

PLANIT

# Designing for all Life to Thrive in Balance



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A framework for action, enabling clients, collaborators and colleagues to transform the built environment industry into a force for good

What if every time  
we built  something  
the world  got  
 better?

Conventional sustainability approaches focus on mitigating impact – “*do less harm*”. Regenerative Design seeks to go beyond this, to actively heal our places, their ecosystems and communities.

Planit is enabling the shift to development that gives back more than it takes - setting new goals of repair, renewal, and reintegration with living systems. This approach surpasses the concept of sustainability, envisioning a future where human and ecological systems are not only restored but have regained their inherent capacity for self-repair and resilience. Creating conditions conducive for all life to thrive.



# Planit's Regenerative Design Tool



Through a multi-year research and development programme, Planit has developed a tool to guide our work towards *Regenerative Design*.

Composed of an 'ecological ceiling' and a 'social foundation', it structures design decisions to meet the needs of all people within the means of the living planet.

With eight ecological and eight social dimensions, our framework enables a comprehensive understanding of impacts and benefits - measuring and communicating both individual effects and the interconnections across the full spectrum of sustainability indicators.

# Regenerative Design Game

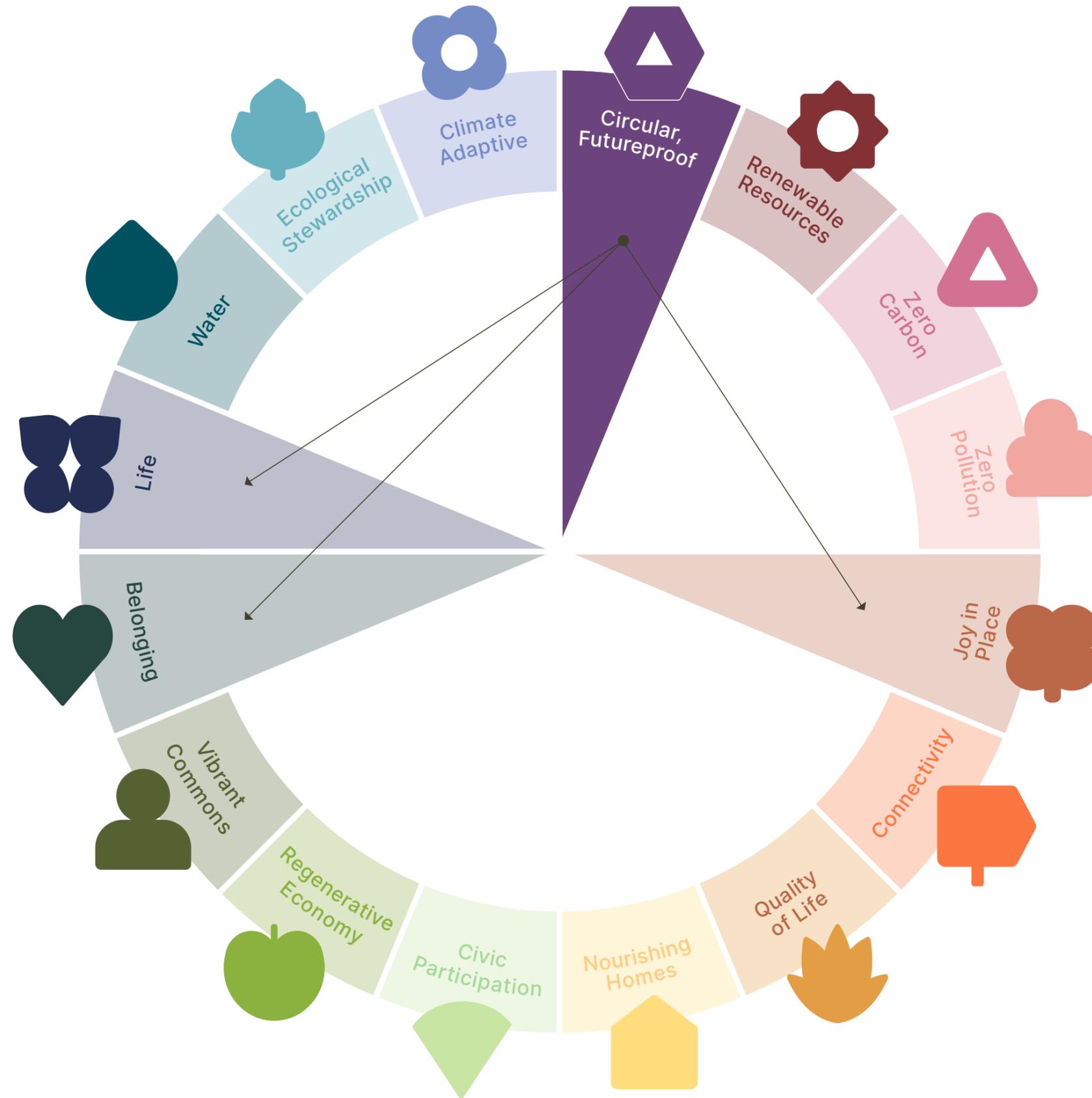
**The most resilient solutions emerge from diverse perspectives and deep understanding.**

