

Waste and Resource Use Category Group Meeting

Tuesday 12th May, online

Date: Tuesday 12th May 2026

Attendees: Mark Turner (Supply Chain Sustainability School), Lucy Picken (School), Matt Nichols (Reconomy), Carl Baker (BAM), Ian Llewellyn (Vistry), Becky Broadbent (Knauf), Bernadette Anderson (Volkerlaser), Zach Pears (Octavius), Graham Winter (Environment Agency), Will Maginn (NG Bailey), Patrick Davison (EMR), David OHagan (Graham), Damian Keaveny (SSE), Fiona Li (Bovis), Emma-Jane Clarke (Cadent Gas), Amanda Wright (Wates), Emma Murray (Colas), Samuel Baines (Severn Trent), Jonathan Ayton (Willmott Dixon), Jack Mason (Binnies), Madison McWilliam (Assa Abloy), Alicia Samuel (Northern Powergrid), Aliya Siddiqui (National Grid), Heather Binnie (Sisk), Amanda Porritt (Colas Rail) Olivia Parry (Barratt Redrow), Scott Porter (Savills)

Apologies: Andrew Hope (Kier), Jim Wilkinson (Environment Agency), Julie Brooks (Higgins Partnerships), Sirio D'aleo (Berkeley Group), Stacey Burton (Tilbury Douglas), Olivia Hack (SRM)

Summary of Actions and Notes from the Waste and Resource Use Category Group Meeting

No	Notes	Actions	Owners
1	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies noted and new group attendees welcomed from the Environment Agency, Knauf and BAM. 		
2	<p>Details of the work of our group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work of our group and intervention points was outlined. Outline of intervention points and how everyone can be involved in achieving the circular economy. <p>Continued development by the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the work programme and priorities discussed. <p>Work programme and resource updates Waste and Resource group page can be viewed here Subtopic webpage can be viewed here. New resources on the school website – these can all be viewed here – filtering by Waste and resource efficiency in subtopic.</p> <p>Three new resources have been added to the School recently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Steel Product EPDS: For Supply Chain Resilience - Webinar Recording Wales and Circularity Welsh Government - Beyond Recycling: Strategy and Assessments <p>We have edited the resource library to remove a number of older resources and add some new ones.</p> <p>MEP map</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A means for identifying organisations that will accept unrequired items and resources that can be reused for intended purpose 	<p>Please think about new relevant resources and case studies to submit, send to LP and MT.</p> <p>Please submit new MEPs you encounter through Lucy directly.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>

- Directory of organisations we are aware of where materials can be donated rather than them going to waste or being disposed of
- Currently seeing a modest upsurge in use but we would like to see it used more and to receive more examples of reuse via MEPs
- We don't get a lot of feedback on efficiency of use – if you have any comments from using the MEP, please do get in touch. We would love to share stories, including how effective this map is. This will also help us to improve the resource.
- If others in your organisation would benefit from the resource, please do share the MEP map with them.

Learning Pathways

We have two waste Learning Pathways. Members and partners of the school can create bespoke learning pathways using these as base content and, if they wish, add content of their own to complement that provided via the School. There is a gap between assignments and completions – can we PLEASE improve uptake and completion?

We believe lack of uptake is due to the resources being assigned and then considered completed, but they aren't actually in reality being completed.

OR - If these LPs do not work for you, please do let us know so we can improve them. Do they include the right content? Could they be shorter or longer? Are they too difficult to complete? The e-learnings and shorts have good uptake, but what can we do for the LP uptake to be improved?

Comment: it may be beneficial to get volunteers to test and review the LPs. Damian has offered to review these with a view to providing comment on how these are relevant / not-relevant for supply chains.

A reminder was also given that the LPs can be amended to meet your needs and you are able to change resources to suit.

We are developing two new circular economy learning pathways which are seeing good initial uptake; “an introduction to circular economy” is a beginner level LP and “embedding the circular economy” is intermediate / advanced. Please do share these with your internal teams and if you have been through these, we would welcome comments!

