for a long time ,NGT and Leeds city Council did not expect us to put up a fight. We have major safety concerns about the route as it is a pedestrian are and will destroy many peoples way of life.

With two schools nearby and lots of elderly people and traffic. Our questions are: why run trolley bus through and estate destroying peoples peaceful lives and putting children in danger? Why not use new bus technology hybrid and fully electric buses instead of an outdated system of operation?

18:56

Nicola Furbisher

MD: About a year ago I was told we collected from the city centre 5 tonnes of rubbish every day. We collected from Briggate and the size of the pile was appalling. I don't think people realise how much is collected...

In the city centre alone we have fined 5,000 people in the last 12 months alone.

We've tried education but we have had to use the stick approach too.

18:53

Nicola Furbisher

JL: I represent Kippax and Methley and access to services is a huge issue for people who need lifting out of poverty.

18:49

Nicola Furbisher

S A-G: Massive pressure on charitable sector at the moment and they play a huge role eg debt forums.

There are other things that need to be done. The council needs not to rent premises to payday lenders, don't let them advertise; get companies to block internet access.

We must continue to prosecute loan sharks etc.

We must encourage the private sector to spread the message to their own staff and get them to

JB: Yes it could but we need to move quickly to encourage people to get to credit unions eg Bramley, Seacroft. Push the unions to make money accessible at short term.

18:44

Nicola Furbisher

. JB: People are getting money without checks. Cites example of Wonga. 'The pressure of jobs is destroying relationships'.

18:42

Nicola Furbisher

Question from a reader: What impact are pay day lenders and loan sharks having on the streets of Leeds? Do you think that the city is winning its battle especially following this week's announcement about capping?

18:40



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

PCSOs crucial resource & Mark is talking about importance of Community Conversation listening to communities concerns #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 18:33, Thurs Nov 13

support the voluntary sector with funding.

18:47

Nicola Furbisher

JC: Will capping (loan companies' interest rates) help resolve the issue?

18:43

Nicola Furbisher

JB: Reaching people in debt is a massive issue, need to encourage them to come forward to get advice. It's happening now. Leeds one of the best in the country at campaigning on this issue. Praises YEP campaign.

18:41



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

@cllrmarkdobson talking about importance of Safer Leeds Partnership to help communities feel safer #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 18:34, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

MD: We have had to realise, through adversity, that people across all sectors have to work together

. The issue of frontline policing is a difficult one - you want that police presence.

When PCSOs arrived there was a lot of criticism, but if you took them away now, there would be a real backlash.

This is modern-day policing now.

But the fact is, we are doing more and more for less and we cannot go on funding the police service in this manner.

18:37

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W: We've lost roughly 1,000 police officers and 1,000 police staff - and we're having to target our resources as efficiently as possible. We're in the process of recruiting specials (1,500 by middle of next year). But whoever is elected next year (General Election) has fundamental decisions to make about community safety...

18:33



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

#YEPLeeds #voiceofleeds with panel members Coun James Lewis, Coun Mark Dobson, John Battle & Sally-Anne Greenfield pic.twitter.com/n3VyKrOE9Y



via Twitter - 18:24, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

JC: Many people have contacted us saying people just want to see visibility?

18:31

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W: I am working very closely with the public and with partners making sure that priorities reflect what the public are saying?

18:31

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W: We have been very successful in getting money back from proceeds of crime. Why is it that 50 per cent of that money goes to the Treasury when it should be allocated here?

18:31

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W: working with council to maintain level of PCSOs. He adds, however that 80 per cent of budget is from a government grants and, therefore, suffers disproportionately in any cuts. He says WYP is set to lose 40 per cent of its budget in coming years.

18:30



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

Working with Leeds partnership crucial to protect levels Of NPTs @cllrmarkdobson #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 18:29, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W says he was surprised by the results and that the problem needed to be addressed.

18:28

Nicola Furbisher

On to community safely. JC commenting on figures demonstrating our survey that 80 per cent of people would not go into certain parts of Leeds due to fear of crime.

18:27

Nicola Furbisher

JC asks for a show of hands from audience to see who would like to see an elected mayor. Audience votes against by small majority.

18:26



Rob Greenland

@TheSocBiz

#space4cycling

It interested me that housing didn't come up in the #voiceofleeds survey. Wonder if it'll feature in this evening's discussion.



via Twitter - 18:25, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

M B-W: I'm all for devolution of powers but I'm not convinced about an elected mayor for this region. Within Yorkshire the structure is less defined. We have a combined authority already - there is a different model that would benefit this region.