From industry experts to local secondary school students, everyone deserves agency in shaping their surroundings and community. Creating an interactive, collaborative game has enabled *greater access, shared understanding, and a sense of ownership* - empowering all voices to contribute to regenerative outcomes.



# How it Works

By identifying beneficial linkages, we can reveal how *interventions* in one dimension generate *secondary benefits* across others - creating reinforcing relationships that amplify impact. This *interconnected approach* builds a virtuous cycle, where each action strengthens and multiplies the effects of others.



The tool is designed to be loose-fit and flexible and can be used in a multitude of ways. This is one way we commonly use the tool...

## 01

Identify Opportunities and Big Moves

## 02

Identify Synergies and Reinforcing Loops

## 03

Identify Project Weaknesses, Risks and what is Out of Scope

## 04

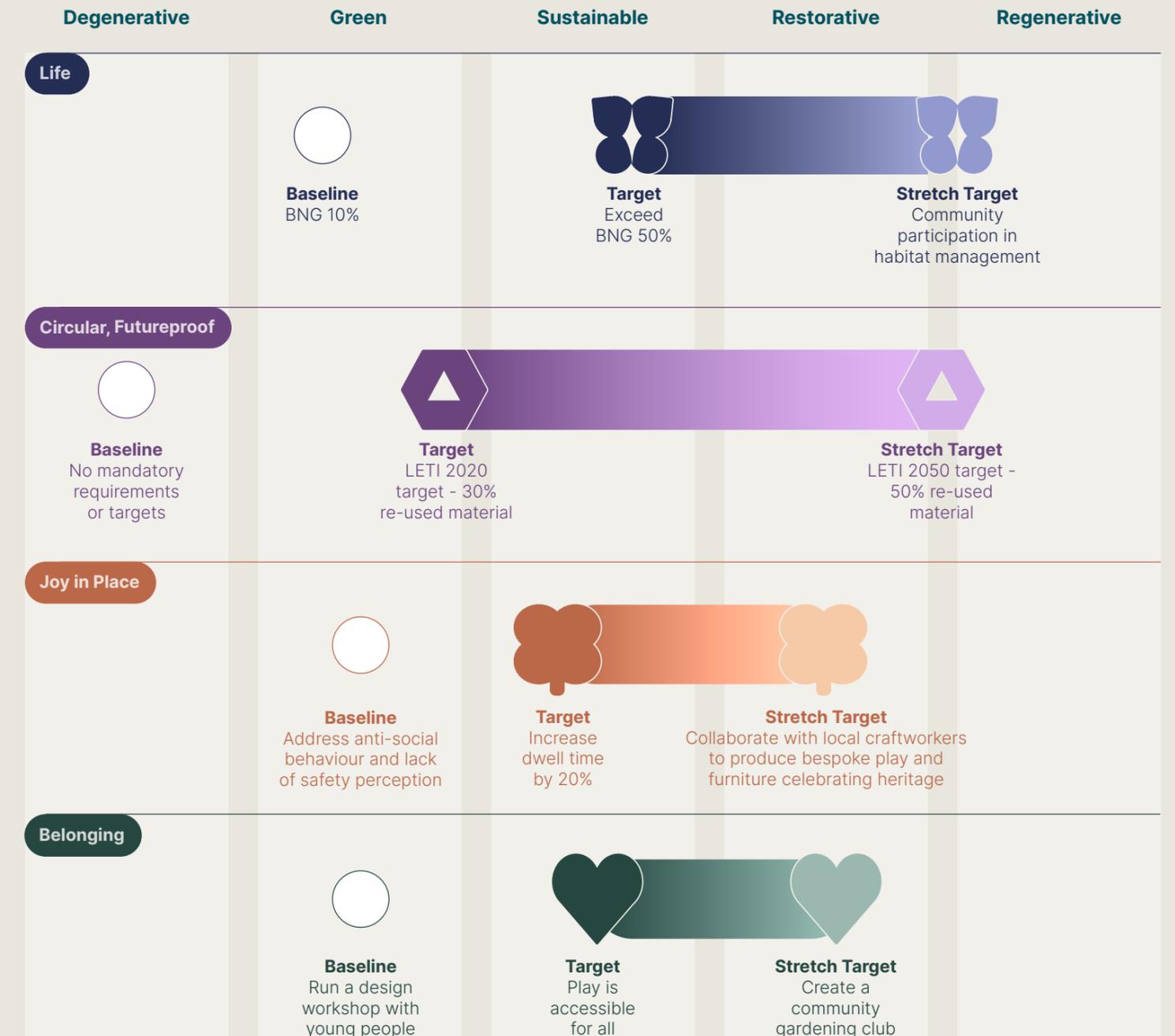
Set and Map Regenerative Targets

# Measurement Metrics

## Targets prompt us to ask, what would it take to get there?

By aiming high, we open up opportunity for innovation, creative problem solving, and bold new ways of thinking about *value* and *impact*.

Turning aspiration into achievement requires clear, tangible targets that both inspire ambition and demonstrate progress. Each dimension is supported by a robust suite of qualitative and quantitative metrics, forming the foundation for project-specific, measurable objectives that guide action and track performance.



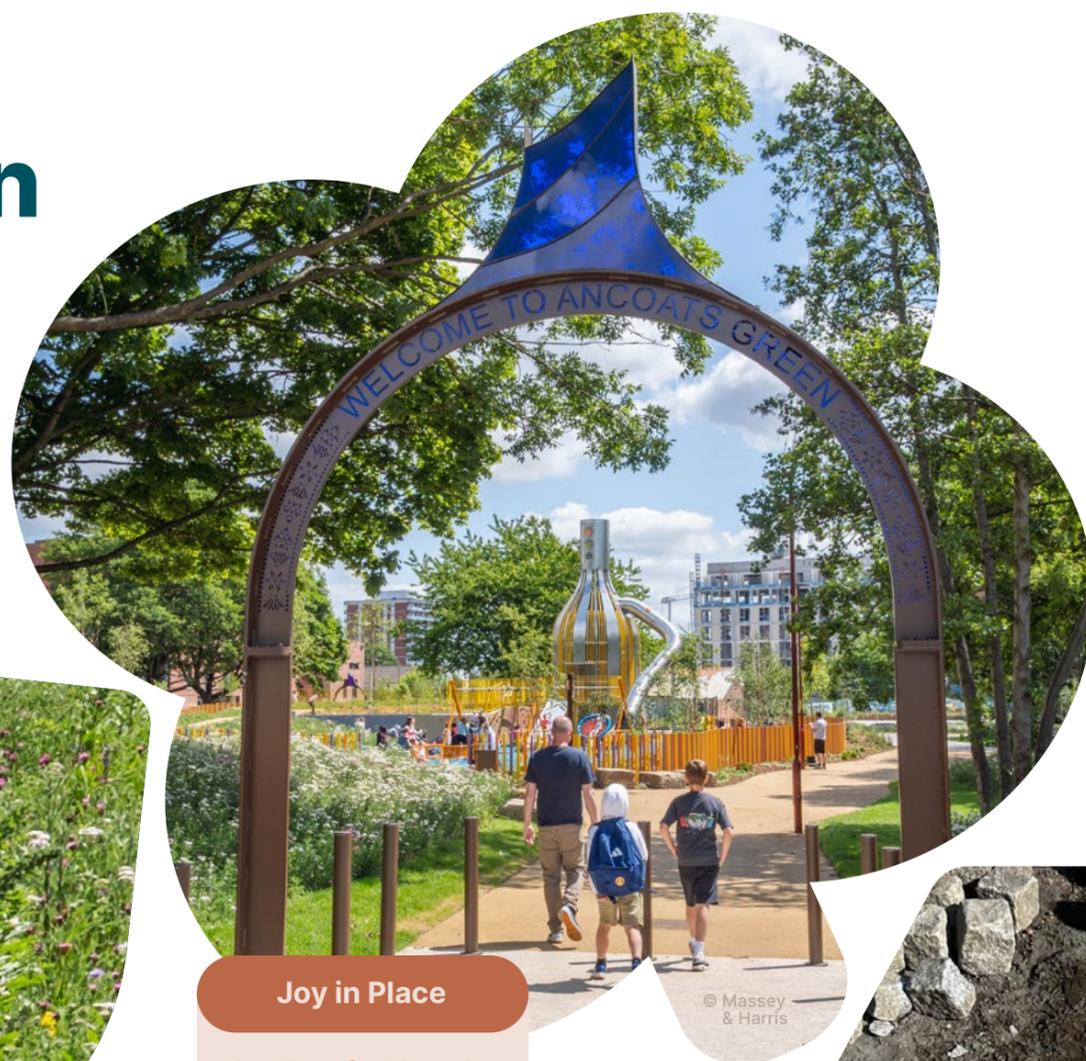
# Ancoats Green

## Case Study

Transformation of an underperforming park within a dense urban environment into an inner-city sanctuary that meets the diverse needs of the rapidly growing local community.

