



# UKGBC Policy Roundtable

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4 December 2018

- 3.00 Welcome & update of circular economy programme
- 3.05 Policy landscape overview
- 3.20 Review of barriers in industry
- 3.25 Roundtable discussion – see discussion paper
- 4.50 Wrap-up
- 5.00 Close



## Imagine a world where...

- Property investors own no physical assets
- Demolition does not exist
- Manufacturers are selling services not products
- Construction materials are leased
- Buildings are restoring the natural environment.

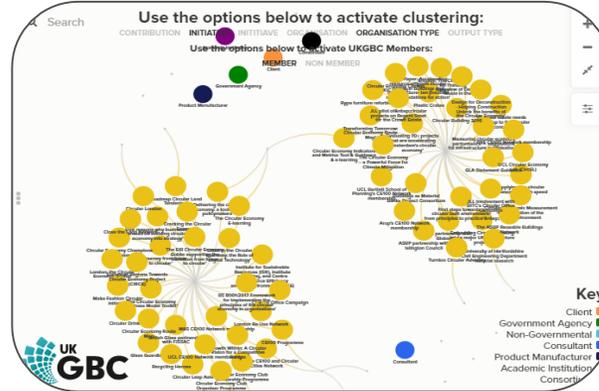
Our Vision is of a built environment at the heart of a circular economy – where waste is eliminated and materials retain value long after their original use

We are looking for visionary, courageous, and bold-thinking organisations to join us on this experiential learning journey towards a more circular built environment