18:25

Nicola Furbisher

JL: The future of our prosperity is collaboration. We are only going to get prosperity by working in collaboration with other authorities. We should not be rivals. We don't need a mayor to do this, he adds.

18:24

Nicola Furbisher

JB: I'm massively in favour of devolution. Leeds is deeply divided between rich and poor. I don't want





West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

#YELeeds #voiceofleeds with panel members Coun James Lewis, Coun Mark Dobson, John Battle & Sally-Anne Greenfield

Nicola Furbisher

A Question from Tom Chigbo:
With Greater Manchester receiving new devolved powers and money from the government, in exchange for adopting a Mayor, is it time for Leeds City Region to reverse its 2012 decision to reject directly elected leadership?

18:17

to see Batley, Dewsbury, Wakefield etc doing well while Leeds becomes a fortress. We need to get a sense of greater Leeds first and that's what I'm urging our councillor to do?. How can Leeds lift the whole region?

18:22

Nicola Furbisher

MD: Let's look and see how this is going to pan out. A deal for the Leeds City Region wouldn't come at the payoff of accepting a regional mayor; that there are no strings attached.

Do we want money that comes to the region with tags attached or can we demo that we are large enough and powerful enough to say 'give us the money and make decisions themselves?'

It will be an interesting to watch Manchester and see how that works out.

18:20



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

Mark talking about his work as PCC and work with Safer Leeds and work being done to make communities safer #voiceofleeds



via Twitter - 18:13, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

JC: So tonight we will be discussing some of these. We won't get through them all so I am delighted to say that we are partnering with the Community Foundation in running a series of summits next year where we will be looking in depth at these issues.

Each of the panel members have been invited to speak for up to three minutes (max) about their respective field and to address some of the main issues that were raised in the YEP's Voice of Leeds survey.

and then i will call on a number of people to ask their questions.

18:12

Nicola Furbisher

JC: The Voice of Leeds survey is the first of its type giving a snapshot of Leeds through your eyes. The key themes were crime, poverty, traffic, street parking, Culture and of course the Trolley Bus

18:12

Nicola Furbisher

JC: So why are we here tonight? Nearly 2,000 Yorkshire Evening Post readers completed a survey which canvassed their views on some of the major issues that were important to them and this great city.

18:11



West Yorkshire OPCC

@WestYorksOPCC

Mark at #YELeeds for the #voiceofleeds Debate to talk about work being done to tackle community safety



via Twitter - 18:11, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

* John Battle
The former MP represented West Leeds for more than 23 years. He was the national director of Church Action on Poverty and works closely with the West Leeds Debt Forum. He is also the chair of Bramley Baths.

18:11

Nicola Furbisher

* Sally Anne Greenfield, chief executive of Leeds Community Foundation.
Sally-Anne Greenfield is the chief executive of Leeds Community Foundation. The Foundation was launched in 2004 and brings together local philanthropists with organisations who need



funding and other resources.

18:11



Sweetpea Charity

@SweetpeaCharity

“@TomChigbo @LeedsNews #voiceofleeds debate @cllrmarkdobson @WestYorksOPCC @battlejohn @EditorYP_YEP & others” Sorry to miss this!



via Twitter - 18:05, Thurs Nov 13



Stuart Long

@StuartLong01

The panel #voiceofleeds @LeedsNews pic.twitter.com/Taa7FqY1eo



via Twitter - 18:10, Thurs Nov 13



Nicola Furbisher

* Councillor Mark Dobson, executive member for cleaner, stronger and safer communities. He will be representing Leeds City Council. He is also a local councillor representing the Garforth and Swillington ward.

18:10



Thomas Chigbo

@TomChigbo

The debate has begun with an intro from @EditorYP_YEP #voiceofleeds pic.twitter.com/eb0TCxc7eO



via Twitter - 18:08, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

* West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Burns-Williamson. Mark Burns-Williamson was elected the first Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire on 11 November 2012. He is accountable for policing and community safety across West Yorkshire.

18:09

Nicola Furbisher

JC introduces: Councillor James Lewis, chair of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's transport committee.

He is also a local councillor representing Kippax and Methley wards.

18:08

Nicola Furbisher

Editor Jeremy Clifford, chairing tonight's debate: I am grateful to the members of the panel who have agreed to be here tonight to answer your questions and debate the issues thrown up by the people of Leeds in our Voice of Leeds survey.

18:07



Thomas Chigbo

@TomChigbo

Just arrived at the @LeedsNews #voiceofleeds debate. Waiting to hear from @cllrmarkdobson @WestYorksOPCC @battlejohn @EditorYP_YEP & others



via Twitter - 17:53, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

People starting to arrive for our Voice of Leeds debate. Lots of chatter, tea and coffee. Great to have students from Leeds Trinity University joining

us to film the event for their studies.

