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Enabling circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK for environmental, social and economic benefits

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University College London Faculty of the Built Environment The Bartlett School of Planning

Circular Public Housing: Enabling circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK for environmental, social and economic benefits

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Being a major research project submitted to the faculty of The Built Environment as part of the requirements for the award of MSc Urban Design and City Planning at University College

I declare that this major research project is entirely my own work and that ideas, data, and images, as well as direct quotations, drawn from elsewhere are identified and referenced.

Acknowledgement

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who provided support and guidance throughout my research.

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To my parents, brother, aunts, uncles and partner for their unwavering support for my pursuit of shaping a more sustainable future for our planet.

Abstract

circular economy, which is not only beneficial the circular framework, recommendations for the environment, but also for the economy for local authorities and developers are and the society. To accommodate a circular provided for applying the circular framework economic system, circularity principles should and systems in future new development. be applied to our urban built environment. either smaller urban development projects or Public housing estates in the UK, being larger scale masterplan type projects to build economically and socially deprived, can a sustainable future for cities with circular adopt circular strategies at household, estate neighbourhoods. and neighbourhood level for economic, environmental and social benefits. Thus, Keywords: Circular Cities | Circular a key research question emerges: How to Neighbourhoods | Circular Strategies | Public enable circular strategies in public housing Housing | Sustainability Benefits | Sustainable estates in the UK for environmental, social Development and economic benefits?

With insights gained from literature review and field research, a circular framework with four principles and circular systems with physical space, programming, stakeholders and enablers are proposed. A framework for benefits and measurement is also developed. The circular framework and systems are then applied in South Bermondsey, one of most deprived neighbourhoods with a high percentage of public housing estates in Southwark, London, Circular strategies like Circular Hubs and Circular Hood are deployed.

stheworld faces resource scarcity, there Environmental, economic and social benefits is a need to move from the wasteful from the circular systems are then estimated linear economy to a resource-efficient to evaluate the design application. To scale up



Table of Content

Acknowledgement	3
Abstract	4
Table of Content	5
List of Figures and Tables	6

	oduction digm shift needed – From linear consumption to circular economy	7
	oting circularity to benefit deprived public housing estates	9
	earch question and objectives	10
02 Me	thodology	11
	earch-led design approach	12
2.2 Scor	pe of study	13
2.3 Risk	assessment and ethical statement	13
03 Res	search	14
3.1 Circu	ular frameworks	15
3.2 Chal	lenges	16
3.3 Circu	ular strategies	18
3.4 Stak	eholders and enablers	21
3.5 Envi	ronmental, social and economic benefits	22
04 De 4.1 Key	sign - Circular Framework & Systems esearch takeaways	23 24
4.2 Con	ceptual model – How do materials flow through the city at different level?	24
4.3 Circu	ular framework and systems	25
4.4 Fran	nework for benefits and measurements	30
	sign - Application	31 32
	analysis	33
	al demographic profile	34
	ent waste management system in Southwark	35
5.5 Opp	ortunity areas	36
5.6 Desi	gn proposal	37
06 Eva	duate	45
	act assessment	46
6.2 Scal	ng up	47
6.3 Cond	clusion	50
Refere	ences	51
Apper	ndix	52

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List of Figures and Tables

Figure 1: Global waste generation per capita (Source: O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020)	8
Figure 2: Methodology Framework (Source: Author's own)	12
Figure 3: Circular Economy Framework by EMF (Source: EMF, 2019)	15
Figure 4: Circular Cities Framework by Jo Williams (Source: Williams, 2019)	15
Figure 5: Site design challenges for circularity in public housing in the UK (Source: Author's own)	17
Figure 6: Stakeholders according to function and interaction for Dutch social housing (Source: Eikelenboom et al., 2021)	21
Figure 7: Levers / enablers for circular development (Source: Williams, 2021)	21
Figure 8: Framework of benefits for circular cities (Source: Williams, 2021)	22
Figure 9: Conceptual model of material flows and circularity (Source: Author's own)	24
Figure 10: Circular framework for public housing in the UK (Source: Author's own)	25
Figure 11: Key components of circular systems (Source: Author's own)	26
Figure 12a: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)	27
Figure 12b: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)	28
Figure 12c: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)	29
Table 1: Framework for benefits and measurement for circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK (Source: Author's own)	30
Figure 13: Map of most deprived neighbourhoods and their public housing estates in Southwark Borough (Source: Author's own)	32
Figure 14: Site analysis map of South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)	33
Figure 15: Socio-economic demographic profile of South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own; Data from Southwark Council, no date)	34
Figure 16: Current waste management system in Southwark (Source: Author's own)	35
Figure 17: Opportunity map for circular strategies in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)	36
Figure 18: Intervention map for circular systems in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)	37
Figure 19: Schematic and illustration of Sorted Bins (Source: Author's own)	38
Figure 20: Essential components and their associated circular principles of Circular Hubs (Source: Author's own)	39
Figure 21: Illustration of Circular Hub (Source : Author's own)	40
Figure 22: Essential components and their associated circular principles of Circular Hood (Source: Author's own)	41
Figure 21: Illustration of Circular Hood (Source : Author's own)	42
Table 2: Key stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities (Source: Author's own)	44
Table 3: Enablers for circular strategies in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)	44
Figure 22: Estimated benefits generated from circular systems in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)	46
Figure 23: Recommended configurations and dimensions of kitchen for dwellings of different sizes (Source: London Plan Guidance: Housing Design Standards Consultation Draft, 2022)	47
Figure 24: Changes in streetscape in new build development before and after the implementation of circular systems (Source: Author's own)	48
Figure 25: Schematic of shaping circular cities with circular neighbourhoods and its effect on resources and sustainability aspects (Source: Author's own)	49
Figure 26: ICLEI Circular City Action Framework (Source: Novak et al., 2021)	52
Figure 27: UNEP Circular Neighbourhood Framework (Source: United Nations Environment Programme, 2021)	52
Table 4: List of housing association partners in Southwark (Source: Southwark Homesearch, no date)	53
Table 5: Detailed assumptions and calculation of benefits and measurements (Source: Author's own)	53

-4

01 Introduction

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1.1 Paradigm shift needed -From linear consumption to circular economy

with consumer goods as most humans in similar circularity principles should be applied more developed countries live a consumerist to our urban built environment. As natural lifestyle with material abundance. As countries resources are finite, our cities must operate urbanise and adopt a disposable culture, within the ecological carrying capacity and develop a linear mode of production (Williams, 2021). One measure of success is and consumption, waste generation tends diversion rate (i.e. recycling and composting). to increase, resulting in people from most Although UK's rate has improved from 11 % to countries in the global north generating 43.5% from 2000 to 2020, UK still lags behind more than 1 kg of waste everyday (O'Donnell its European peers like Germany, which has a and Pranger, 2020).

The problem of linear economy has been the inefficient use of limited resources and the destruction of the natural world by pollution from waste. Living within the system of linear economy, consumers are often unaware of the hidden environmental and social impacts from their products that are impulse-bought online, mass-produced in factories with poor working conditions and shipped to their home across the world via a carbon-intensive journey.

A paradigm shift is needed for the world to move from a linear mode of production and consumption to a circular economy. Circular economy is a model for production and consumption with an ultimate goal of achieving the decoupling of economic growth from natural resource depletion and environmental degradation (Jackson, 2009). All actors and stakeholders need to rethink and reprogramme the current wasteful linear economic system into a circular one that is resource efficient, ecologically regenerative and resilient to future changes (Williams, 2021).

In the 21st century, the world is inundated To accommodate a circular economic system, rate of 66% (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020).



Figure 1: Global waste generation per capita (Source: O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020)

1.2 Adopting circularity to benefit deprived public housing estates

Public housing estates, which account for 10% the local residents and community, and of homes in the UK (Woodard and Rossouw, would help with the sustainable regeneration 2021), have always been stigmatised to be of deprived estates and neighbourhoods. 'sink estates' with high crime rate, poverty. This presents an opportunity for circularity unemployment and poor health (Johnston as a tool to bring about economic, social and and Mooney, 2007). Poor waste management environmental values in neighbourhoods and has contributed to the urban decay problem cities. To quantify these intangible benefits, in public housing. Yet, waste management measurements should be developed to track in public housing is under-researched in the impacts of circular strategies. academia (Woodard and Rossouw, 2021). There is room for improvement for the system and user experience of waste disposal and recycling in public housing to encourage more pro-environmental behaviours. By deploying circular strategies, public housing estates in the UK can efficiently (re)use their resources and build local resilience for material needs at different scales - household, estate, neighbourhood and beyond. This contributes to boosting UK's waste diversion rate, while tackling the global problems of climate crisis and resource depletion.

Since 1980s, councils in the UK have been regenerating their dilapidated post-war public housing estates to meet housing needs and to improve the living conditions and social deprivation of the neighbourhoods (Watt. 2021). Deploying circular strategies as a regeneration approach would be a viable option, as research suggests that circularity can create economic and social benefits (Williams, 2021). For instance, an urban farm as a circular strategy creates loops for organic matters with composting, generates economic value from the sales of farm produce and the jobs created, and fosters a sense of community. Such strategies benefit



1.3 Research question and objectives

Key question

Considering the urgent need of the promotion In order to dissect the complex research of circular economy and the regeneration question, several sub-questions are to be of deprived public housing estates, a key explored, which are: research question emerges:

How to enable circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK for environmental, social and economic benefits?

Sub-questions

How to design a good circular framework that work in public housing estates in the UK?

There is a lack of research into implementing Circular framework and systems for circular strategies in the context of public housing estates in the UK. A suitable circular framework that works in this context is to be recommendations to local authorities and developed.

What are the enablers and stakeholders involved?

Implementing circular strategies involves Apart from the more obvious environmental to success for the circular strategies.

How to implement circular framework and systems for existing public housing estates and scale them up for new residential developments in other

existing public housing estates are to be designed. In order to scale up the project. developers for applying circular strategies to new residential developments are to be explored.

What are the environmental, social and economic benefits, and measurements of the proposed interventions?

various enablers and a network of benefits from circular strategies, associated stakeholders. Identifying and analysing such social and economic benefits are to be enablers and stakeholders would be the key examined. A framework for measuring the benefits is to be developed and benefits from the proposed interventions are to be estimated using the framework.

Objectives

This research project aims at developing practical circular systems for urban planners/ designers, developers and community organisers to implement circular strategies for existing public housing projects. It helps practitioners to recognise circular cities strategies can deliver environmental benefits, as well as socio-economic values. This can be applicable to public housing in the UK and shows that the concept of circular can be a viable and effective smallerscale interventions at household, estate or neighbourhood level. This project also offers imagination of ways to scale up the proposed framework and systems beyond existing public housing estates, and inspires local councils and developers to rethink their approaches to waste management in new build residential developments in other neighbourhoods.

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02 Methodology

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2.1

Research-led design approach

A research-led design approach is adopted. Findings from the research process inform the design process. Insights gained from the design process prompt the need to conduct additional research to enrich the design. Through trial and error, and reiteration of design, the circular framework and systems and the proposal for the design application can be continuously improved. The figure below illustrates the interactions of the research process and the design process.