E-learnings and shorts

We have the following e-learnings and shorts:

- Introduction to waste (e-learning)
- Responsible waste management in FM (e-learning)
- The circular economy (e-learning)
- Circular economy indicators (e-learning)
- Waste management (short)

Please contact Mark and Lucy if you can provide a case study on successful use of the MEP map

All

Please let us know if you have any recommendations on how learning pathways can be improved to increase uptake.

All

MT / LP to send over a link to the LPs. DK to review and provide comment.

MT / LP / DK

Please do share these new LPs with your internal teams

All

Consider the list of e-learnings and shorts we have and get in touch if you have any new ideas.

All

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste in FM (short). <p>If there are any e learnings that you would like to see – for instance a more advance circular economy e learning? Please do let us know and we can look into this.</p> <p>Project lifecycle waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The web feature can be found here - please use and suggest additional resources for consideration. <p>Webinar sessions</p> <p>Outline of sessions. Upcoming sessions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting to grips with plastics (Zero Waste Scotland) – webinar Introduction to waste and resource efficiency – webinar Building it right – virtual conference Designing out waste - workshop <p>Partners can host events and bring suppliers if you like. If you have a topic you would like to discuss, please get in touch, and we can organise.</p>	<p>If you have a topic you would like to talk about on behalf of the School, and that you think would add good value, please get in touch.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>BAM – designing out waste and the circular economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carl Baker of BAM spoke at an event we hosted recently and it was very well received. His presentation provides different angles on circularity and designing out waste BAM offer and provide circularity assessments and material passports. The assessments are done at design stage, construction stage and handover Material passports – help understand what companies and developers have within their portfolio. When a company comes to refurbish the asset, these come into use. A lot of people focus on the likes of steel, but there is a lot to gain from looking at the materials that are refreshed more regularly BAM design – multi disciplinary team. Pre-manufactured elements such as ground beams, plant rooms, MEP modules, which give an offsite element to the project. They then have standardised designs too. What’s working well is the selection of materials, designing for deconstruction such as no gluing and utilising the likes of cradle to cradle and EPDs for sourcing materials (to identify most sustainable) Waste avoidance – soils and aggregates remains a massive waste challenge – always looking at the start of a project to see what they have already or what can be used elsewhere. Looking at CL:AIRE guidance and how can avoid something becoming a waste. Try to align to DoWCoP process Pre-demolition and refurbishment – if the client doesn’t have this, they will do this audit to identify items of value and quantify them 		

- Starts the process for finding outlets for these materials. Also helps to identify hazardous materials and finding a suitable solution
- Reuse of materials – raised access flooring access – lifted and moved around the building during the process for storage then put back down as it was still usable
- Sourcing material offsite – worked with workplaces futures. Helped identify that they will have a lot of material coming off a site. One example of taking ceiling tiles and high value steel, dismantled on one project and transported to another and installed them in a back of house part of the building
- Sourcing steel – lots of structural steel for the project referenced. Refurbished as much usable steel as possible. Refabrication was key to getting steel how it needed to look including improving imperfections. The client and architect needed to do more to embrace the second life of the steel and accept the imperfections on the steel within the building. Where it couldn't be reclaimed, they used low carbon X-carb steel. Emphasis on the need to encourage deconstruction rather than demolition
- Reuse sent off site – example of sending steel off for refabrication and then reuse on another site in London. Estimated a huge carbon saving even with the steel going out of London then back into London for reuse
- Offsite manufacturing – industrialised systems and a true hybrid structure with precast concrete and CLT. Platform based design with a systemised approach to assembly. Lots of work to get it right first time
- Offsite manufacturing – pre-manufactured stairs and lift shafts and toilets in a commercial building – able to get pre-plumbed IPS panels which saved time, product deliveries etc
- Packaging waste reduction – working with Pallet Loop and encouraging uptake to encourage diversion of pallets from skips. Also link with community wood network, who have a social value-based approach. Lots of quality timbers go offsite, and these can be reused Geopak – stackable and uses tracking. Keeps materials safe and is taken back for reuse after products have been delivered
- Upcycling – Saint Gobain supported with upcycling of glass and doing this on site without creating health or environmental hazards. Lots of windows being refurbished including the frames, then glass being replaced. Protec – temporary protection, using a closed loop scheme, estimated 4m³ of protection material saved for reuse/recycling
- Floor upcycling and take back schemes – collaboration on reclaimed wood instead of it ending up in skips for reuse. Altro vinyl recycling – taking a vinyl product and offcuts and recycling it back into vinyl so it is saved from landfill. Example also given on plasterboard.

