

The Crystal is an iconic building and a unique exhibition, designed to improve our knowledge of urban sustainability and help people explore how a better future can be created for our cities.



- i** For the first time in human history, more than half of the world's population lives in cities - from small cities like York to megacities like New York. Cities keep on growing and by 2050, 70% of us will be urban dwellers.
- i** Cities offer many opportunities for our future but they also have a huge impact on the environment, consuming 75% of the world's energy and emitting around 80% of all greenhouse gases.
- i** Urban sustainability is a global issue which presents challenges and opportunities for us all. The cities of the future will make a huge difference to all our lives.

At the Crystal, you can learn about the major global trends facing our cities today and explore the latest technologies and innovative solutions that will help create sustainable cities for the future.

The Crystal is for everyone who cares about creating a better future for our cities and brings together all kinds of people - mayors, city decision-makers, politicians, urban planners, architects and infrastructure experts as well as the local community, international visitors and educational groups, from school children to post-graduate students.

It's designed to get people talking about a shared sustainable future: how we live in cities, how we struggle with ideas about how to improve them, how we can make our urban habitats more efficient, cleaner and better to live in - not only for ourselves, but for future generations and the earth's diverse ecosystems.

Everyone is welcome to contribute views on how we can tackle the global issues we face - because everyone is part of the solution.

To find out more about the Crystal visit: [www.thecrystal.org](http://www.thecrystal.org)