Literature review: Academic literatures are Develop circular framework and systems: Application: reviewed to understand the existing circular After distilling the findings from the Bermondsev in Southwark is selected for frameworks, circular applications in public research process, a new framework for design application. Site analysis is conducted. housing and the possible benefits. Grey circularity in public housing is proposed. Circular systems and strategies are localised, literatures are reviewed to identify exemplars. It includes circular principles, processes, which are illustrated by urban design of circular projects in public housing and stakeholders, benefits and measurements. graphics. System of enablers and stakeholder examine the existing housing design policies After developing the framework, circular involvement are proposed. and guidelines.

Field research: Site visits to public (e.g. clothing, electronic, food) are selected to housing estates in Southwark. London are visualise a "before and after" flow of material. conducted to understand the current waste which illustrate how the material flow and management practices. Informal dialogues loops from its origin to its cradle through the were carried out with residents during the different scales (i.e. household, estate and Scaling up: Future possibilities for scaling up site visits to gain better insights.

systems with strategies and components of different scales are designed. Three materials Impact neighbourhood).

A study area in South

assessment: Environmental. economic and social impacts are estimated according to the framework for benefits and measurements.

the circular framework and systems beyond neighbourhoods with existing public housing into different types of development projects and neighbourhoods are discussed.

Conclusion: The importance and limitations of the project are reflected upon. Future research opportunities are suggested.

Stages

Academic Literature

- Circular Framework
- Challenges
- Processes and enablers
- · Environmental, economic and social benefits

Literature review

- **Grey Literature** · Circular strategies from seven exemplars
- · Housing design policies and guidelines

Field research

Location: Southwark, London

- Examine current waste management in public housing
- · Examine waste management practices in existing public housing and new build residential

- · Conceptual model, framework and principles
- Key components
- Circular systems
- Benefits and measurement

Location: South Bermondsey, Southwark

- Site context and analysis
- Localise systems and strategies
- Stakeholders and enablers

Impact assessment

Estimation of environmental, economic and social benefits

Scaling up

Future possibilities to scale up project beyond existing public housing in other neighbourhoods

Conclusion

- Conclusion
- Limitations
- Future research opportunities

Figure 2: Methodology Framework (Source: Author's own)

2.2 Scope of study

2.3 Risk assessment and ethical statement

through the different scales of a city. To are taken to prevent ethical issues while achieve an in-depth look into this topic, the collecting information and interacting with scope of study is limited to the following the community. Measures taken are: aspects:

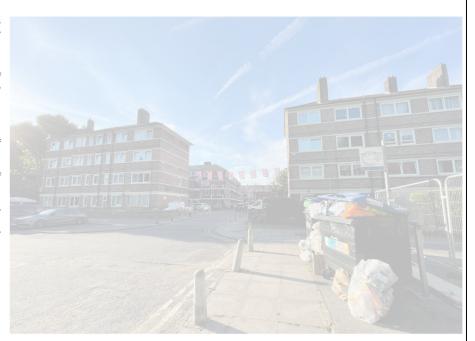
- · Material flows:
- · Organic renewable materials (i.e. food, food waste, etc.)
- · Inorganic finite materials (i.e. clothing, electronics, home furniture, home appliances, etc.)
- Household. estate and neighbourhood level interventions.

However. household, estate neighbourhood level interventions would require coordination beyond neighbourhood • level, which is discussed in the Design stage. Future possibilities and interventions of scale beyond neighbourhood are also discussed in the Scaling up section.

Some aspects that are often considered in circular cities framework are excluded from the research, which include water, energy, heating and construction waste. Nevertheless, the water, energy and carbon footprint of the material flows are examined as benefits and measurements for the circular strategies.

This research examines how materials flow Various risks are assessed and precautions

- · Risk: Field research involves low level of outdoor safety risks for conducting the field research (i.e. transport, personal safety, COVID). Appropriate mitigation measures are adopted.
- Data protection: Seek consent of participants. Anonymise interviewees in informal interviews. During photo-taking in field research, avoid including faces of individuals in pictures.
- Equality and diversity: Reflect on the context of different literature during literature review and keep in mind of the demographics of the study area.



03 Research

Literature Review, Exemplars and Field Research

3.1 Circular frameworks

Circular economy

The most widely referenced circular economy framework is from the 'butterfly diagram' by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation ('EMF'), which focuses on the flows of organic materials and inorganic materials (EMF, 2019). Loops are created within the biological and technical cycles through different processes or economic activities. It provided a foundation for different disciplines to develop their specific circular framework.

Circular cities

Various frameworks on circular cities have The Circular Cities Framework by Jo Williams circular food system (UNEP, 2021). However, study. these two frameworks may not be readily applicable to public housing estates in the UK. ICLEI's 5R framework, albeit easy to understand and remember, is too generic, while UNEP's framework provides specific strategies, rather than high level principles, for neighbourhoods.

been developed by different international (2019) is more suitable, useful and meaningful organisations and academics. ICLEI - for applying in public housing estates, It Local Governments for Sustainability, an outlinesseven principles, which she describes international NGO, co-developed and as 'circular actions' and 'support actions'. They published a Circular City Actions Framework¹ include Looping, Adapt, Regeneration of the with Circle Economy, Metabolic and urban ecosystem, Localise, Substitute, Share EMF, outlining a 5R approach of Rethink, and Optimise. The framework is developed Regenerate, Reduce, Reuse and Recover with a system approach, illustrating the (Novaketal,,2021). United Nations Environment flow of resources into, within and out of the Programme ('UNEP') also published a circular urban system. The principles of Loop, Adapt, neighbourhood framework² with a range of Regenerate and Share are most appropriate organisations, promoting three focus areas for a circular framework for public housing of circular construction, servitisation and estates in the UK, considering the scope of

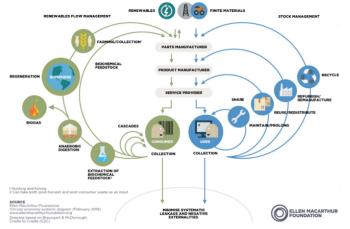


Figure 3: Circular Economy Framework by EMF (Source: EMF, 2019)

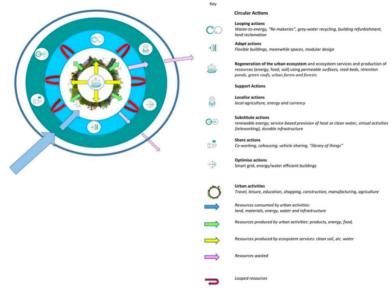


Figure 4: Circular Cities Framework by Jo Williams (Source: Williams, 2019)

See figure in Appendix

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3.2 Challenges

Through academic research and site visits, the challenges for adopting circularity in public housing can be categorised into socioeconomic, policy and system, and site design challenges.

Socio-economic

Çetin et al (2021) interviewed experts from Dutch social housing organisations and found that the top five challenges for circularity in social housing are: (1) Higher priority on other issues; (2) Operating in a linear system; (3) Lack of awareness, knowledge and experience; (4) High costs of circular materials; and (5) Unclear business case. Further studies should be conducted in the UK context to compare results.

According to Defra (2018), the current waste collection system in the UK is 'confusing' for households, as different local authorities adopt their own waste collection system. The Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 has required local authorities to provide households with separate collection of at least two types of recyclable materials (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020). Some local authorities like Southwark Council adopts a

Policy and system

According to Defra (2018), the current waste collection system in the UK is 'confusing' for households, as different local authorities adopt their own waste collection system. The Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 has required local authorities to provide households with separate collection of at least two types of recyclable materials (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020). Some local authorities like Southwark Council adopts a system to collect mixed dry recyclables and food waste separately, while some areas like Newcastle-under-Lyme adopts a multistream waste collection system where food waste, garden waste, metal/plastic, glass/cans, cardboard, paper, textiles, and plastic bottles are separated in the households (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020). This creates confusion for households, especially for those who move to different local authorities.

A multi-stream system is a better choice. It results in a higher recycling rate and reduced contamination of recyclables as consumers are more involved with sorting their wastes (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020). Evidence supports this - fewer items are disposed of incorrectly by households who are living in areas that have multi-stream recycling (Roberts and Downing, 2021); and Newcastleunder-Lyme's multi-stream system results in an increase of recycling rate from 27% in 2009 to 50% in 2012 (O'Donnell and Pranger, 2020). The UK is in need to 'upgrade' the doublestream systems of some local authorities (e.g. Southwark) to the better multi-stream systems.

'Double-stream' system





Multi-stream system

03

D3 RESEARCH 1

3.2 Challenges

Site design

From observations during field research, there are mainly two types of waste collection systems for existing public housing estates, which are kerbside/open system and chute system. Estates with either system lack appropriate space for recycling or circular processes and activities. Some estates with kerbside/open system have disorganised bins, which block pedestrian and vehicular movement. Chute systems discourages recycling activities and are prone to blockages (Moore, 2017). Some of them also lack stepfree access for all users.

For new build residential buildings with kerbside/open system, their recycling facilities are inconvenient and undesirable, as dirty environment discourages recycling activities. Their bin storages often take up street frontages, causing the streetscape to appear unattractive and unsafe.

Existing public housing -Chute system







Existing public housing : Kerbside/open system



Informal space with bulky items for disposal and sharing



Blocking pedestrians and cars

New build residential -Kerbside/open system





Dirty environment

Figure 5: Site design challenges for circularity in public housing in the UK (Source: Author's own)

3.3 **Circular strategies**

Seven exemplars from around the world are studied to classify different circular strategies at different level of scale and understand their pros and cons.

The seven exemplars are analysed and classified under four common circular principles, which are Loop, Regenerate, Share and Adapt. Their effectiveness is also evaluated. The definitions of the four common principles are adapted from Williams (2019) and listed below.



Loop

Creating material loops by reuse, recycle, recover and repair



Regenerate

Regenerating urban ecosystem and ecosystem services



Share

Sharing resources by swap, exchange, leasing and coowning



Adapt

Creating adaptive capacity for change in community and promoting the adaptive use of space

1. Kamikatsu Waste Station, Japan



TYPE | Physical space SCALE | Neighbourhood / City

Kamikatsu was the first municipality in Japan to adopt a Zero Waste policy. 1,580 residents from 800 households sort waste into 45 types in 13 categories. Kamikatsu's Waste Station serves as a communal recycling and educational space for the region. (Nippon.com, 2018)

STRATEGIES USED



Sort and recycle 45 types of waste



Regenerate

Food waste composting



Space for community to swap goods



Adapt

Act as a community space for people to share knowledge

EVALUATE

+ Pros

Able to nurture a highly engaged community to sustain a zero-waste village.

Created a system to meticulously sort and recycle 45 types of waste, which helps to retain the economic value of the resources.

- Cons

Takes years and a lot of resources to create behavioural change at a communal level.

Maybe difficult to replicate in denser urban area.

2. Recycling Stores, Hong Kong





TYPE | Network of physical space SCALE | Neighbourhood

Since 2020, the Hong Kong government has engaged non-profit making organizations in setting up a network of Recycling Stores at convenient locations. The Stores are usually located in shopfronts in mixed used area where recycling facilities are limited. They feature sleek multi-stream waste collection interface with wash basin for clean recycling. Users can earn points to be rewarded with food and other necessities by recycling. (Environmental Protection Department of Hong Kong, no date)

STRATEGIES USED



Clean recycling of multiple types of waste





Space for community to swap goods



Use gamification to encourage recycling

EVALUATE

+ Pros

where recycling services are limited.

