

The voice of our sustainable
built environment



REGENERATIVE PLACES FRAMEWORK FOR HOUSING: APPENDIX

Consultation Draft
June 2026

MAPPING PLACE DIMENSIONS ACROSS EXISTING FRAMEWORKS

Table A1: The nine place dimensions across which regenerative projects should create positive benefits. Relevant goals and principles from existing frameworks illustrate how this net-positive value can be understood and defined

Dimension	Example aspects	Example frameworks	Goal / Principle	Summary
Health and wellbeing	Wellbeing	World GBC Health & Wellbeing Framework	1.3 Support and enhance mental and social health through considered building design	Design buildings and neighbourhoods that reduce stress, connect people to nature and each other, provide inclusive and comfortable environments, and monitor wellbeing through occupant feedback.
	Indoor environments	Living Building Challenge 4.1	Health + Happiness: Healthy Interior Environment: Core Imperative 09	Requires healthy indoor environmental quality through ventilation, air quality management, and access to daylight and views.
	Access to restorative environments	Living Building Challenge 4.1	Health + Happiness: Access to Nature: Imperative 11	Connection to nature: ensure regular, direct interaction with natural elements for the majority of occupants, supported by post-occupancy evaluation of health and wellbeing benefits.
Water and sanitation	Restorative water cycle	Living Building Challenge 4.1	Water: Net positive water	Regenerative water cycles: meet water needs through rainwater, recycling, and closed-loop systems while treating and returning water safely to the watershed.
	Sustainable water cycles	One Planet Living	Sustainable water	Using water efficiently, protecting local water resources and reducing flooding and drought
Energy	Renewable energy	UKGBC Net Zero Carbon	4. Increase renewable energy supply (Onsite 4.1 & Offsite 4.2)	Increase renewable energy supply Prioritise on-site renewable energy generation to reduce grid demand and support decentralised energy systems.

		Buildings Framework Definition		Where off-site renewable energy is used, it must demonstrate clear additionality, ensuring new renewable capacity is created.
	Cost of living	UNSDG	SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
	Energy efficiency	One Planet Living	Zero carbon energy	Make buildings and manufacturing energy efficient and supplying all energy with renewables
Climate	Whole lifecycle carbon	Living Building Challenge 4.1	Energy: Net positive carbon	Projects must generate more renewable energy than they consume (at least 105% annually) without fossil fuel combustion, minimise embodied carbon in construction, disclose and offset remaining emissions, and design buildings that are resilient to energy disruptions.
	Climate resilience	UKGBC Climate Resilience Roadmap	Preparing for climate hazards	Enhance climate resilience in the built environment through both physical design strategies and organisational approaches in relation to five key hazards: flooding, overheating, storms, drought and wildfires.
Biodiversity and nature	Restore and enhance ecosystems	UKGBC Framework for a nature positive built environment	Stage: Regenerate	"Improve and enhance nature beyond restoration to address residual impacts, whether on site, offsite or by addressing embodied ecological impacts across the value chain."
	Access to nature	MHCLG Design and Placemaking Planning	Nature	Nature is essential for biodiversity, health and wellbeing, shading and cooling, noise mitigation, air quality and mitigating flood risk, as well as contributing to tackling the climate emergency. Nature is also central to liveability and

		Practice Guidance		affects people’s quality of life. Natural features are integrated into well-designed development and include natural and designed landscapes, trees, high quality public green spaces, wildlife-friendly planting and water, to enable biodiversity to thrive.
	Increase biodiversity	Doughnut Economics	Biodiversity loss	"A decline in the number and variety of living species damages the integrity of ecosystems and accelerates species extinction. In doing so it increases the risk of abrupt and irreversible changes to ecosystems, reducing their resilience and undermining their capacity to provide food, fuel and fibre, and to sustain life."
Materials and resources	Reuse	UKGBC Circular Economy Guidance for Construction Clients	1: Maximise reuse	Reuse the existing asset; Recover materials and products on site or from another site; Share materials or products for onward reuse
	Increase circularity	Ellen MacArthur Foundation	Circular Economy Framework	"By moving from a take-make-waste linear economy to a circular economy, we support natural processes and leave more room for nature to thrive."
	Removing toxic substances	Living Building Challenge 4.1	Materials: Red List (Imperative 13)	The intent of this Imperative is to foster a transparent materials economy free of toxins and harmful chemicals. This goal calls for a transformation of the materials market that is dependent upon, among other players, manufacturers creating, project teams specifying, and contractors installing products that meet the Imperative’s Red List avoidance and transparency requirements.

Equity, inclusion, and fairness	Affordable housing	OECD Better Life / Well-being Framework	Housing Affordability (HC1.1)	Housing Cost Overburden Rate: Share of low-income private tenants spending more than 40% of income on rent,
	Fair access and social justice	Doughnut Economics	Social equity	People living in more equal societies tend to be healthier, safer, and more trusting compared to those in less equal societies. There are wide and growing inequalities of income and wealth in many countries. These inequalities are frequently exacerbated by inequalities of race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age, language, disability and location.
	Inclusive Design	BREEAM Communities	SE15 - Inclusive Design	In the Society and Economy section of BREEAM Communities 2012. Credit SE 15. To create an inclusive community by enhancing accessibility for as many current and future residents as possible.
Community, culture, and social cohesion	Respect for local heritage & identity	One Planet Living	Culture and community	"Nurturing local identity and heritage, empowering communities and promoting a culture of sustainable living"
	Social cohesion	Doughnut Economics	Social cohesion: Lack of social support	"Social cohesion can be seen as a function of people's sense of belonging within a community, and the strength of relationships between its members. For the former, self-reported social support can be seen as a reasonable proxy, notably given evidence showing clear links between the quality of social relationships and belonging. Indicator: Population stating that they are without Someone to count on in times of trouble (% of population)" [Source: DEAL website]

	Strong social connections	OECD Better Life / Well-being Framework	Social connections	"The time people spend with others, the support they give and receive, and the quality and diversity of their relationships"; measured by the OECD Well-being database
Economy, innovation and livelihoods	Local economy	One Planet Living	Equity & local economy	"Creating safe, equitable places to live and work which support local prosperity and international fair trade"
	Income & young people	Doughnut Economics	Income and work	Population living below the societal poverty line, set at half their country's median household income or at least \$15 a day; Population of young people (aged 15-24) not in employment, education or training

Governance, stewardship and learning	Long term care, management and adaptation	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015	Five Ways of Working (WCLVA)	In Wales the Wellbeing of Future Generations act includes Five Ways of Working (WCLVA) and the recently published <i>manual for co-production</i> . These go all the way from the individual level through the <i>Inner Development Goals</i> and <i>Inner Green Deal</i> through to the global level with the UN <i>Pact for the Future</i> .
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	Capacity to learn, respond and improve over time	Capital Institute: Principles of a Regenerative Economy	3. Innovative, Adaptive, Responsive	The <i>Capital Institute's</i> eight interconnected principles underlie systemic health and represent principles we should address in understanding built environment regenerative value. Principle 3 suggests that what matters is not strength or efficiency alone, but adaptability, the ability to continually adjust to changing conditions.
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