Q&A

- **Q:** What's been your biggest challenge in getting these bought into and internal and supply chain buy in? **A:** there are always blockers

including project timelines. Early collaboration is the way forward and early audits help identify what can be done. Experts also know what can be done in areas such as liability and providing assurances. There isn't one single thing, there's a lot of aspects to overcome, but once you've had success, document it and shout about it as it drives momentum

- **Q:** In terms of planning, London seems to be leading the way, are you seeing changes elsewhere? **A:** regulation in London does drive this behaviour but the rest of the country, planning will hopefully catch up as this will help. Clients you align and work with are important as they need to share the vision and work with you on that. BAM has an internal strategy so not specified on where they work, so try to drive momentum internally
- **Q:** client engagement – was one of the schemes client-driven for the design (offsite project)? **A:** clients definitely want to have the CLT and steel and the pre-cast. How we go about doing that with supply chain partners is BAM's choice. Chose to go with PCE and use an integrated approach and it worked well for BAM
- **Q:** navigating the legislative landscape and quality protocols for waste and legal transfers is difficult. It would be helpful to understand how you navigated the legislative landscape? **A:** there are a lot of grey areas on where things become waste. Having the ability to make the decision as a business and try to move up the waste hierarchy.
- **Q:** have you seen any cost benefit? **A:** Not more expensive but utilising second hand materials can come with a cost increase. Need the buy in from the client and have the ability to have a conversation with them to understand what they want to do. Not always going to spend more by using reclaimed material – e.g. with steel, a lot of the cost came from the prefabrication. Utilising the second-hand story and embracing that will ensure spend less on pre-fab
- **Q:** is it the case that if the school contacted you to create more detailed case studies would you be willing to do that? **A:** yes – it has been a collective effort at BAM, but more than happy to help
- **Q:** what type of information is on a materials passport, how does it work? **A:** package is standard: frame, internal partitions and MEPs Standardised offering for materials focus / building element. If client then wants a more in-depth option they can. Includes lots of other non-sustainability information. Both physical and digital tags to provide confidence on the materials
- **Q:** reuse of steel – convincing the client. Are you finding clients are driving behaviours, or are you? To what extent are they becoming more comfortable? **A:** BAM are aligning with clients with high sustainability aspirations. This is helping BAM achieve goals. In London, it's the done thing for embodied carbon targets for planning and reused steel requirements to be used to meet legislation requirements. Less and less reason for steel to not be reused.

	Digital waste tracking is coming in October for waste receivers, for the rest from next year. Beta version is now live for testing and accepting live data.		
4	<p>Setting our priorities for 2026/27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the aims of the School and performance. • Outline of our waste group focus for FY26/27. This includes the sessions we are proposing on running: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste basics – improving results and behavioural change ○ Metrics and reporting. Working title: Digital waste tracking – assessing the impacts (aiming for Q4) <p>SAVE THE DATE: Our VC “Circularity: Building the business case” will take place on Thursday 23rd July 2026, 10am-12pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We now have an agenda and speakers for this session 	<p>We are looking for speakers on these two sessions – please get in touch if you are interested!</p>	All
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>Next meeting dates (all 10am-12pm):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q2 – Tuesday 8th September 2026 • Q3 – Tuesday 10th November 2026 • Q4 – Tuesday 16th February 2027 	<p>The meeting invites have been circulated. If you haven’t received these, please let LP know.</p>	All