17:48



YorkshireEveningPost



@LeedsNews

Live coverage from #YEPLeeds debate at 6pm: tinyurl.com/l55bmwq Use hashtag #voiceofleeds to get involved #Leeds pic.twitter.com/wr1OrjGSo



via Twitter - 15:53, Thurs Nov 13



leeds citizen

@leedscitizen

Hi, @LeedsNews is video of your #voiceofleeds debate being relayed live?



via Twitter - 16:03, Thurs Nov 13



Stuart Long

@StuartLong01

Today is going to be a long day, looking forward to #voiceofleeds tonight arranged by @LeedsNews



via Twitter - 9:51, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

The debate starts at 6pm tomorrow night.

17:13, Wed Nov 12

Nicola Furbisher

To take part in the debate, ask questions, or to air your views here, use the hashtag #voiceofleeds

17:12, Wed Nov 12

Nicola Furbisher

Our panelists for the evening are



Nicola Furbisher

@NicolaFurbisher

Link to follow @LeedsNews our #voiceofleeds debate here. It starts at 6pm: yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/your-lead... #Leeds



via Twitter - 17:02, Thurs Nov 13



James Lewis

@JamesLewisLab

On 163 bus heading down York Road to @LeedsNews #voiceofleeds event.



via Twitter - 16:34, Thurs Nov 13



Andrew Hutchinson

@AndyHutchYPN

@leedscitizen Coverage is via our social wall: yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/your-lead... Use hashtag #voiceofleeds to ask questions and air your views.



via Twitter - 16:06, Thurs Nov 13



YorkshireEveningPost

@LeedsNews

To take part in #YEPLeeds debate ask questions, or air views use #voiceofleeds Live coverage from 6pm: yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/your-lead... #Leeds



via Twitter - 12:59, Thurs Nov 13



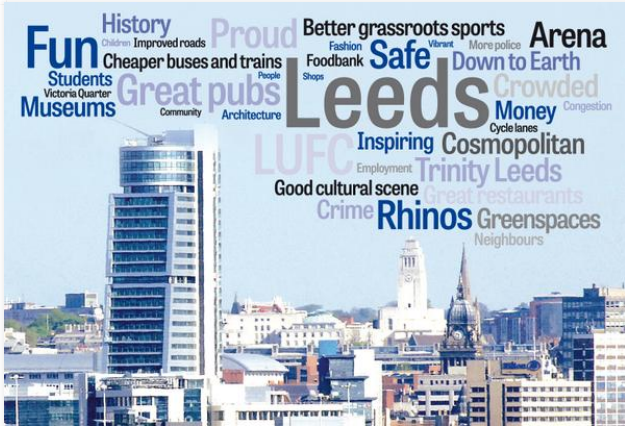
YorkshireEveningPost

@LeedsNews

#YEPLeeds readers will tonight quiz people in power in Leeds to help shape

- Coun James Lewis, chair of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's transport committee. He is also a local councillor representing Kippax and Methley wards.
- West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Burns-Williamson.
- Leeds City Councillor Mark Dobson, executive member for cleaner, stronger and safer communities.
- Sally-Anne Greenfield, chief executive of Leeds Community Foundation.
- John Battle, former West Leeds MP

17:10, Wed Nov 12



Andrew Hutchinson

@AndyHutchYPN

#YEPLeeds readers will tomorrow quiz key Leeds decision makers to help shape the future of our city.
[#voiceofleeds](#)
pic.twitter.com/xKt0XO52bm

via Twitter - 15:49, Wed Nov 12

the future of our city. [#voiceofleeds](#)
pic.twitter.com/fv5JSMGxdi

via Twitter - 9:13, Thurs Nov 13

Nicola Furbisher

Lots of readers coming to the @LeedsNews [#voiceofleeds](#) debate on Thursday. Key speakers, questions aplenty. Live coverage from 6pm.

16:56, Wed Nov 12



Laura Bowyer

@LauraBowyerYEP

YEP readers will discuss their thoughts on life in Leeds during a special @LeedsNews debate tomorrow evening [#voiceofleeds](#)

via Twitter - 15:53, Wed Nov 12



Leeds Council News

@LeedsCC_News

Discussion moves on to how community committees in #Leeds can engage with & keep young people & children at the heart of all we do

via Twitter - 14:54, Wed Nov 12



Leeds Council News

@LeedsCC_News

Question time at #Leeds full council over. Discussion on core strategy & community infrastructure levy still to come.

via Twitter - 14:44, Wed Nov 12

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