

# **REGENERATIVE PLACES 'FRAMEWORK' PROJECT**

## **Call for Applications: Task Group Members**

This briefing outlines the proposed outcomes and planned approach to **UKGBC's Regenerative Places**Framework project and summarises how UKGBC member organisations and relevant non-members can apply to join the **Task Group**.

This opportunity is ideal for organisations that are in any way involved in projects that are retrofitting existing homes, communities, and public spaces and engaging communities in developing new ones, and are committed to shifting their work from 'being less bad', towards having a 'regenerative' impact on the places they are working with.

The <u>Regenerative Places Programme</u> is made possible due to the generous support of our Programme Partners, shown below.











## **Project overview**

What if, every time we built or retrofitted something, the communities and ecosystems around us got better?

'Regenerative' principles and approaches are being discussed within the built environment industry at an increasing rate. Moving beyond our business-as-usual, fragmented and linear ways of working to take a more regenerative approach offers the potential of having a 'restorative' impact on people and place, with tangible health and social value benefits, improved biodiversity and green space, strengthened climate resilience and decarbonised energy systems, among other benefits. These benefits can best be felt at a local level, and can have the most impact when they are developed with the participation of the communities and organisations that know their places best.

However, there is a lack of consensus within industry on what we mean by regenerative principles and approaches, and particularly how, and at what stage they should be implemented and measured. The Regenerative Places 'Framework' (working title) aims to address this need, establishing greater clarity and supporting broader action.

This project will build on UKGBC's <u>Regenerative Places Programme</u>, including real-world insights from the Local Area Retrofit Accelerator (LARA) pilot projects, funded by the MCS Foundation and supported by UKGBC. It is also informed by learnings from our <u>Framework for Defining Social Value</u>, <u>Net Zero Carbon Buildings Framework</u>, <u>Systems Change Programme</u> and <u>Framework Definition for a Nature Positive Built Environment</u> (currently in development).



#### Scope

The key driver for our Regenerative Places Programme is the challenge associated with retrofitting our 19 million poorly rated homes, which alongside the Government's ambition to address the housing crisis and build 1.5 million new homes by 2030, could become a powerful catalyst to deliver wider regenerative benefits to communities.

The 'Framework' therefore focuses on place-based projects that encompass:

- the retrofit of existing homes at scale
- the regeneration of existing communities, shared and public spaces; and
- **additional housing** that dovetails with existing communities and engages with their needs and aspirations

The **viability** and financial mechanisms required for these projects will also be a key consideration, alongside the implications for their long term value.

While the 'Framework' is focused on housing (and spans all types of tenure) we also aim to provide a high-level outline of the wider applicability and interconnection of regenerative approaches with other types of projects, in line with a systems-led approach.

The project aims to:

- Harness the growing momentum across a sector looking for innovative solutions and approaches
- Establish an industry-wide consensus on what placed-based regenerative approaches are, and a shared language through which to talk about them
- Make a compelling case for the benefits of place-based regenerative approaches, and a framework through which to facilitate different conversations when making key project decisions
- Support the greater use of place-based regenerative approaches by industry, and their adoption at an early stage
- Demonstrate the value of regenerative approaches to government and policy makers
- Build momentum around a vision of a positive regenerative future

### **Task Group**

As is typical with UKGBC projects the 'Framework' will be supported and delivered by a specialist Task Group.

The Task Group will contribute significantly to the project's core content. Task Group members will attend a series of focussed workshops to share their expertise and experience, as well as research, draft, and review material in support of the final outputs. The Task Group is responsible for ensuring the 'Framework' builds on existing and emerging industry knowledge and initiatives, and that the outputs are of a quality that is practicable to support its intended audiences in embedding more 'regenerative' ways of working.

The Task Group will work towards the following key objectives:

- Reflect on your organisation's experiences (or those of your clients) of undertaking projects that
  implement more regenerative approaches whether social, environmental, economic,
  organisational or in terms of governance across a range of new housing or retrofit projects and
  provide insights into key challenges and solutions.
- Review and analyse applied and emerging regenerative approaches, their implementation, work stages, co-benefits, and costs



- Consider established and innovative approaches to measuring the impact of regenerative approaches that reflect their long term and catalytic effects, as well as the tension between tangible and intangible impacts.
- Explore systems and frameworks to enable the wider and timely implementation of regenerative approaches
- Identify key actions needed for a range of built environment stakeholders to adopt regenerative approaches
- Review, contribute to, and support all final content outputs

Rather than a conventional report, outputs of this process aim to support ongoing exploration, iteration, and collaboration as much as implementation. These will build on and link to emerging research and best practice from stakeholders and other relevant organisations. As such, the form of our outputs will be co-created during the process, with a view to how they may continue to evolve beyond the timeline of this project. These could comprise:

- Summary Regenerative Places 'Framework' guidance document, likely to include a narrative vision, key principles and appropriate metrics.
- A supporting 'map' of regenerative pathways and contexts, signposting to relevant best practice and featuring a range of contextual voices and perspectives.

#### **Collaboration Cafes**

We plan to combine a Task Group approach with the use of Collaboration Cafes. These are a workshop format that supports informal peer-to-peer knowledge exchange and co-creation. Four sessions will be held across the UK and are open to a range of stakeholders including local community, healthcare, environmental, energy, education, and skills organisations. This approach aligns with the collaborative and systems-led principles at the heart of regenerative practices and will enable us to draw on a wide and diverse group of relevant voices, experience and expertise.

## **Project programme**

Table 1: Proposed project programme.