Sleek and modern design of the 'store' attracts users to visit and recycle.

Provide washing area to encourage clean recycling.

Households can save up points through recycling and reward with food and other necessity goods, which benefits low-income families.

- Cons

Operate in mixed-used neighbourhoods Recycling stores are operated in ground level retail shopfronts, which result in high rental cost.

3.3 **Circular strategies**

3. Library of Things, London



TYPE | Network of physical space SCALE | Neighbourhood

Library of Things operate in 10 locations in London. They offer borrowing services of DIY, kitchen and gardening tools, and entertainment equipment to local communities. Their 'things' are stored in smart lockers for users to pick up after pre-ordering them online. (Library of Things, no date)

STRATEGIES USED





Allow community to share tools



Adapt

Educate users and create a community network

EVALUATE

+ Pros

Only require a small space. Can be deployed in different types of neighbourhoods.

- Cons

Require hi-tech system with higher costs to track the rental status of the tools.

Require maintenance of the tools.

4. Repair Cafe, Worldwide



TYPE | Network of physical space SCALE | Neighbourhood

Repair Café is a global initiative to create a network of 'cafes' that offers workshops and tools for visitors to drop by to fix their household items. It is a decentralised movement which people can start their own 'cafes' with the aid of the Repair Café toolkit. (Repair Café,

STRATEGIES USED



Loop

Repair and refurbish inorganic materials (clothes, furniture, appliances, etc.)



→ Share

Share tools for repairing



Adapt
Educate and train community on practical skills

EVALUATE

+ Pros

Decentralised opensource network allows interested businesses and communities to join. optimal locations.

- Cons

Decentralised opensource network also means fewer regular services in less

5. Sutton Community Farm, London



TYPE | Physical space SCALE | Neighbourhood / Borough

Sutton Community Farm is a community-owned urban farm that grows 15+ tonnes of fresh produce every year with sustainable farming practices and the help of 80 volunteers. It is a viable business with 500 VegBox subscriptions from local residents. In 2021, they cocreated with the community a strategy that planned their activities to deliver long term environmental, social and economic benefits. (Sutton Community Farm, no date)

STRATEGIES USED



Loop

Compost food waste and produce fresh food locally



Regenerate

Regenerate natural resources like soil

Adapt
Create connections between farmers and community members through vegbox and volunteering

EVALUATE

+ Pros

Conducted strategy workshops to empower farmers to community to manage the farm's activities more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable.

- Cons

Requires commitment and support from farmers, volunteers and community.

3.3 **Circular strategies**

6. Collection Blueprints, Wales



TYPE | Policies and interventions (systems and physical spaces)

SCALE | Household to National

The Collections Blueprint is the Welsh Government's recommended service profile for the collection of household waste to achieve high rate of high-quality recycling. It was launched in 2011 as part of the Municipal Sector Plan. It promotes multi-stream recycling with local authorities adopting various strategies to meet their 2050 zero waste target. (Collections Blueprint, no date)

STRATEGIES USED



Adopt multi-stream recycling nationally and refurbish inorganic resources







Adapt
Educate community on recycling with clear signages and communications

EVALUATE

+ Pros

Top-down policies and the 2050 zero waste target can help to pressure local government. authorities to adopt circularity strategies.

- Cons

Require visions and ambitions from the Welsh national

7. Green Delights in Estates, Hong Kong



TYPE | Programming SCALE | Neighbourhood / City

Green Delights in Estates is a community engagement programme targeting residents in public estates in Hong Kong. It is an annual programme, which dozens of public estates are chosen to participate every year. Programmes include upcycling workshops, green carnivals, green outreach teams, volunteering, tours to eco facilities, et cetera. (Hong Kong Housing Authority, no date)

STRATEGIES USED



Loop

Temporary collection point in estates and upcycle inorganic materials





Swap clothes and household items



Adapt
Educate public estate residents on recycling and eco-living through various programmes

EVALUATE

+ Pros

A wide range of activities attract different groups of residents in public estates.

- Cons

Only a few estates are selected annually for the programme.

3.4 Stakeholders and enablers

Stakeholders

Implementing circular strategies requires integration of social elements, creating a network of community relationships and strategising stakeholder engagement (Eikelenboom et al., 2021). Eikelenboom et al. (2021) identified stakeholders by four functions and level of interaction within the Dutch social housing context. Such model can be adapted to the UK context.

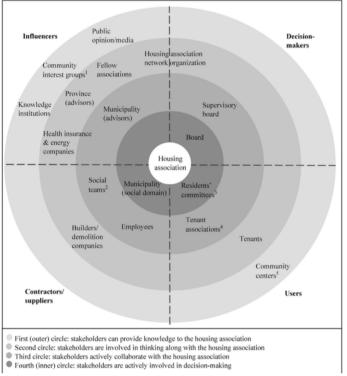


Figure 6: Stakeholders according to function and interaction for Dutch social housing (Source: Eikelenboom et al., 2021)

Enablers

To enable the successful implementation of circular strategies, various levers or enablers can be utilised, which includes regulations, provisions, financial incentives and capacity building. These high-level policies and goals can provide a strategic vision for pathways and actions for circularity, and aid local decision making (Williams, 2021). Relevant enablers should be identified for different local projects.

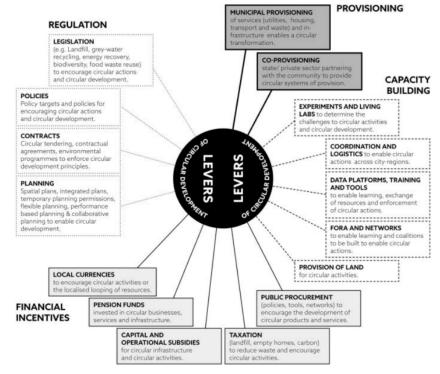


Figure 7: Levers / enablers for circular development (Source: Williams, 2021)

3.5 **Environmental, social and economic benefits**

Other than the obvious environmental benefits, Williams (2021) identified additional health, economic and community benefits brought by circular cities strategies. These benefits are mapped with the three relevant circular principles, which are Loop, Adapt and Regenerate.

As implementing circular strategies requires investment, political support and public engagement, identifying and presenting the associated environmental, social and economic benefit can build the case to gain support. Continuous monitoring and reporting of the benefits would also keep all stakeholders engaged. Williams' framework of benefits for circular cities serves as a useful foundation for developing a more specific framework for circular public housing in the



Figure 8: Framework of benefits for circular cities (Source: Williams, 2021)

-4

04 Design Circular Framework & Systems

4.1 Key research takeaways

4.2 Conceptual model -How do materials flow through the city at different level?

stage and are taken into account in the design cities framework (2019), a conceptual model stage when proposing circular framework of material flows and circularity through estates, neighbourhoods, and eventually to circular strategies/actions) are created and systems for public housing in the UK.

- There are a lot of circular economy or circular cities frameworks developed by academia and organisations. A more specific circular framework should be developed to cater for the context of public housing estates.
- To set up circular systems, a hard approach of altering physical spaces like setting up recycling centres are not enough. It should be accompanied by softer measures like programming. Key stakeholders and enablers should be identified. Strategies for stakeholder engagement and activating enablers should be developed to ensure success.
- The current waste collection system in public housing estates lacks appropriate space for circular activities and social interactions. Local authorities with 'double-stream' recyclable collection system should be upgraded to multistream system.

Key insights are gained from the research. Taking inspiration from Williams' circular Red lines represent organic and inorganic. Green lines represent material circularity household, estate and neighbourhood levels borough level waste facilities. Some materials within the system, material input and is developed.

environmental footprint.

materials flowing through households, at different level. When more 'loops' (i.e. are output to landfills or for energy recovery, output of the system can be reduced, hence which are less environmentally sustainable increasing the system resilience on material options. Some are output to circular demands. The aim of this design project is processes like recycling and remanufacturing to create more 'loops' at household, estate beyond borough level. However, the further and neighbourhood level to lower material the material outputs travel, the higher the reliance from outside the neighbourhood systems.

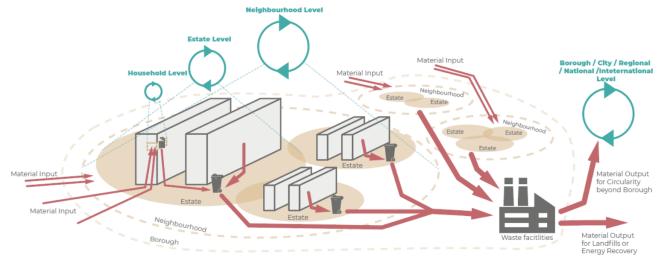


Figure 9: Conceptual model of material flows and circularity (Source: Author's own)

4.3

Circular framework and systems

Overview and four circular principles

A circular framework for public housing is proposed. Circular systems of different materials should be implemented across different scale (i.e. household, estate and neighbourhood). Each circular system involves alteration of physical spaces, programming, stakeholders and enablers. These aspects are essential for the success of the circular systems. By implementing circular systems, environmental, economic and social benefits can be generated for the estates / neighbourhood, enhancing the sustainable regeneration and development of the area.

Circular systems are developed based on four circular principles, namely Loop, Regenerate, Share and Adapt. The definitions of the four principles are adapted from William (2019) and listed below.



Loop

Creating material loops by reuse, recycle, recover and repair



Regenerate

Regenerating urban ecosystem and ecosystem services



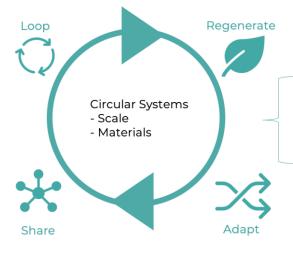
Share

Sharing resources by swap, exchange, leasing and coowning



Adapt

Creating adaptive capacity for change in community and promoting the adaptive use of space



Key components

- Physical spaces
- Programming
- Stakeholders
- Enablers

Generating benefits



Environmental





Figure 10: Circular framework for public housing in the UK (Source: Author's own)

Circular framework and systems

Key components of circular systems

Key components of circular systems include (a) Physical Spaces, (b) Programming, (c) Stakeholders and (d) Enablers. Physical Space interventions plus Programming at household, estate and neighbourhood level form systems of material flows. Circular systems also involve stakeholders who may have overlapping roles, and the activation of multiple enablers.

The framework of stakeholders and enablers are developed by adapting frameworks by Eikelenboom et al. (2021) and Williams (2021) (on page 21) to the context of public housing in the UK.

