

Architects Declare Progress Statement 2026





“A built environment planned, constructed and operated within planetary boundaries to deliver environmental justice and to support the flourishing of all life for all time.”

UK Architects Declare

Architects Declare is a network of architectural practices across the world committed to addressing the climate and biodiversity crisis.

Those who have joined the collective are dedicated to strengthening working practices to help create architecture and urbanism that has a more positive impact on our environment.

The signatories sign a declaration to show their dedication to creating positive change. This consists of 12 Declarations.

AEW have been a signatory to Architects Declare since 2020, publishing an annual report to be transparent about the work we are doing, to try and embed the 12 Declarations into our practice.

In 2025 we continued our progress with evolving our practice and projects to respond to the climate and biodiversity emergency. We utilise a number of frameworks to aid us in this goal, benchmarking ourselves in the Regenerative Architecture Index for the second year and recertifying as a B Corporation.

This year our focus has widened, collaborating in our region through MCR Partnership and AECB Manchester, and researching global risks of embodied social justice risks within construction supply chains.



Evaluate Projects



We have updated our projects Environmental Management System to ensure we have an effective framework to evaluate project performance. Our project EMS has been re-certified as part of our wider ISO 14001 compliance.

Stockroom, Stockport was a finalist of the REVO Awards for Best Re-purposing and Place-making Project.

Oldham Spindles, a creative reuse project, won the Regional BCO award for innovation.

Biodiversity



This year we have been exploring Building with Nature Standards to explore how we can use this framework to improve the integration of our buildings with biodiversity.

Change Fast



We have continued to support the development of the UK Net Zero Carbon Building Standard through both pilot projects and supporting working groups.

We have also:

- + Re-certified as a B Corporation
- + Joined the CIAT Climate Society
- + Joined the Manchester Climate Ready Partnership
- + Joined the AECB



Regenerative Design



We have been listed in the Regenerative Architecture Index for a second year running.

This initiative allows us to benchmark against other practices and helps to drive progress in becoming a more regenerative practice.

Raise Awareness



We have delivered

6

focussed sustainability training CPDs

Our external engagement has included:

- + 1 *workshop*
- + 1 *webinar*
- + 4 *roundtables*
- + 1 *magazine article*
- + 2 *journal articles*

Share Knowledge



4

Apprentices mentored in Architecture and Architectural Technology roles.

14

Of our sustainability ambassadors, have collaborated to launch V.3 of our internal Sustainability Tool Kit.

15

Work experience students supported:

- + 525 learning hours
- + 15 DEC awards
- + 21 volunteers at Ashton on Mersey High School

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Low Carbon



North Moons Moat Industrial Estate

Redditch Council

Place-based de-carbonisation strategy



Cheadle Eco Park Stockport

Certified BREEAM Outstanding (interim), UK Net Zero Carbon Building Standards Pilot Project



Croydon Drive Manchester

PAS2035 compliant retrofitting



Parkmount Passivhaus Manchester

Certified 1 Passivhaus Low Energy and 1 Passivhaus Classic



Whole Life



14

full building Life Cycle Assessments in 2025.

6

Low energy homes

4

Passivhaus Classic homes

Upgrade Existing



39%

Of our projects involved building reuse.

Minimise Resources



Using embodied carbon metrics to inform early stage discussions and assumptions, promoting efficient design and construction.

Collaborate & Reduce Waste



We joined the technical lead in 2 design reviews, discussing lessons learnt from previous projects.

Focus groups collate, develop and enhance knowledge, sharing best working practices across the technical side of the business.

We present our early stage Life Cycle Assessments in a workshop format to collaborate with structural engineers to minimise waste and embodied carbon.



Climate Justice



We completed a research project and held an internal seminar presenting embodied social justice impacts within construction global supply chains. We created this interactive map to spread awareness of the socio-environmental impacts associated with the extraction and production of common construction materials across the globe.

