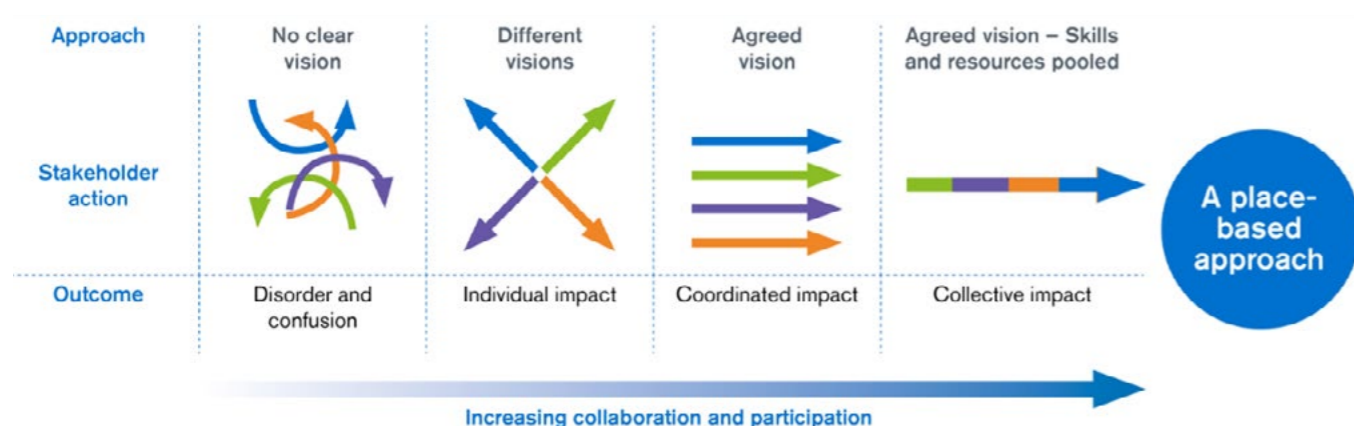
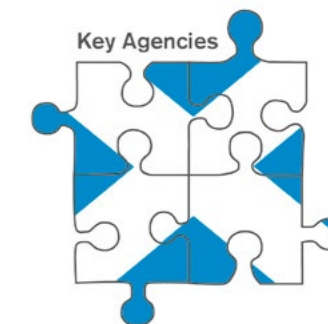


# Key Agencies Group: Supporting a Green Recovery



The [Key Agencies Group \(KAG\)](#) are developing a more collaborative approach to engagement with the planning system in line with the [Place Principle](#).

We are acutely aware of the significant challenges ahead and the need, more than ever, to work collectively to ensure our places evolve to support recovery in a way that brings long term benefits for our communities and businesses. We can achieve this by collaborating with stakeholders in the development and implementation of projects, development plans and regional spatial strategies.

The Key Agencies' collective potential to support partners in shaping places for the long term public interest is significant and will aid delivery of the [National Performance Framework](#) outcomes and the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) frameworks.

## The KAG offer and priorities

KAG can support partners with input to and implementation of a wide range of spatial plans and design tools including Regional Spatial Strategies, Local Development Plans, Design Briefs, and Masterplans. The main requirement is that partners are committed to working with us within the spirit of the Place Principle to maximise our collective impact. In addition to this basic requirement, priority will be given to projects which meet as many of the following criteria as possible:

- Support a place focussed COVID-19 green recovery underpinned by a just transition to zero carbon and climate resilient places;
- Are designed and delivered to improve local health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities;
- Are located within or will have a direct and immediate positive impact on people living in the top 20% SIMD areas;
- Of national significance;
- Deal with known complex issues that will benefit from multi-agency interest, expertise and or involvement;
- Commit to working in partnership with communities with application of the Standards for Community Engagement, the recommended Gold Standard;
- Clearly align with National Performance Framework outcomes and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

## A Team KAG approach: maximising our added value

To ensure we can deliver the most successful people and place outcomes for projects it will be important to involve the right partners and to share a common understanding and commitment of how we can add real value. To achieve this we would expect partners and Agencies to:

- Secure willing involvement of local authority and community planning partners, other relevant and public and voluntary sector agencies, communities representing different populations and life-stages and developers/clients;
- Establish a willingness for partners to commit to a place leadership role, and deliver in a manner consistent with the Place Principle;
- Share a common understanding of the purpose/objectives of the approach and how our different agendas can best contribute towards these;
- Commit to acceptance of a spatial approach to articulating issues/options;
- Engage with all relevant stakeholders as early as possible in the project – for Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Plans this would be at or prior to the evidence gathering stage. For development proposals this would be prior to settled views on key design aspects of the proposal and before the applicant has begun the mandatory pre-application process with the community;
- Maximise opportunities for alignment of any funding streams to support implementation; and
- Share project outputs and provide feedback to Team KAG on what worked well and what could improve our support to future stakeholders.