Task Group applications open	Monday 1st September-22nd September	
Task Group members confirmed	Monday 29th September	
Workshop 1: Kick-off (online)	Tuesday 14th October	11am-1:30pm
Workshop 2 (in person)	Tuesday 25th November	11am-1:30pm
Workshop 3 (online)	Tuesday 27th January	11am-1:30pm
Workshop 4 (in person)	Tuesday 24th February	11am-1:30pm
Review Framework consultation draft	Thursday 26th March-Thursday 30th April	
Launch event	End June - Early July 2026	



Please note that all workshop dates are provisional may be subject to change in discussion. Should this be the case, the Programme Partners and Task Group members will be informed as soon as possible.



### **Task Group Overview**

#### **Requirements of Task Group members**

Applicants should work for a UKGBC member organisation. We are specifically looking for individuals and organisations with experience and understanding of retrofitting, developing, designing, and funding homes, communities and their shared spaces. Ideally this will include representation from, but not limited to:

- Landowners / Landlords
- Developers
- Design consultants (architects, engineers, sustainability consultants etc.)
- Property and facilities managers
- Investors, banks and financial institutions
- Insurers
- Contractors
- Product / material manufacturers / suppliers
- Government bodies and local authorities

To address the wide range of local benefits to regenerative approaches, and in line with this project's systems-led and place-based approach, we are keen to involve representative of other non-member organisations that are part of a wider regenerative ecosystem.

#### These include:

- National community organisations / networks (including community energy, community land trust, housing and tenant associations, and social justice)
- National wildlife and environmental organisations / networks
- Education, training and skills providers
- Public health bodies
- Energy generation and supply organisations

Applicants should have a minimum of 5 years' relevant experience or specific knowledge within a relevant topic area. Applicants will be chosen based on their experience, whilst ensuring a diversity of individuals within the Task Group. UKGBC is committed to actively targeting a diverse representation in the composition of all Task Groups. We want to be inclusive to everyone regardless of ethnicity, religious beliefs, gender, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, or political beliefs.

#### **Cost of being a Task Group member**

Free

#### **Benefits of being a Task Group member**

By becoming a Task Group, your organisation will:

 Be credited with facilitating progress of the project, and making a positive impact in the built environment



- Take an assisting role in helping to shape the project and associated outputs, as well as how those outputs are conveyed to industry to maximise impact and uptake
- Receive brand recognition on final project-related outputs
- Receive bespoke social media assets to help promote your organisation's support of the project
- Be able to collaborate with other industry leaders and build your organisation's network

#### We believe these benefits will:

- Develop your staff Individuals will gain unique experience and improve their knowledge through working group participation and engagement opportunities at UKGBC events.
- Extend your network Programmatic groups and events will enable your organisation to build relationships with clients, suppliers, the public sector and policy makers.
- Raise your brand profile Your organisation will be featured on project outputs, and we will
  create speaking opportunities for your experts. UKGBC's media and industry reach continues to
  grow.

#### **Task Group Commitments**

To ensure the outputs (guidance and principles etc) are developed in a way that can be readily understood and implemented by industry, we would like the Task Group members to be involved in the development of the outputs. Expected responsibilities and commitments include:

- Agree to a Project Charter that sets out our shared values and ways of working
- Represent your sector / area of expertise, highlighting specific successes, lessons, challenges, and opportunities
- Leverage your technical expertise, networks, experience, and knowledge to ensure the 'Framework' is as comprehensive and inclusive as possible, with outputs and outcomes of lasting value to the industry
- Utilise existing industry networks and connections to link to existing or ongoing work that can contribute to the project
- Attend scheduled Task Group meetings
- Review any papers / reading materials before the meeting
- Assist with research and writing tasks
- Support the launch and dissemination of the outputs through participation in or presentation at launch, awareness-raising and engagement events, and through leveraging relevant comms networks

We anticipate that Task Group members will contribute a minimum of **8 hours per month** between October 2025 and April 2026, inclusive of workshop times (see project programme above for proposed dates).



## How to apply

**Task Group** applications will remain open until **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**. To discuss this opportunity or to apply, please email policy@ukgbc.org using the template below. Please use the subject line: 'Regenerative Places Framework - Task Group Application'.

Table 2: Application template

Full name	
Job Title	
Department	
Organisation	
Location / geographic focus of work	
Primary sector	
Please describe your relevant knowledge, experience and skills for this project (I.e. developer, building owner, architect, engineer, government or local authority representative etc). 100-200 words	
Are you able to provide specific real-world examples of the use of regenerative approaches or principles in your work? (This could apply to social, economic, environmental, organisational or governance aspects of projects). 100-200 words	
Are you able to share any real-world project examples, that could be used as case studies?	
Have you previously been involved in a UKGBC Task Group, or similar collaborative project? If so which one(s)? Were there any key learnings it would be useful to share?	
(NB. There is no specific requirement for previous experience)	
Are there currently any workshop dates that you know you cannot attend? (Please refer to Table 1 above)	
Please confirm that you have put in a calendar placeholder for the online kick-off workshop on Tuesday 14th October, 11am-1:30pm.	
Is there anything else you would like to add, for us to consider as part of the application?	



Is there a person or an organisation that you think		
should be involved in this work that we may not		
have already considered?		
Once your participation has been confirmed, we will require a headshot soon afterwards so we can		

Once your participation has been confirmed, we will require a headshot soon afterwards so we can promptly announce Task Group members' involvement. Please confirm whether you are happy to send this, or let us know any related concerns.