# Awareness raising



**Bristol & Birmingham debates**



**Actor mapping**



**Coursemails**



**Masterclass**

**Influencing policy**



**Building glass into a circular economy**

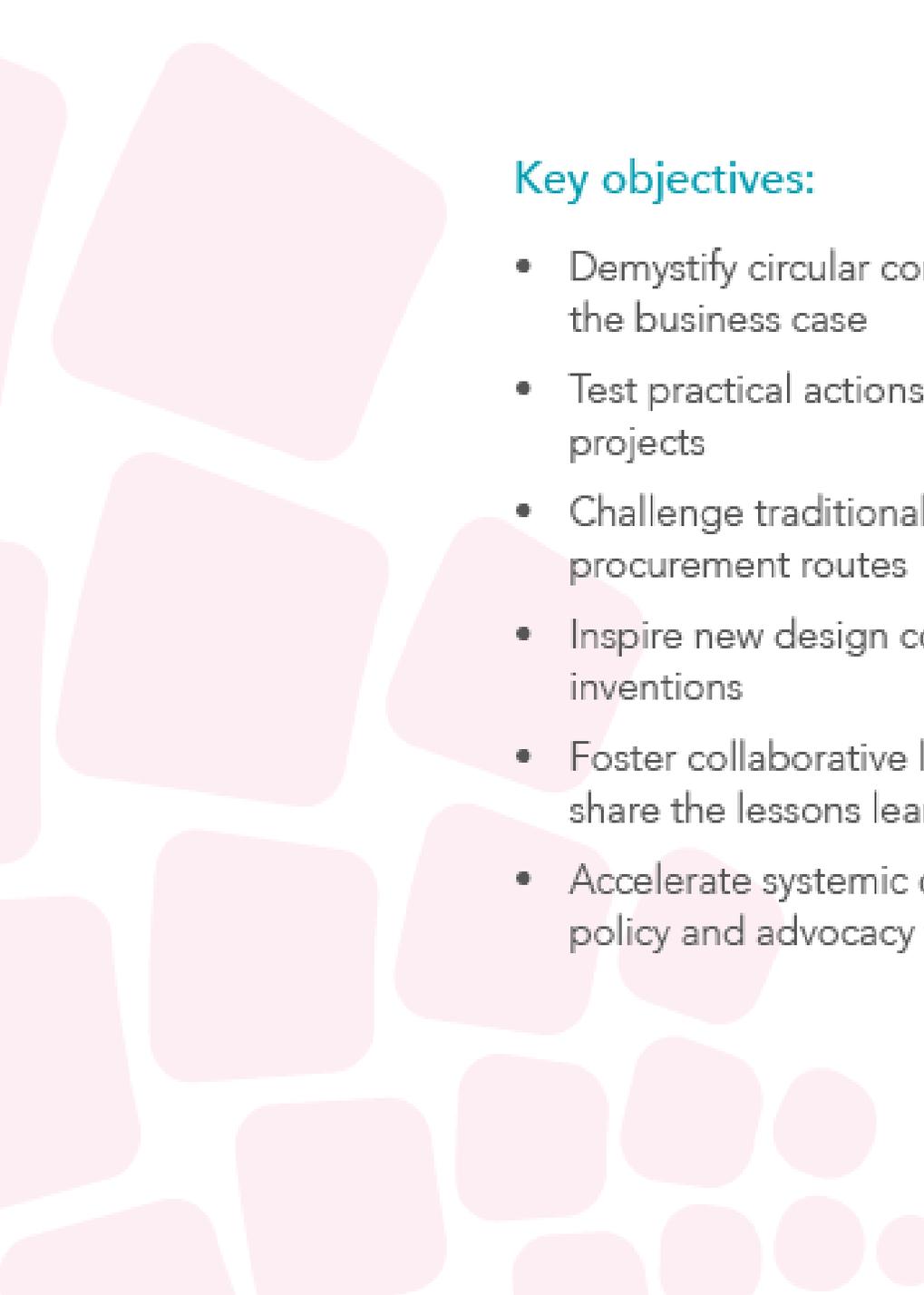


**Insights and innovation webinars**



**Innovation hackathon**





## Key objectives:

- Demystify circular construction and focus on the business case
- Test practical actions on real live assets and projects
- Challenge traditional contractual models and procurement routes
- Inspire new design concepts and material inventions
- Foster collaborative learning by doing and share the lessons learnt
- Accelerate systemic change through wider policy and advocacy work

## Outcomes and deliverables:

- Report on findings of Circular Economy practices amongst UKGBC Gold Leaf members
- Improved circular outcomes across a series of real-time projects
- Practical tips and lessons learnt for widespread consumption and application (visual outputs e.g. video, animation, infographics and comprehensive social media strategy)
- Extensive series of awareness-raising events and educational courses
- Evidence to inform advocacy asks and policy development
- Links to UKGBC Innovation Lab and sustainable innovators



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Resources and Waste Strategy

# Towards a resource efficient circular economy

## Why?

- Efficiency enhances competitiveness
- Resilience re resource scarcity/price volatility
- Reducing pressure on our natural environment
- Reducing GHG emissions
- Co-benefits - local jobs and growth

## **Key aspects of the system**

- Resource efficient production process
- Eco-design of products
- Alternative retail models
- Enhanced secondary materials market

# The Resources and Waste Strategy

- The first significant Government statement in this area since the 2011 Waste Review and the subsequent Waste Prevention Programme 2013 for England. It builds on this earlier work but also sets out fresh approaches to long-standing problems like waste crime, collection systems, and to challenging problems such as packaging and plastic pollution.
  - The Strategy will provide clear statement of Government's ambition and approach, building on the 25 Year Environment Plan, Industrial Strategy and Clean Growth Strategy and meets the call from industry for policy certainty and improved coordination across policies.
  - It will set out a framework for delivery including a comprehensive set of policies and announcements that will help us meet our previously announced targets of doubling resource productivity, achieving zero avoidable waste by 2050 and eliminating all avoidable plastic waste by end of 2042.
  - Our policy proposals will make the most of opportunities arising from the UK's exit from the EU - maintaining or strengthening environmental protections.
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# Our strategic framework

Our Strategy is framed by natural capital thinking and guided by **two overarching objectives**:

- **To maximise the value of resource use, and minimise adverse environmental impacts**
- **To minimise waste and its impact on the environment**

# Our strategic framework

We will deliver this through policies, actions and commitments which adhere to at least one of **five** principles:

1. **We want to provide the incentives**, through regulatory or economic instruments if necessary and appropriate, and **ensure the infrastructure, information and skills are in place, for people to do the right thing.**
2. **We want to prevent waste from occurring in the first place**, and manage it better when it does.
3. **We want those who place products on the market which become waste to take greater responsibility for the costs of disposal – the polluter pays principle.**
4. **We will lead by example**, both domestically and internationally.
5. **We will not allow our ambition to be undermined by criminality.**



# At the Production/provision stage we are considering policies to deliver:

**The problem:** Misaligned incentives have meant that whole lifecycle costs often do not fall on those who can design waste & environmental impacts out of a product

