



A New Greener Economy

Policy RT5: Circular Economy

- A. All developments should use resources efficiently, follow circular economy principles and aim to achieve net zero waste.
- B. Major developments must:
 - i. Apply the waste hierarchy (prevention, preparation for reuse, recycling, other recovery, disposal);
 - ii. Reduce energy and water use during demolition and construction;
 - iii. Minimise the amount of materials required;
 - iv. Utilise materials with a low embodied carbon content; and
 - v. Submit a Circular Economy Statement, including a Site Waste Management Plan to manage waste in line with circular economy principles

Places for Everyone Links

JP-S6

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO3 and SO7

- 3.18. A circular economy goes beyond waste management. It involves sustainable procurement, extending product life, reuse, repair, and developing policies for sustainable economic growth. For buildings, this means prioritising retention and refurbishment over demolition, and designing structures that can adapt, be deconstructed, and allow components to be reused or recycled. Deconstruction, rather than demolition, allows for the recovery of valuable materials and reduces energy impacts. Sustainability certifications like BREEAM can support these goals. This approach reflects PfE Policy JP-S6: Resource Efficiency.
- 3.19. All major developments must follow these principles, with minor applications encouraged to adopt them. To ensure a circular approach,



developments should incorporate adaptable design principles and life cycle assessments, including using sustainable, recycled, or low-impact materials. These practices support resource efficiency and demonstrate a commitment to long-term sustainability. Building designs should be adaptable to future needs and changes, with features that extend the building's life and prevent obsolescence. Non-residential buildings especially need to be flexible to accommodate change of use and market demands.

Consultation Question 3-5

Do you support Policy RT5? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.