### Life

From green desert to urban oasis, the design created 420m<sup>2</sup> new shrub and herbaceous planting, 2,823m<sup>2</sup> wildflowers, and 117m<sup>2</sup> rain garden planting. The design introduced a 63% net increase in trees, and provided a biodiversity uplift of 73%.



### Joy in Place

Locally crafted, bespoke features celebrate Manchester's glassmaking heritage, inspired by bottles unearthed on site. A playful park at the city's heart, uncovering lost stories and creating vibrant spaces for discovery and delight.

### Circular, Futureproof

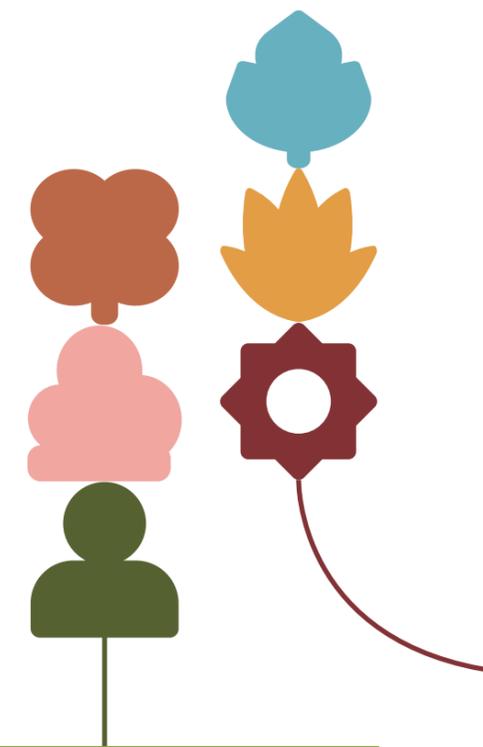
Using locally reclaimed materials rooted the design in the DNA of the place, whilst significantly reducing embodied carbon. Cobbles removed from Albert Square were refurbished and re-laid here, contributing 32% of surface materials.



### Belonging

Designed to meet the needs of a growing and diversifying population – safe and welcoming for all. Shaped by community input, celebrating seasonality, colour, and foraging, with inclusive accessible play elements.

# What value does this bring?



## Builds Lasting Value

By designing for the future, we're building resilience - whether it's climate, regulations, or markets - so we secure long-term viability and value.

## Shows Real Impact

We can now track what really works socially and environmentally, and share clear, compelling evidence.

## Creates Efficiencies and Reduces Costs

We're aligning social and environmental outcomes with smart commercial decisions, so maximising impact and budgets go hand in hand.

## Drives Innovation

It shifts our perspective, helping us move beyond conventional approaches and spark fresh ideas about design, value and impact.

## Presents the Big Picture

It gives us a way to see how everything connects - people, nature, place - it's all one system.

## Working Better Together

Collaboration is stronger - we're aligned around shared goals, spotting synergies and risks early so we focus resources where they matter most.

## Prompts Bold Targets

It pushes us to aim high, set bold goals, and approach challenges creatively. It empowers our team to think ahead.

## Smooths Planning

Showing we align with local objectives makes approvals easier, and the tool helps build trust and support amongst stakeholders.

## Partners we're working with...



Urban&Civic



Useful Simple Trust

MUSE



THE CROWN ESTATE

Calderdale Council



igloo

Hull City Council



grainger



# Our Regenerative Practitioners



**Ben Webb**  
Senior Regenerative  
Practitioner



**Helen Winsland**  
Creative Engagement  
Specialist and Senior  
Urban Designer



**Sophie Parker Loftus**  
Landscape Studio  
Director



**Andy Roberts**  
Urban Design  
Director



**Ed Lister**  
Chairman



**Pete Swift**  
CEO

Planit's Regenerative Design approach has been tested and honed on a growing number of pioneering projects. We're grateful to have collaborated with an array of brilliant thought leaders and trailblazing clients in its development. We're looking for ambitious projects to take it to the next level.

We Design for  
All Life to Thrive  
in Balance, for  
today, tomorrow  
and the next  
200 years



# Do you want your project to deliver lasting social and environmental impact?

Find out how we can turn ambition into delivery...



**Andy Roberts**  
Urban Design Director



**Ben Webb**  
Senior Regenerative Practitioner



**Helen Winsland**  
Creative Engagement Specialist and Senior Urban Designer

Contact our Regenerative Practice Team  
Sign up for our Regenerative Design Newsletter  
Express interest in a Regenerative Practice CPD 



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