Definitions of (c) stakeholders

Coordinator: Strategise and coordinate circular systems

Operator: Implement and operate circular systems

Influencer: Advocate and influence circular actions

User: Use circular systems and participate in circular activities

Definitions of (d) enablers

Regulations: Promote circularity through legislation, policies, contracts and planning **Provisions**: Provide circular services

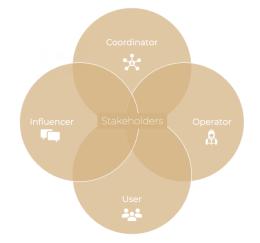
Financial incentives: Encourage and incentivise circularity with local currencies, pension funds, subsidies, taxation and public procurement

Capacity building: Promoting circularity through experiment, education, networking and provision of land

(a) Physical Spaces + (b) Programming

Workshops for repairing Second life marketplace Gamification for Circular Hood recycling 111 Library of things Community workshop 111 Containers for Classes for community Multi-stream multi-stream waste interface sorting and Community Sharing shelves clean recycle co-op farm Wash basin for Circular Hub Sorted Bins Flexible system Gardening clean recycle for small flats Community Farm classes ш $0 \times \times$ 0 × Composter 0040 Engage with local businesses Selling of local fresh produce Local Market 0 *>

(c) Stakeholders



(d) Enablers

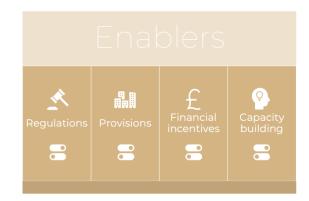


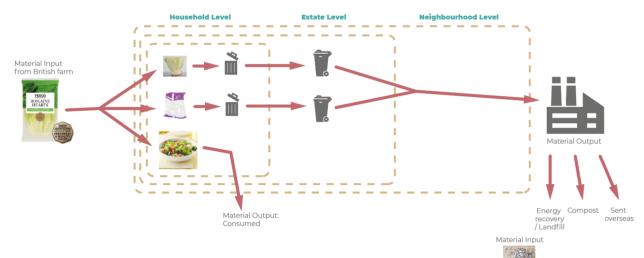
Figure 11: Key components of circular systems (Source: Author's own)

Circular framework and systems

Circular systems of three material flows

Three materials (i.e. romaine lettuce, jeans and TV) are selected to illustrate how materials flow through the different scale of places before and after the interventions. Material loops, as shown by green lines, are created after interventions, which help to reduce material input and output.

BEFORE - LINEAR SYSTEM



AFTER - CIRCULAR SYSTEM

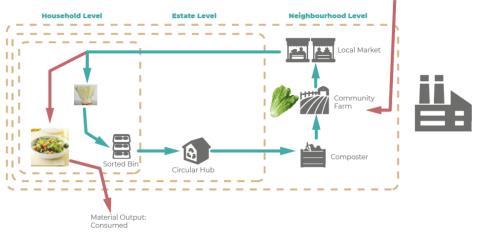


Figure 12a: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)

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4.3 Circular framework and systems

Circular systems of three material flows

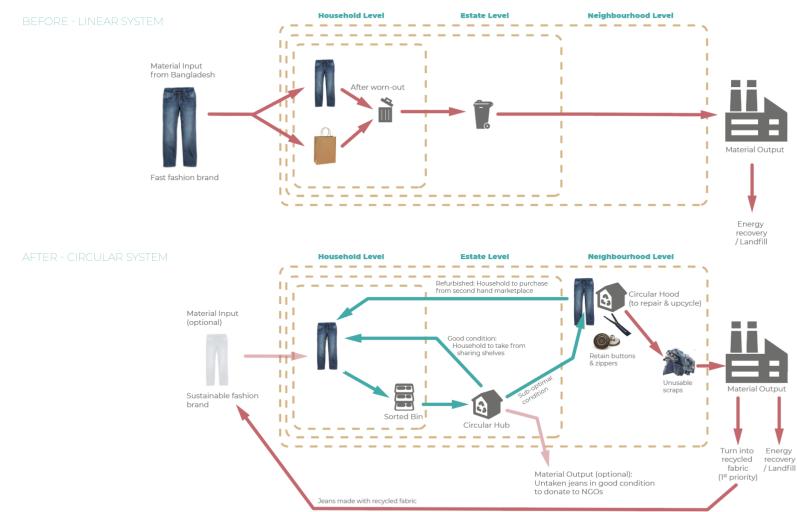


Figure 12b: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)

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4.3 Circular framework and systems

Circular systems of three material flows



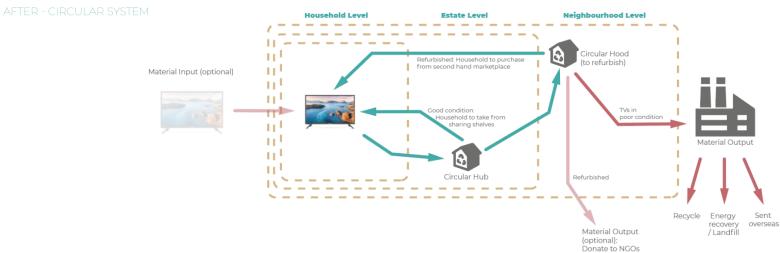


Figure 12c: Linear and circular systems of three select materials (Source: Author's own)

Framework for benefits and measurements

A framework for benefits and measurements is developed with reference to Williams (2021) framework of benefits. The five most relevant benefits under environmental, economic and social aspects are selected. Possible measurements for each benefit are proposed and each benefit are mapped to the associated circular principles.



Environmental

	Benefits	Possible measurements	Circular principles
EN1	Reduce material consumptions	 Tonnes of resources looped, regenerated and shared within the system Tonnes of resources exited the system 	€
EN2	Reduce carbon footprint	 Scope 3 GHG emissions associated with material saved 	€
EN3	Reduce water footprint	Water footprint associated with material saved	() / *×3
EN4	Provide ecosystem services	 Provisioning services: Food provided from community farm Regulating services: GHG avoidance from new trees Support services: Compost produced 	Q ∅ *×
EN5	Increase environmental awareness	 Number of volunteers and volunteering hours Number of participants Residents' surveys 	(/# *×3

Table 1: Framework for benefits and measurement for circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK (Source: Author's own)



		Benefits	Possible measurements	Circular principles
;	EC1	Save costs	 Residents' surveys: Cost- savings for household items per family 	() /* ××
	EC2	Create jobs	· Number of new jobs	
	EC3	Create new businesses	Number of new businesses	
	EC4	Boost local economy	 Revenue from interventions (Community farms, Circular Hubs, local markets, circular shops, etc.) 	⊕ #×\$
	EC5	Activate underutilised land	Sqm of activated landEconomic value generated from activated land	₩ ₩



	Benefits	Possible measurements	Circular principles
SOI	Improve health	 Local fresh produce provided from community farm Census data Residents' surveys 	() / *×
SO2	Empower community	 Number of participants in activities Number of volunteers and volunteering hours Residents' surveys 	€
SO3	Build local social capital	 Number of participants in activities Number of volunteers and volunteering hours Number of community groups supported 	€
SO4	Enable equitable access to resources	Tonnes of resources looped, regenerated and shared within the system	⊕ *×
SO5	Create communal spaces	Sqm of new communal space created	⊕ *×

05 Design - Application

South Bermondsey, London, UK

5.1 Rationale of site selection

Southwark as a borough is selected to be studied further to identify a suitable neighbourhood as a study area. Southwark has the largest council housing stock of any borough in London and the highest proportion of council housing to homes of any council in the country (Independent Commission on the Future of Council Housing in Southwark, 2012). To narrow down the study area, four most deprived neighbourhoods, namely Elephant and Castle, Bermondsey, Walworth and Peckham, are mapped in pink while public housing estates managed by Southwark Council within the most deprived neighbourhoods are in blue.

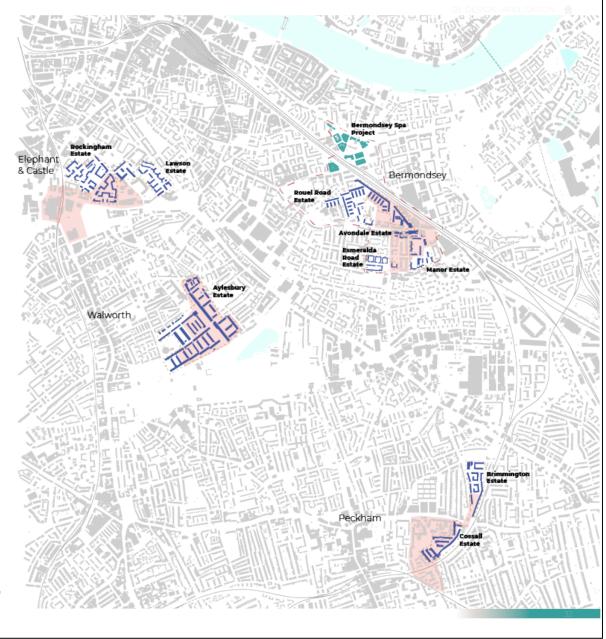
South Bermondsey is selected as the study area because of the following reasons:

- There are many existing public housing estates with diverse building typologies (i.e. slab, tower, external walkway, etc.).
- There is a new build residential development by Levitt Bernstein, which allows for contrasting between existing and new build estates.
- Southwark Plan 2022 does not include it as a "site allocation", which reflects that the area is understudied and neglected.



Public housing estates managed by Southwark council

Figure 13: Map of most deprived neighbourhoods and their public housing estates in Southwark Borough (Source: Author's own)



5.2 Site analysis

Located in south London, South Bermondsey is a ward within London Borough of Southwark. The site is 54.3 hectare in size. It is dominated by four large public housing estates with diverse building typologies ranging from two-storey terraces to five-storey slabs and 11-storey towers. A railway viaduct with arches runs northwest southeast through the site, separating the Bermondsey Spa project in the northern part of the site, which is a new build residential regeneration project completed by Levitt Bernstein in 2014 (Levitt Bernstein, no date).



South Bermondsey, London, UK

Figure 14: Site analysis map of South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)

5.3 Social demographic profile

According to the 2011 Census (Southwark Council, no date), South Bermondsey¹ has a population of 13,760 with 52% of homes being social rented. It has a higher unemployment rate and economically inactive percentage than the London average. 41% of residents in social rented homes are BAME, while 8% thought that they were in bad or very bad health. Therefore, there are opportunities for the circular strategies to provide economic and social benefits for residents in South Bermondsey.

South Bermondsey, London, UK

13,760 Population	5,72 Household

	South Bermondsey	Southwark	England
Age			
0-24	35%	33%	31%
25-49	45%	46%	35%
50-64	13%	13%	18%
65+	7%	8%	16%
Economy			
Benefit claimants	17%	14%	14%
Housing			
Owned	25%	31%	64%
Private rented	23%	25%	18%
Social rented	52%	44%	18%

	Unemployed	Economically inactive
London average	4%	27%
South Bermondsey - Social rented	9%	38%

^{*} Economically inactive: retired, students, looking after family, long term sickness or disability

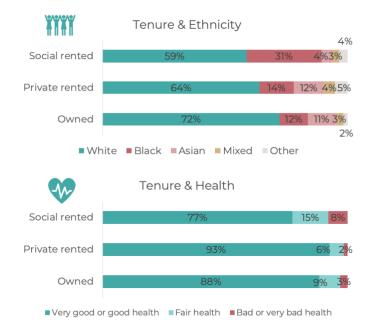


Figure 15: Socio-economic demographic profile of South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own; Data from Southwark Council, no date)

¹ Note that the 2011 Census boundary of South Bermondsey is not the same as the site boundary. Our study area covers around **50%** of the area of South Bermondsey.

5.4 Current waste management system in Southwark

At present, Southwark operates a 'double-stream' recyclable collection system with mixed dry recyclables and food waste for households. Along with general waste, these three types of household wastes are collected weekly or bi-weekly, and transferred to Southwark Integrated Waste Management Facility ('IWF') operated by Veolia, where they are further sorted into different streams centrally by large scale industrial machinery. The residual wastes are biologically processed and turned into Solid Recovered Fuel ('SRF'). SRF is then transferred to an energy recovery facility in Deptford to burn off and generate electricity (Veolia, 2015).