- **Design** – designing products and services to use fewer materials and achieve greater circularity including through re-use, repair, re-manufacture and recycling
- **Materials** – using materials that reduce environmental impacts of products/services over their lifecycle
- **Manufacture/production process** – increasing material efficiency of production/manufacturing processes
- **Distribution** – minimising environmental impacts associated with distribution and provisioning of products and ensure distribution models support greater circularity

Production

Consumption

End of Life

# Production – how might we achieve it?

## Design

- Product standards
- Incentivising Eco-Design
- Extended producer responsibility

## Materials

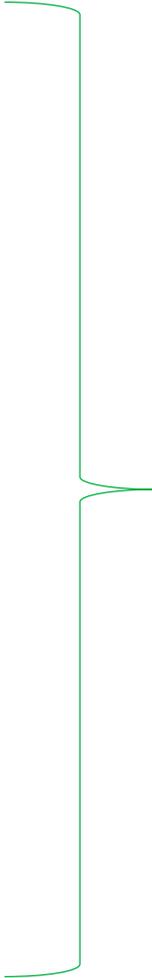
- Minimum recycled content
- Restrictions and bans on certain materials

## Manufacturing/production process

- Benchmarking and company reporting
- Resource Efficiency clusters

## Distribution

- Reverse logistics



Innovation/priority sectors/SMEs

# Consumption – how might we achieve it?

## Purchasing

- Consumer information – eco-design, the role of ecolabels
- Fiscal incentives – HMT call for evidence SUP
- Public sector procurement – to support demand and drive innovation
- Bans on certain products – choice editing

## Use

- Supporting repair of products – skills, parts, services
- Standards to increase consumer confidence in remanufactured products

## End of use

- DRS consultation
- Litter strategy
- Recycling information on pack / recycling campaigns

# End of life – what we want to achieve

**The problem:** Inconsistent collection systems result in limits to recycling rates, secondary materials markets aren't functioning, recyclable material and foodwaste often ends up in landfill/incineration which has environmental consequences and means resources cannot be recirculated.

- **Collection** – capturing as much material as possible in ways that enable it to be treated in the most appropriate way
- **Treatment/reprocessing** – materials are treated in the most appropriate way to minimise the environmental impacts and maximise the value extracted

Production

Consumption

End of Life

# At the End of Life stage we are considering policies to deliver:

- For businesses and householders accelerate greater consistency in materials collected for recycling including collection systems that promote high quality and increase material captured for recycling. This will support higher recycling and reprocessing as well as making **higher levels of recycled content for packaging.**
- Ensure businesses and householders are clear about materials to put out for recycling and this is supported by clear labelling and guidelines on how to present materials. **This will support higher levels of participation in recycling and make it easier to recycle the right things in the right way.**
- For foodwaste ensure businesses and householders have access to and actively use high quality collection services that **support recycling through anaerobic digestion and/or composting and reduce foodwaste and other bio-waste) to landfill.**
- Residual waste is collected in such a way as to ensure the impact on public health, local amenity and the environment is minimised and waste is sent to the most appropriate treatment.
- Levels of recyclable materials in the residual waste stream, whether black bag-type waste collected by local authorities or similar types of waste collected from commercial & industrial premises is minimised.

# Construction

Develop plans to increase resource efficiency and minimise waste from the sector

- Building on:
  - WRAP's Halving Waste to Landfill Project
  - Construction Sector Deal
  - GCB Guidance – enhancing definition of zero avoidable waste

# Barriers

- Communicating and clarifying the concept and links to other standards/definitions
- Lack of action, engagement, collaboration within the supply chain
- Lack of proven business case
- Financial implications
- Friction with the current business model
- Lack of internal collaboration
- Lack of support from government – incentives and regulation
- Changing mind-sets to see 'resource' not 'waste'
- Maintaining product quality with alternative materials
- Finding routes for product reuse at end of life
- Articulating the life cycle value of the product
- Inflexible standards on recycled content
- R&D cost
- Logistics – trade-off between recycling and transporting in relation to take-back schemes
- Lack of time and space for disassembly within standard (de)construction practices
- Multiple owners over life makes it difficult to have long term invested

# Discussion

- Data
- Fiscal
- Regulation & Standards
- Public Procurement

# Thank you

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