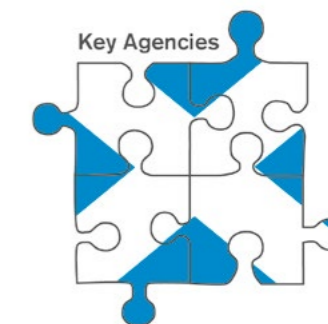
## KAG common areas of interest

There are common areas of interest across the Agencies where our contribution as 'Team KAG' adds more value than the sum of our individual input in delivering people and place outcomes. These include the following interconnected areas:

- Understanding opportunities to deliver exemplar low or zero carbon places through a whole place approach to low or zero carbon design, service provision and infrastructure underpinned by a circular economy approach;
- Maximising place benefits from essential infrastructure such as transport and drainage;
- Connectivity and movement to encourage a place of small distances and integrated multifunctional green-blue infrastructure based upon the natural assets of the site. Such an approach can deliver a wide range of benefits include biodiversity enhancement and connectivity, off road active travel routes, amenity spaces, flood management, sustainable drainage, local food production and good air quality;
- Nature based solutions that apply a blue-green infrastructure first approach and deliver positive effects for biodiversity. A useful tool to support this is the [Building with Nature Standard](#);
- Recognising the important connection between culture and place in order to create places that build upon existing character and assets;
- Improving opportunities for creating intergenerational environments that are diverse and promote independent living;
- Designing in resilience and responsiveness including capacity to respond to predicted and unanticipated changes and opportunities e.g. COVID19; and
- Placing people's needs in particular those most disadvantaged at the centre of decision-making, service provision and investment in our places and ensuring they are actively involved in the design process. A useful tool to support this is the [Place Standard](#).

# Key Agencies Group:

Summary of Green Recovery engagement across the planning and development process



Stage	Scoping	Vision	Spatial Strategy	Initial briefs and policies	Developed briefs	Design Development	Delivery	Stewardship
	Regional Spatial Strategies or Local Development Plans				Pre-planning		Post-Planning	
<b>Purpose of KAG input</b>	<<< Support establishment of place based approach (place principle) >>> Place leadership, governance, collaborative engagement				<<< Support establishment of place based approach (place principle) >>> Place leadership, governance, collaborative engagement			
<b>input</b>	Support to establish a place based approach and capture of relevant data and insights to inform vision and spatial strategy.	Support development of vision and strategic objectives to support green recovery, health and wellbeing across a wider place.	Support consideration of best locations for change. Support to identify priority areas for collaborative action.	Support development of collective visions and strategic briefs for priority areas.	Support development of collective briefs for development proposals.	Support consideration of how well development proposals meet vision and briefs. Statutory advice at planning application stage.*	Undertake partnership working including the alignment of funding for delivery.	Undertake partnership working. Support reflection and evaluation.
<b>Outcome /Benefits</b>	Inform case for a place-based approach and raise awareness of relevant data.	Shared knowledge & understanding. Shared objectives & priorities for whole place.	Collective agreement on best locations to deliver on priorities and plans for collaboration. Statutory input to SEA.*	Shared vision and brief to shape place quality and inform collaborative action. Statutory input to policy development.*	Collective input to briefs for Design Tools to shape quality of development proposals (eg Development Framework/Materplan/ Masterplan Consent Area).	Collective understanding of issues to shape place quality and promote collaborative action.	Establish collaborative place delivery and stewardship.	Collaborative stewardship and evaluation of outcomes.
<b>Who /When</b>	Early with corporate teams and in time with priority audiences.	Early with corporate teams and priority audiences. Client to test and refine with others.	Early with corporate teams and priority audiences. Client to test and refine with others.	Early with corporate teams and priority audiences. Client to test and refine with others.	Pre-planning. Early with project teams and priority audiences. Client to test and refine with others.	Early with project teams and priority audiences. Client to test and refine with others.	Early with project teams and priority audiences.	Project team and priority audiences.
<b>Output</b>	Insights for initial vision.	Vision for desired outcomes.	Spatial Strategy to deliver vision.	Strategic Briefs for priority areas in Plan or Strategy.	Developed Briefs to inform Design Tools.	Approval for Design Tool (eg Masterplan) to deliver place quality.	Collaborative delivery of quality place. Shared evaluation.	Joint stewardship approach and evaluation of outcomes.

\*not all Key Agencies have these statutory requirements