Waste collection

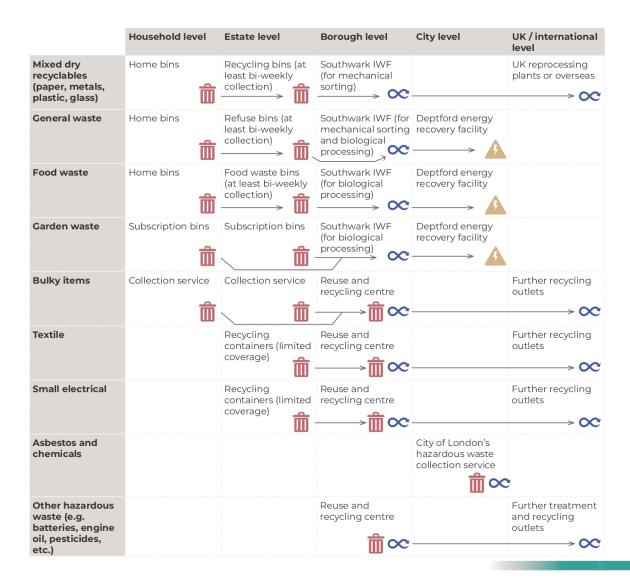


Recycling or treatment process



Energy recovery

Figure 16: Current waste management system in Southwark (Source: Author's own)



5.5 Opportunity areas



Figure 17: Opportunity map for circular strategies in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)

CIRCULAR PUBLIC HOUSING

Intervention map

A network that covers the study area is created with estate and neighbourhood level interventions.

Estate level: Circular Hubs are resource gathering points for multiple estates. They can be reached by two-minute walk from the surrounding estates.

Neighbourhood level: Circular Hood serves as a central place for a wide range of circular activities for the neighbourhoods. It can be reached by five-minute walk by most estates in the area.

Finite inorganic material flows are created from Circular Hubs to Circular Hood. For instance, furniture in Circular Hubs is transported to communal workshop in Circular Hood to be refurbished and sold in second life marketplace.

A renewable material flow network is formed between all circular facilities. Food waste collected from Circular Hubs and Circular Hood is transported to community farms for composting. Fresh produce from community farms is sold in local markets.

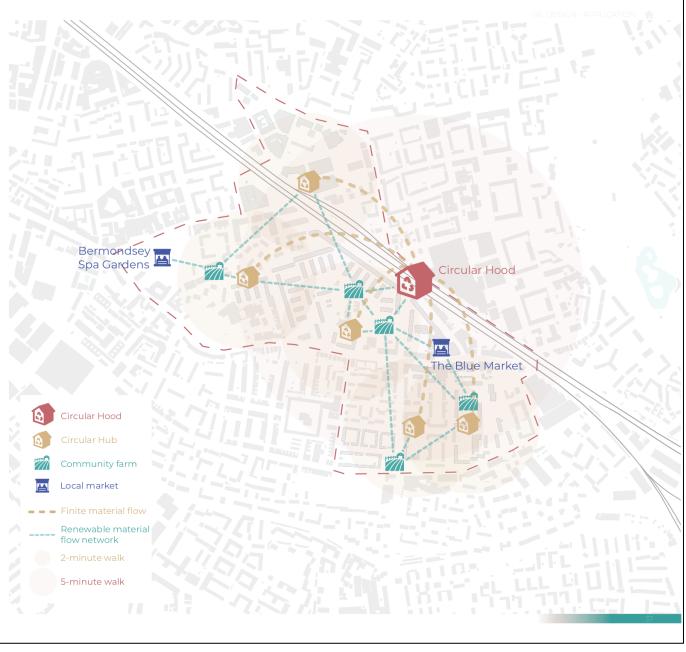


Figure 18: Intervention map for circular systems in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)

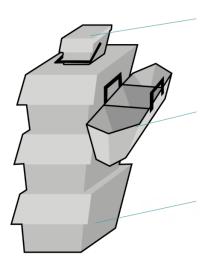


Household le Sorted Bins Household level -

At the household level, it is important for occupants to have ample storage for recyclables and general waste to encourage waste sorting and clean recycling. As most flats are small, a stackable solution called Sorted Bins is proposed to save precious space. With the help of this solution, occupants can start building up their habit of sorting and clean recycling at home. As there are similar products available on the market, users can choose suitable readily available products with dimensions that work for their own flats.

Name: Sorted Bins Scale: Household

Number of facilities: Every household



- Easy to carry
- Smaller capacity due to frequent clearing out

- Reusable carrier bag to throw out recyclables to save single-use plastic trash bags
- Multiple inner pockets to carry sorted recyclables

- Space saving design with easy side access
- Room to store recyclables (Less journeys and encourage clean recycling)



Figure 19: Schematic and illustration of Sorted Bins (Source: Author's own)



Estate level - Circular Hub

Name: Circular Hubs Scale: Estate Number of facilities: 5 Total area: 1.873 sam

Circular Hubs allow for residents from multiple estates to gather and share resources and experiences. Underutilised spaces are transformed to provide residents with circular facilities maintained by Circular Hub Managers and volunteers for circular activities in a communal and inclusive way.

Requirements of site selection for Circular Hubs are:

- · Garages or lockers of public housing estates that are infrequently used; or
- · Existing waste collection facilities; and
- · Reachable by 2-minute walk from multiple housing estates.

Circular Hub Managers are hired to manage multiple hubs in the neighbourhood. Their responsibilities include:

- · Maintenance of multi-stream waste collection systems;
- · Maintenance of sharing shelves;
- · Organising circular programmes for estate residents;
- · Organising regular weekly outreach to educate residents on recycling; and
- · Building network of volunteers to nurture ownership so that volunteers can help to maintain the Hubs.



Multi-stream waste collection interface



Wash basin



Sharing shelves



Social corners





















Weekly outreach by Circular Hub Manager



Upcycling workshops



Volunteering programme















Figure 20: Essential components and their associated circular principles of Circular Hubs (Source: Author's own)





Name: Circular Hood Scale: Neighbourhood Number of facilities: 1 Total area: 3,463 sqm

Circular Hood acts as a centre point for the network of material flows. It has a recycle point for residents to drop off their recycables and earn reward points. Its Library of Things, communal workshop and second life marketplace allow residents to engage in higher level and less frequent circular activities, such as repairing and purchasing of refurbished items. Spaces are provided for incubating new sustainable and circular businesses. Some spaces can be rented to new businesses at an affordable rate. Various acitvities like Circular Fest and education programmes inject vibrancy, making it an attractive communal place for the neighbourhood.

Requirements of site selection for Circular Hood are:

- · Underutilised or unused spaces such as railway arches and vacant shops; and
- Reachable by 5-minute walk from most housing estates.



Multi-stream waste collection interface





Library of Things









Communal workshop





















Zero waste shop













Green incubator







Affordable offices for green businesses







Education centre













Reward system















apprenticeship









programme









Location: Blue Anchor Lane Address: Blue Anchor Ln, London SE16 3UL Site area: 3,463 sqm

MULTI-STREAM WASTE COLLECTION INTERFACE Offers a range of tools for

A sleek interface with wash basin for residents to clean and insert pre-sorted recyclables

transport resources

ZERO WASTE SHOP

Encourages consumers to purchased goods with zero packaging

GREEN INCUBATOR

Incubator space for sustainable start-ups and makers to benefit from agglomeration of ideas

EDUCATION CENTRE AND EVENT SPACE

Spaces for visitors to learn about circularity and green NGOs to host events

AFFORDABLE SPACE FOR GREEN BUSINESSES

Green businesses can rent the space at a discounted rate

LOADING ZONE FOR **CARGO BIKES**

Allows cargo bikes to between circular facilities

REWARD SYSTEM

Users gain points for recyclables or participation in circular activities and can use points for rewards like daily necessities

Figure 21: Illustration of Circular Hood (Source : Author's own)

CLASSES AND APPRENTICESHIP

Allow residents to learn a trade and upskill for new job opportunities

COMMUNAL WORKSHOP

Residents can drop-in to repair

their household items with the

SECOND LIFE

here

MARTKETPLACE

Refurbished and pre-

owned goods are sold

aid of on-site experts

LIBRARY OF THINGS

residents to borrow short-

term

COMMUNITY HERB CIRCULAR FEST

Regular pop-ups to allow sustainable businesses to promote eco-living to residents

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Tours and workshops co-organised with schools to instil a sense of stewardship in young people



Name: Community farm Scale: Neighbourhood Number of facilities: 5 Total area: 10,390 sqm

area should be utilised for communal farms. be sold in local markets during weekends. These are different from allotments as Outreach programmes or pop-ups that community farms should be accessible by promote circular economy and eco-living the public. A major function of community can be introduced. This is an important farms is to enhance urban metabolism to component of the circular system to boost 'digest' food waste into useful compost, and local economy and build local resilience. thus, to regenerate the ecosystem.

get a box of veggies once a month. This secures west of the study area. income streams for the farms. Programming of the farms includes gardening classes and volunteer programmes.



Neighbourhood level -Local Market

Name: Local market Scale: Neighbourhood Number of facilities: 2

Underused green spaces within the study Fresh produce from community farms can

The existing Blue Market, where traders Community farms can be run by community operate daily or weekly on Saturdays, can groups or organisations and managed by allow more sustainable businesses to trade hired professionals along with community there. The popular Bermondsey Spa Gardens volunteers. They can be financially supported is a potential new spot for another weekly by subscription of 'vegbox', which subscribers local market to serve communities in the







Stakeholders and enablers

The success of the project depends on the involvement of the key stakeholders. The roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders should be clear to avoid confusion and enhance collaboration. Local authority should take a leadership and coordinating role in promoting and implementing circularity in their borough. Different stakeholders should also explore and activate various enablers to create a more favourable environment for circular strategies.

Coordinator Influencer Stakeholders Operator User



Stakeholders

Stakeholders							
	Roles	Organisation(s)	Responsibilities				
Local authority	Coordinator Influencer Operator	Southwark Council	Rethinks Southwark's circular economy and waste management policies Consults and engages with stakeholders Coordinates and implements circular framework and systems within borough Develops service-level agreements and service charters for circular facilities and monitors quality of service delivery by operators				
Housing associations	Influencer Operator	 Various (See list in appendix) 	Work with local authorities to plan and implement circular systems in their managed properties Become a circular facility operator or collaborate with circular facility operators Manage and communicate facility changes with residents				
Service provider	Influencer Operator	· Veolia	Works with council to reconfigure existing waste management system				
Local community	Influencer Operator User	The Blue Market WISE16 Bermondsey Community Kitchen The Salmon Youth Centre in Bermondsey Big Local Works Bermondsey Community Southwark	Provide local knowledge and insights Work with local council and participate in circular programmes Become a circular facility operator or collaborate with circular facility operators				
Interest groups / NGOs	Influencer Operator User	Business in the Community ReLondon Library of Things Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)	 Provide professional advice to stakeholders Work with local council and participate in circular programmes Become a circular facility operator or collaborate with circular facility operators 				
Private sector	Influencer Operator User	Big chain supermarketsLocal businessesSustainable start-ups	Participate in circular programmes				

Table 2: Key stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities (Source: Author's own)

Enablers

Regulations	Southwark local plan : Southwark Council to include circular policies and guidance in local plan
	Southwark's Waste management guidance notes for residential developments: Southwark Council to amend to allow for a more community-oriented and circular approach to waste management
Provisions	Southwark's waste collection and management services : Southwark Council to renegotiate or review its contract with service provider Veolia to reconfigure waste collection and management
	Partnership with circular facility operators and local community groups: Southwark Council to develop service-level agreements and service charters for circular facilities and work closely with them to ensure proper delivery of services
Financial incentives	Section 106 : Southwark Council to negotiate Section 106 agreements with developers to provide circular facilities
	Community infrastructure levy (CIL) : Supporting new circular facilities and services with funding from CIL, which is a levy on new development that can be used for community facilities
Capacity building	Circular Space as a living lab: Circular Space provides spaces for experimental learning for different community groups and organisations, which is great for incubating new ideas and approaches for circular economy
	Circular Hubs to build networks : Circular Hubs are spaces for residents of the same estates to get together. Through communal sharing, swapping and programming, residents can bond and build networks of local support and eco-action

Table 3: Enablers for circular strategies in South Bermondsey (Source: Author's own)

06 Evaluate

CIDCULAD DURUC HOUSING

6.1 **Impact assessment**

Based on the proposed framework for benefits and measurements, estimation models are developed to quantify the select environmental, economic and social benefits from the circular interventions. Key assumptions¹ are applied in the estimation process, thus, the results below are very likely to vary in real life situation. Detailed assumptions and calculations are available in Appendix (page 53).





