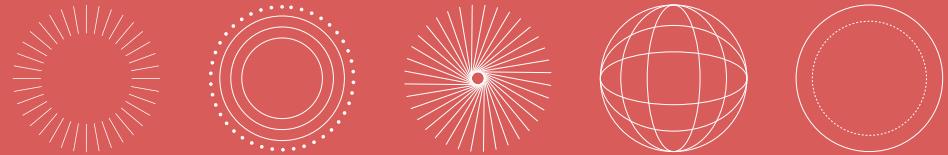


# UK Architects Declare Climate & Biodiversity Emergency

## Coming Soon Climate Emergency Practice Guide 2021



We are all aware of the current climate and biodiversity global crises, the challenges we face and the risks of catastrophic damage to the natural world. As the earth's life support systems come under increasing threat, we also know that construction is responsible for 40% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, yet the scale and intensity of urban development, infrastructure and building construction globally continues to expand, resulting in greater greenhouse gas generation and loss of habitat each year. Current ways of regulating building performance and construction have not achieved significant/visible reductions in carbon emissions from buildings.

Practices have signed up to the Architects Declare Climate Emergency initiative in recognition of the climate and biodiversity crisis and the recognition that as a profession we are very much part of the problem. We have also identified in signing the declaration that we should be leaders in developing a solution. This requires answers to some very practical questions: do we know how much energy our designs are using and how much carbon is emitted? How do we practically engage with the clients, consultants, and everyone working in our practices, to reach the goals we signed up to?

The purpose of the AD Climate Emergency Practice Guide is to be an easy to use, concise document to assist Practices of all sizes and stages in their 'climate emergency' journey to fulfil the declaration points to which they have committed.

The guide is intended to be a live, working document and fulfils point 4 of the AD Declaration. We expect this guidance to evolve and be refined through the sharing of research and experience, as our understanding of the climate and biodiversity crises develops, and as our industry innovates to find new solutions to the problems we face.

There are two key areas of influence that each AD Signatory has, through which they can emulate and contribute to the climate change goals set out by the AD Declaration points. These two areas are: Practice operations and Project work, both are important and may overlap or be in dialogue with each other.

The AD Climate Emergency Practice Guide will be structured in two parts:

**Part I** The Practice Roadmap, looking at the overall business strategy and operations, and

**Part II** The Project Design Guide, which focuses on day-to-day guidance for project work

**The guide is expected to be launched this autumn.**