Resources looped, regenerated and shared within the system annually

Equivalent to weight of

14 London buses

Scope 3 GHG emissions avoided from resources saved and general waste diverted from combustion annually

FOOTPRINT (EN2)

Equivalent to planting



PROVIDE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (EN4)

Food produced from community farms

Equivalent to

24 servings of salad per resident in South Bermondsey





Circular Hood





Community farm



CREATE JOBS

New core jobs created

CREATE NEW **BUSINESSES (EC3)**

New businesses created



ACTIVATE UNDERUTILISED LAND (EC5)

Area of newly activated land

Key assumptions:

- The circular facilities cover a total of 2100 households. 10% of their resources/wastes are looped within the
- 10% of covered households' resources/wastes are looped within the system.
- Resources looped, regenerated and shared within the system are diverted from combustion for energy recovery.
- Covered households' recycling rate increases from 35%
- Only lettuce, potatoes, tomatoes and cucumbers are planted in community farms.
- 5% of covered households generate 1 volunteer.

M EMPOWER COMMUNITY (SO2)

Number of volunteers

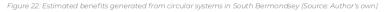
BUILD LOCAL SOCIAL

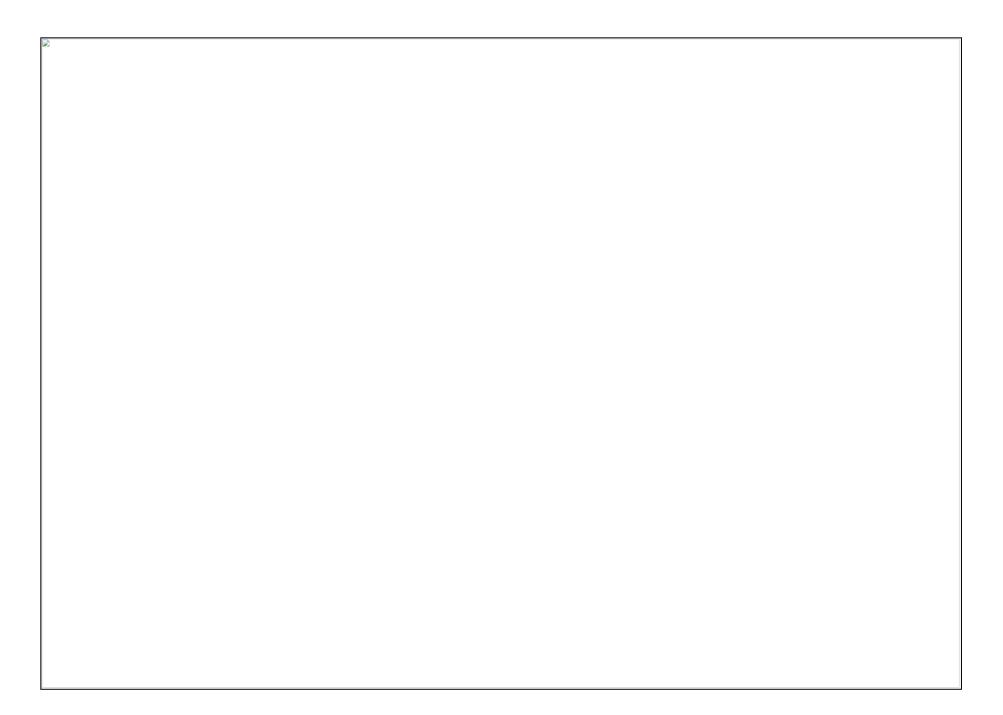
Number of community groups supported



New communal space created







6.2 Scaling up

Estate / Neighbourhood level -Creating better streetscapes and neighbourhoods

Other than the importance of providing clean and accessible multi-stream waste collection interface with wash basin and communal space for circular activities, the research and design stage also suggest the potential of creating a more vibrant and attractive streetscape and neighbourhood with circular systems. Workshops and communal spaces replace dead frontages. As circular systems become more established, waste can be reduced per household. Vehicles used for transporting wastes and materials can be downscaled from waste trucks to smaller vans or cargo bikes, which contribute to lighter traffic.

Recommendations

To local authorities

- · Short term: Amend design guidance for waste and recycling facilities to promote communal space, active frontage, universal design. Add specifications on . multi-stream waste collection interface and minimum space for communal space (e.g. sharing shelves)
- Shortterm:Forsmallerurbandevelopment projects, recognise the potential for the · Circular systems work with new site to be a Circular Hood for the existing neighbourhood
- · Long term: Review road layout and waste facilities (i.e. dragging distance of bins)requirements as waste generation decreases and smaller vehicles replace conventional waste trucks

To developers

- · For smaller urban development projects: Reserve ground frontages for Circular Hubs or Circular Hood functions
- · For larger masterplan type new development: incorporate circular systems in masterplan and use it as a placemaking strategy

Rationale / business case

- · Circular Hubs and Circular Hood can create more vibrant and safer streets and neighbourhoods
- Circular Hubs and Circular Hood can be can be incorporated into commercial spaces as part of a placemaking startegy to help to increase footfall
- development's sustainability priorities. It helps to promote sustainable lifestyle and improves marketability of the development

Before circular systems Pavement Road Pavement Road must be at least 5m wide to

turning circle of waste truck

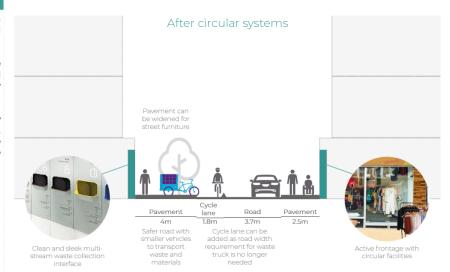


Figure 24: Changes in streetscape in new build development before and after the implementation of circular systems

6.2 Scaling up

City level – Shaping circular cities with circular neighbourhoods

Creating circular neighbourhoods contributes to the formation of circular cities. Creating more material loops within neighbourhood level results in less output of wasteful material to the borough/city level, enhancing the overall urban metabolism. There is also less waste to be exported overseas to be further processed. Precious land resources can be saved in the city as there is less demand for waste facilities, such as waste truck depots. landfills and incinerators, to handle and process waste. This brings about indirect benefits, such as better health and saving cost. Ultimately, circular neighbourhoods become building blocks that form circular cities, which support sustainable development.

Recommendations

To local authorities

- Review and enhance resource management / circular economy policies and operations
- Incorporate circular cities vision and Local councils can save on operation cost targets into local plan
- · Integrate circular cities strategies as part of the policies and plans for climate change mitigation and resilience
- Identify potential neighbourhoods and develop roadmap to implement circular
- Work with neighbouring local authorities to consolidate waste facilities and circular systems

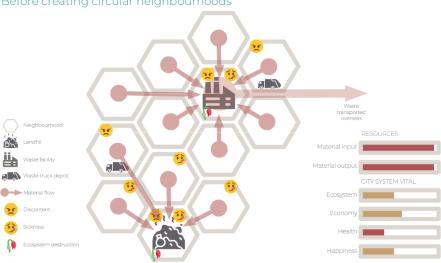
To developers

· For larger masterplan type new development: incorporate circular design at household, estate and neighbourhood level

Rationale / business case

- · Less landfills and incinerators in cities can be beneficial to the health of surrounding residents and environment
- for waste facilities and waste collection as waste generation decreases
- · Freed-up land can be used for generating higher economic value or restoring ecological value

Before creating circular neighbourhoods



After creating circular neighbourhoods

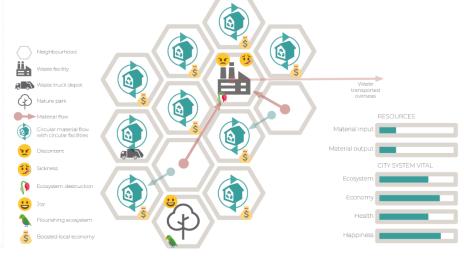


Figure 25: Schematic of shaping circular cities with circular neighbourhoods and its effect on resources and sustainability

6.3 Conclusion

This research project started with exploring the question of 'How to enable circular strategies in public housing estates in the UK for environmental, social and economic benefits?'. After conducting literature review and field research, insights gained are inputted to develop a circular framework and circular systems that work in public housing estates in the UK context. This framework is based upon creating circular systems at household, estate and neighbourhood level with four circular principles, namely Loop, Regenerate, Share and Adapt.

It is then tested and applied in South Bermondsev, one of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Southwark, London. Design of circular strategies like Circular Hubs and Circular Hood are developed. The environmental, economic and social benefits generated from the circular strategies are estimated in accordance with the proposed framework of benefits and measurements. By going through the stages of research, design and evaluate, it is concluded that the proposed circular framework is viable for local authorities and developers to apply to existing public housing estates in the UK to bring about sustainability benefits.

Yet, the true potential of this circular framework lays in its ability to scale up and to be applied in new housing development, either smaller urban development projects or larger masterplan type development. Recommendations for local authorities and developers are provided to create circular neighbourhoods in new development, which ultimately become the building blocks for shaping circular cities that contribute to sustainable development.

Limitations and critical reflections

- major role in circular economy. They are Topics include: and deciding on the production, material used, packaging and logistics of their products. Intervention in built environment alone is not enough in . bringing about a paradigm shift towards circular economy.
- It would be challenging to implement multi-stream waste collection in Southwark. Southwark has an integrated waste management facility that uses advanced technology to sort and process mixed dry recyclables. Huge upfront investment in the facility has been made. It would take political capital and a culture shift to move from adopting a technological waste treatment approach to a community-oriented circular economy approach.

Future research

Private sector like online retail giants. Future research can be conducted to continue grocers and fashion brands also plays a the development of the circular framework.

- influential in advocating for consumerism · Adapting circular systems in different kinds of neighbourhoods (e.g. suburbs) or urban environments of different global context (e.g. global south)
 - The scale of settlement (i.e. population, urban density, etc.) needed for adopting circular systems



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Appendix

Supplementary information



Figure 26: ICLEI Circular City Action Framework (Source: Novak et al., 2021)



Figure 27: UNEP Circular Neighbourhood Framework (Source: United Nations Environment Programme, 2021)

Supplementary information

- · Anchor Trust
- Arundel Buildings Housing Cooperative Limited
- Coin Street Secondary Housing Cooperative Lim-ited
- · Co-operative Development Society Limited
- East Homes Limited
- · Ekaya Housing Association Limited
- Housing 21
- Housing For Women
- Keniston Housing Association Limited
- Lambeth & Southwark Housing Association Lim-ited
- Look Ahead Housing and Care Limited
 Now World Housing Association
- New World Housing Association Limited
- · Octavia Housing
- · Orbit Group Limited
- Orbit South Housing Association Limited
- Places for People Homes Limited
- Salvation Army Housing Association
- · Sanctuary Housing Association
- Southwark and London Diocesan Housing Assoc Ltd
- The Abbeyfield Rotherhithe Society Limited
- The Industrial Dwellings Society (1885) Ltd
- The Riverside Group Housing Limited

Table 4: List of housing association partners in Southwark (Source: Southwark Homesearch, no date)

	Benefits	Measurements	Estimations	Assumptions	Data sources
EN1	Reduce material consumptions	Tonnes of resources looped, regenerated and shared within the system	175 tonnes	The 2-minute walk catchment area for each Circular Hub and Circular Hood includes 350 households. The circular facilities cover a total of 2100 households. 10% of their resources/wastes are looped within the system. (Note that the study area covers around 50% of South Bermondsey, which has 5727 households in 2011 Census)	Household waste data: https://lginform.local.gov.uk
EN2	Reduce carbon footprint	Scope 3 GHG emissions avoided from resources saved and general waste diverted from combustion	9.4 tonnes		GHG emission factor: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas- reporting-conversion-factors-2022
EN4	Provide ecosystem services	Food produced from community farms	25.1 tonnes	larea. Only lettuce, potatoes, tomatoes	Farm product yield ratio: https://static- content.springer.com/esm/art%3A10.1038%2Fs41598-020-62126 4/MediaObjects/41598_2020_62126_MOESM1_ESM.pdf
EC2	Create jobs	New core jobs created	20	8 full-time jobs are created for 5 Circular Hubs and 5 community farms. 12 new core jobs are created in Circular Hood for recycle point, Library of Things, communal workshop and second life marketplace.	/
EC3	Create new businesses	New businesses created	15	15 new green businesses to be incubated in Circular Hood and local markets the first year.	/
EC5	Activate underutilised land	Area of newly activated land	11,449 sqm	Two of the community farms are existing allotments, which are not counted as newly activated land.	/
SO2	Empower community	Number of volunteers	105	5% of covered households generate 1 volunteer.	/
SO3	Build local social capital	Number of community groups supported	10	6 identified local community groups plus 4 other community groups supported.	/
SO5	Create communal space	New communal space created	6,029 sqm	New communal spaces comprise of Circular Hubs, 40% area of community farm and 70% area of Circular Place.	/

Table 5: Detailed assumptions and calculation of benefits and measurements (Source: Author's own)

Risk assessment

The Bartlett School of Planning



BPLN0052: Major Research Project

MRP Proposal – Risk Assessment

Your details:

Name:	Marco Mak
Programme:	MSc Urban Design and City Planning
Supervisor:	Judith Loesing

Supervisor sign-off for Ethical Clearance Forms and Risk Assessment Forms

(For supervisor completion only BEFORE submission via Moodle)

Are you satisfied with the risk assessment form (yes/no)?

Please provide any additional comments about the form that may help the student.

If the form is missing, the proposal must be given a mark of 0, and the student will have 48hours to resubmit the complete proposal. If the form is unsatisfactory, the student must amend their ethical questionnaire to your satisfaction before they can proceed with their research)

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM FIELD / LOCATION WORK



DEPARTMENT/SECTION: BARTLETT SCHOOL OF PLANNING

LOCATION(S): LONDON

PERSONS COVERED BY THE RISK ASSESSMENT: Marco Mak

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIELDWORK (including geographic location): Field research in public

housing estates in London

COVID-19 RELATED GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT STATEMENT:

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. The virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Droplets fall on people in the vicinity and can be directly inhaled or picked up on the hands and transferred when someone touches their face. This risk assessment documents key risks associated fieldwork during a pandemic, but it is not exhaustive and will not be able to cover all known risks, globally. This assessment outlines principles adopted by UCL at an institutional level and it is necessarily general. Please use the open text box 'Other' to indicate any contingent risk factors and control measures you might encounter during the course of your dissertation research and writing.

Please refer to the Dissertation in Planning Guidance Document (available on Moodle) to help you complete this form.

Hazard 1: Risk of Covid -19 infection during research related travel and research related interactions with others (when face-to-face is possible and/or unavoidable)

Risk Level - Medium /Moderate

Existing Advisable Control Measures: Do not travel if you are unwell, particularly if you have COVID-19 symptoms. Self-isolate in line with NHS (or country-specific) guidance.

Avoid travelling and face-to-face interactions; if you need to travel and meet with others:

- If possible, avoid using public transport and cycle or walk instead.
- If you need to use public transport travel in off-peak times and follow transport provider's and governmental guidelines.
- Maintain (2 metre) social distancing where possible and where 2 metre social distancing is not achievable, wear face covering.
- Wear face covering at all times in enclosed or indoor spaces.
- Use hand sanitiser prior to and after journey.
- Avoid consuming food or drinks, if possible, during journey.
- Avoid, if possible, interchanges when travelling choose direct route.
- Face away from other persons. If you have to face a person ensure that the duration is as short as possible.
- Do not share any items i.e. stationary, tablets, laptops etc. If items need to be shared use

disinfectant wipes to disinfect items prior to and after sharing.

- If meeting in a group for research purposes ensure you are following current country specific guidance on face-to-face meetings (i.e rule of 6 etc.)
- If and when possible meet outside and when not possible meet in venues with good ventilation (e.g. open a window)
- If you feel unwell during or after a meeting with others, inform others you have interacted with, self-isolate and get tested for Covid-19
- Avoid high noise areas as this mean the need to shout which increases risk of aerosol transmission of the virus
- Follow one way circulation systems, if in place. Make sure to check before you visit a building.
- Always read and follow the visitors policy for the organisation you will be visiting.
- Flush toilets with toilet lid closed.
- -'Other' Control Measures you will take (specify):

NOTE: The hazards and existing control measures above pertain to Covid-19 infection risks only. More generalised health and safety risk may exist due to remote field work activities and these are outlined in your Dissertation in Planning Guidance document. Please consider these as possible 'risk' factors in completing the remainder of this standard form. For more information also see: <u>Guidance Framework for Fieldwork in Taught and MRes Programmes</u>, 2021-22

Consider, in turn, each hazard (white on black). If **NO** hazard exists select **NO** and move to next hazard section.

If a hazard does exist select **YES** and assess the risks that could arise from that hazard in the risk assessment box.

Where risks are identified that are not adequately controlled they must be brought to the attention of your Departmental Management who should put temporary control measures in place or stop the work. Detail such risks in the final section.

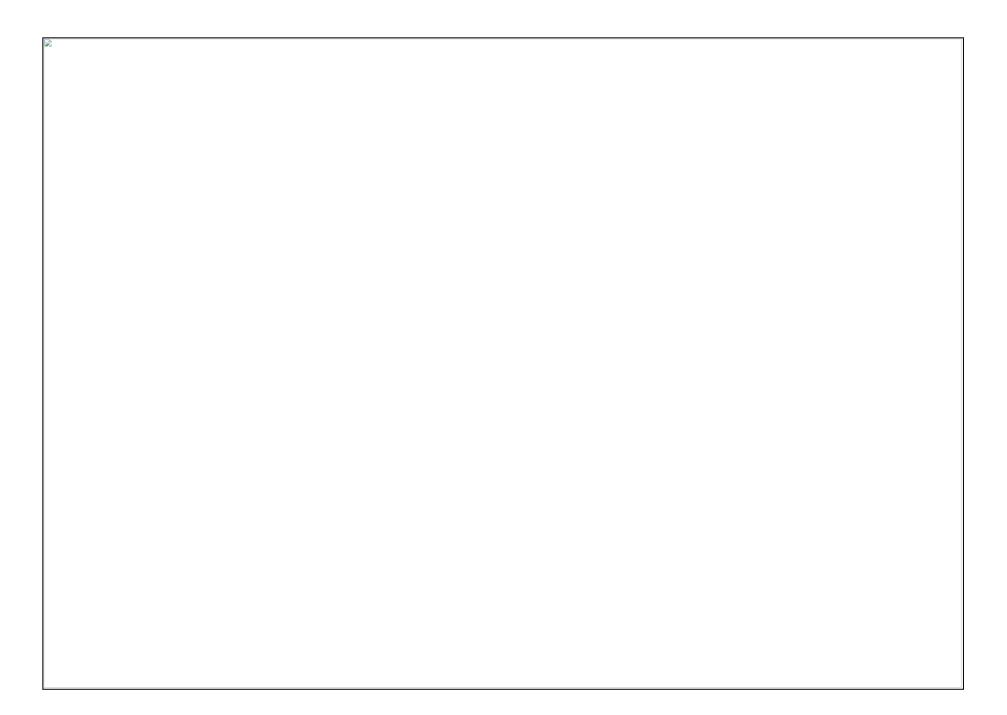
ENVIRONMENT	The environment always represents a safety hazard. Use space identify and assess any risks associated with this hazard	below to
e.g. location, climate, errain, neighbourhood, n outside organizations,	Examples of risk: adverse weather, illness, hypothermia, assault, ge Is the risk high / medium / low ?	etting lost.
pollution, animals.	Low – Personal safety: Field research will be conducted in public horestates, which may be located in areas with higher crime rate	using
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which procedures are in place to control the identified	risk
work abroad incorp	porates Foreign Office advice	
	ntres are used for rural field work	
participants will we refuge is available	ear appropriate clothing and footwear for the specified environment	
work in outside org	ganisations is subject to their having satisfactory H&S procedures in pl	ace
x OTHER CONTRO implemented:	L MEASURES: please specify any other control measures you have	
Stay vigilant and report sta	atus regularly to a friend while during field research	
EMERGENCIES	Where emergencies may arise use space below to identify and risks	assess an
g. fire, accidents	Examples of risk: loss of property, loss of life	
Nil		
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which procedures are in place to control the identified	risk
participants have r	registered with LOCATE at http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-a	broad/
contact numbers for	or emergency services are known to all participants	
	manne of contacting emergency convices	
	means of contacting emergency services	
a plan for rescue h	has been formulated, all parties understand the procedure	
a plan for rescue h	has been formulated, all parties understand the procedure e /emergency has a reciprocal element	
a plan for rescue h	has been formulated, all parties understand the procedure	
a plan for rescue h the plan for rescue OTHER CONTRO	has been formulated, all parties understand the procedure e /emergency has a reciprocal element	May 201

EQUIPMENT	Is equipment	YES	If 'No' move to next hazard
	used?		If 'Yes' use space below to identify and assess
			any risks
e.g. clothing, outboard	Evamples of risk: i	inannronri	iate, failure, insufficient training to use or repair.
motors.	injury. Is the risk hi		
Camera – No risk			
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which pro	ocedures	are in place to control the identified risk
the departmental	written Arrangement	for equin	ment is followed
			sary equipment appropriate for the work
			, by a competent person
	en advised of correct		, -,,
			ned in its use by a competent person
			y any other control measures you have
implemented:			,,
			risks
e.g. alone or in isolation	Examples of risk: of	difficult to	summon help. Is the risk high / medium / low?
lone interviews.	No risk		
	No risk		
	_		
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which pro	ocedures	are in place to control the identified risk
the departmental	written Arrangement	for lone/	out of hours working for field work is followed
	vorking is not allowed		out of flours working for field work is followed
	d expected time of re	eturn of lo	ne workers is logged daily before work commences
			ne workers is logged daily before work commences in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare.
whistle			ne workers is logged daily before work commences in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare,
		an alarm	in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare,
all workers are fu	the means of raising	an alarm gency pro	in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare,
all workers are fu	the means of raising	an alarm gency pro	in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare, occurres
all workers are fu OTHER CONTRO implemented:	the means of raising	an alarm gency pro	in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare, ocedures by any other control measures you have
all workers are fu	the means of raising	an alarm gency pro	in the event of an emergency, e.g. phone, flare, occurres

ILL HEALTH				ays represents a safety hazard. Use space		
e.g. accident, illness,				ny risks associated with this Hazard.		
personal attack,	Examples of risk: injury, asthma, allergies. Is the risk high / medium / low? No risk					
special personal						
considerations or vulnerabilities.						
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which proc	edures	are	in place to control the identified risk		
all participants	have had the necessar	ry inocul	latio	ns/ carry appropriate prophylactics		
participants have physically suite		physica	al de	mands of the research and are deemed to be		
participants have	ve been adequate advi	ce on ha	armi	ful plants, animals and substances they may		
participants who	o require medication sh	hould ca	arry	sufficient medication for their needs		
OTHER CONTI	ROL MEASURES: plea	ase spe	cify	any other control measures you have		
TRANSPORT	Will transport be	NO		Move to next hazard		
	required	YES	х	Use space below to identify and assess any risks		
e.g. hired vehicles	Examples of risk: accidents arising from lack of maintenance, suitability or training					
	Is the risk high / medi	ium / lov	w?			
				· ·		
	Is the risk high / medi	es – No	risl	in place to control the identified risk		
MEASURES	Is the risk high / medi	es – No	risl			
MEASURES x only public trans	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces	es – No edures	risk are	in place to control the identified risk		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained	edures ble supp	are olier	in place to control the identified risk		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proci sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driv	edures ble supp	are	in place to control the identified risk nce with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply drivers have be	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the	ble supply in compared to the supply in compared to the supply in compared to the supply in the supp	are olier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk nce with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply drivers have be	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the	ble supply in compared to the supply in compared to the supply in compared to the supply in the supp	are olier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk nce with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply drivers have be there will be mo rest periods	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the	ble supp d in com vers htte e approprevent of	are orisk are olier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk nce with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence pr/operator fatigue, and there will be adequate		
the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply drivers have be there will be mo rest periods sufficient spare p	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the ore than one driver to p parts carried to meet fores	ble supp d in comvers htte e approprevent of	are blier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk nce with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence pr/operator fatigue, and there will be adequate		
MEASURES x only public tran the vehicle will transport must l drivers comply drivers have be there will be mo rest periods sufficient spare p OTHER CONTI	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the ore than one driver to p parts carried to meet fores	ble supp d in comvers htte e approprevent of	are blier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk note with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence er/operator fatigue, and there will be adequate rgencies		
MEASURES x only public tran the vehicle will transport must l drivers comply drivers have be there will be mo rest periods sufficient spare p OTHER CONTI	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the ore than one driver to p parts carried to meet fores	ble supp d in comvers htte e approprevent of	are blier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk note with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence er/operator fatigue, and there will be adequate rgencies		
x only public tran the vehicle will transport must i drivers comply drivers have be there will be mo rest periods sufficient spare p OTHER CONTI	Is the risk high / medi Travel to research sit Indicate which proces sport will be used be hired from a reputat be properly maintained with UCL Policy on Driven trained and hold the ore than one driver to p parts carried to meet fores	ble supp d in comvers htte e approprevent of	are blier plian tp://v	in place to control the identified risk note with relevant national regulations www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/college_drivers.php te licence er/operator fatigue, and there will be adequate rgencies		

DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC	Will people be dealing with public	YES	If 'No' move to next hazard If 'Yes' use space below to identify and assess any risks
e.g. interviews, observing	Examples of risk: pe risk high / medium / le		ack, causing offence, being misinterpreted. Is the
	Casual intervie	ws with t	he public – Low risk: receive impolite response
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which proc	edures a	re in place to control the identified risk
advice and sup x participants do x interviews are c	conducted at neutral lo	has beer night cau cations o	
FIELDWORK 3	3		May 20

WORKING ON OR	Will people work on	NO	If 'No' move to next hazard	
NEAR WATER	or near water?		If 'Yes' use space below to identify and assess any risks	
e.g. rivers, marshland, sea.	Examples of risk: dro medium / low?	owning, m	alaria, hepatitis A, parasites. Is the risk high /	
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which proc	edures a	re in place to control the identified risk	
coastguard inform prove a threat all participants are participants always	e competent swimmer ys wear adequate prot	all work ta s ective eq	likes place outside those times when tides could uipment, e.g. buoyancy aids, wellingtons	
all boats are equi	boat is operated by a competent person all boats are equipped with an alternative means of propulsion e.g. oars participants have received any appropriate inoculations OTHER CONTROL MEASURES: please specify any other control measures you have implemented:			
MANUAL HANDLING (MH)	Do MH activities take place?	NO	If 'No' move to next hazard If 'Yes' use space below to identify and assess any risks	
e.g. lifting, carrying, moving large or heavy equipment, physical unsuitability for the task.	moving large or heavy equipment, physical unsuitability for the			
CONTROL MEASURES	Indicate which prod	edures a	are in place to control the identified risk	
the departmental written Arrangement for MH is followed the supervisor has attended a MH risk assessment course all tasks are within reasonable limits, persons physically unsuited to the MH task are prohibited from such activities all persons performing MH tasks are adequately trained equipment components will be assembled on site				
—			be done by contractors any other control measures you have implemented:	
FIELDWORK 4			May 2010	



Ethical clearance

The Bartlett School of Planning



BPLN0052: Major Research Project

MRP Proposal – Ethical Clearance

Your details:

Name:	Marco Mak
Programme:	MSc Urban Design and City Planning
Supervisor:	Judith Loesing

Supervisor sign-off for Ethical Clearance Forms and Risk Assessment Forms

(For supervisor completion only BEFORE submission via Moodle)

Are you satisfied with the ethical clearance form (yes/no)?

Please provide any additional comments about the form that may help the student.

(If the form is missing, the proposal must be given a mark of 0, and the student will have 48hours to resubmit the complete proposal. If the form is unsatisfactory, the student must amend their ethical questionnaire to your satisfaction before they can proceed with their research)

Note: this is a copy of the proforma that each student MUST complete and submit directly on Moodle. Please reproduce your submission here for the purpose of your supervisor signing off on its review and approval.

Ethical Clearance Pro Forma

It is important for you to include all relevant information about your research in this form, so that your supervisor can give you the best advice on how to proceed with your research.

You are advised to read though the relevant sections of UCU's Research Integrity guidance to learn more about your ethical obligations.

Submission Details

1. Name of programme of study:

MSc Urban Design and City Planning

- Please indicate the type of research work you are doing (Delete that which do not apply):
- Dissertation in Planning (MSc)

- Dissertation in City Planning (MPlan)
- o Major Research Project
- 3. Please provide the current working title of your research:

Circularity for Public Housing:

Adopting circularity strategies in public housing in the UK for environmental, social and economic benefits

4. Please indicate your supervisor's name:

Judith Loesing

Research Details

- Please indicate here which data collection methods you expect to use. (Tick all that apply/or delete those which do not apply.)
- Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Questionnaires (including oral questions)
- Action research
- Observation / participant observation
- Documentary analysis (including use of personal records)
- Audio-visual recordings (including photographs)
- Collection/use of sensor or locational data
- Controlled trial
- o Intervention study (including changing environments)
- Systematic review
- Secondary data analysis
- o Advisory/consultation groups
- Please indicate where your research will take place (delete that which does not apply):
 - o UK only
 - Overseas only
 - UK and overseas
- 7. Does your project involve the recruitment of participants?

'Participants' means human participants and their data (including sensor/locational data and observational notes/images.)

Yes/ No (Please delete as applicable)

Appropriate Safeguard, Data Storage and Security

8. Will your research involve the collection and/or use of personal data?



Personal data is data which relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data or from the data and other information that is either currently held, or will be held by the data controller (you, as the researcher).

This includes:

- Any expression of opinion about the individual and any intentions of the data controller or any other person toward the individual.
- Sensor, location or visual data which may reveal information that enables the identification of a face, address etc. (some post codes cover only one property).
- Combinations of data which may reveal identifiable data, such as names, email/postal addresses, date of birth, ethnicity, descriptions of health diagnosis or conditions, computer IP address (of relating to a device with a single user).

Yes/No (Please delete as applicable)

9. Is your research using or collecting:

- · special category data as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation*, and/or
- · data which might be considered sensitive in some countries, cultures or contexts?

*Examples of special category data are data:

- which reveals racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership;
- concerning health (the physical or mental health of a person, including the provision of health care services);
- · concerning sex life or sexual orientation;
- · genetic or biometric data processed to uniquely identify a natural person.

Yes/No (Please delete as applicable)

10. Do you confirm that all personal data will be stored and processed in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR 2018)? (Choose one only, delete that which does not apply)



11. I confirm that:

- . The information in this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I will continue to reflect on and update these ethical considerations in consultation with my supervisor.

Yes/No-(Please delete as applicable)



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PAGE 14

BPLN0039_SKNK8		
GRADEMARK REPORT		
FINAL GRADE	GENERAL COMMENTS	
/100	Instructor	
PAGE 1		
PAGE 2		
PAGE 3		
PAGE 4		
PAGE 5		
PAGE 6		
PAGE 7		
PAGE 8		
PAGE 9		
PAGE 10		
PAGE 11		
PAGE 12		
PAGE 13		

PAGE 15	
PAGE 16	
PAGE 17	
PAGE 18	
PAGE 19	
PAGE 20	
PAGE 21	
PAGE 22	
PAGE 23	
PAGE 24	
PAGE 25	
PAGE 26	
PAGE 27	
PAGE 28	
PAGE 29	
PAGE 30	
PAGE 31	
PAGE 32	
PAGE 33	

PAGE 34	
PAGE 35	
PAGE 36	
PAGE 37	
PAGE 38	
PAGE 39	
PAGE 40	
PAGE 41	
PAGE 42	
PAGE 43	
PAGE 44	
PAGE 45	
PAGE 46	
PAGE 47	
PAGE 48	
PAGE 49	
PAGE 50	
PAGE 51	
PAGE 52	

PAGE 53	
PAGE 54	
PAGE 55	
PAGE 56	
PAGE 57	
PAGE 58	
PAGE 59	
PAGE 60	
PAGE 61	