

PUBLICATION

Summary of changes – BREEAM New Construction Version 7

Date: 16.07.2025
Document number: PN739
Issue: 2.0

Executive summary

'The buildings and construction sector is by far the largest emitter of greenhouse gases, accounting for a staggering 37% of global emissions.'¹

Therefore, decarbonising the buildings sector by 2050 is critical to delivering the cuts needed to limit climate change. To reduce overall emissions, the sector must improve operational energy performance, decrease the carbon footprint of building materials, and minimise the energy used in the construction of buildings. Part of the transition to net zero also includes the decarbonisation of the grid and ending onsite combustion of fossil fuels, in readiness of this. Intelligent energy use in buildings can also reduce carbon emissions from the built environment, an example of this is demand side response where buildings can match power demand to peaks of renewable electricity generation. Due to their long lifecycle, new buildings must also be adaptive and resilient to respond to the changing conditions that climate change will bring.

Following a full review of the latest in energy and carbon science in the built environment, as well as feedback received from our consultation, we are excited to launch BREEAM New Construction Version 7. The new version of BREEAM addresses all the above, as well as continuing our focus on other key factors in creating a holistic sustainable built environment such as increased occupant comfort and wellbeing, and the reduction of harm and restoration of the natural environment.

BREEAM V7 is the next version of the world-leading sustainability assessment for the built environment. This update provides investors, developers/owners, and specifiers with assurance that they are on track with net zero targets, help contribute to ESG goals, and drive sales and rental values. BREEAM New Construction V7 is more accessible and transparent, continuing to drive performance through design and construction stages – regardless of building type, space use, building age or performance – to deliver better performing buildings that minimise environmental impacts, support occupant health and wellbeing and create, grow, and protect financial value.

¹ Building Materials And The Climate: Constructing A New Future, UNEP, <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/building-materials-and-climate-constructing-new-future>

Contents

Executive summary	2
Contents.....	3
Introduction	4
General updates	5
Mixed-use buildings	5
Minimum standards	5
Weightings.....	6
Building types	6
BREEAM rating boundaries	6
Scoring analysis.....	6
EU Taxonomy	7
Excel calculator tools removed	7
Revisions based on feedback	8
Summary of changes by issue	11
International New Construction Version 7	11
Management	11
Health and wellbeing	11
Energy	13
Transport	15
Water	17
Materials	18
Waste	19
Land use and ecology	20
Pollution	21
UK New Construction Version 7	22
Management	22
Health and wellbeing	22
Energy	23
Transport	25
Water	26
Materials	27
Waste	28
Land use and ecology	28
Pollution	30

Introduction

Version 7 (V7) is the latest BREEAM standard release to ensure that the BREEAM schemes are up to date and continue to reflect the latest science and industry thinking. The trajectory to net zero will be more streamlined with BREEAM V7 rewarding buildings in their transition away from fossil fuels.

V7 is the first modular update across multiple BREEAM schemes focusing on updating and aligning the energy and carbon science. The first schemes to be updated are BREEAM International New Construction and BREEAM UK New Construction.

This document describes the changes introduced in BREEAM New Construction Version 7.

General updates

The emphasis of this update has been to align with industry objectives on decarbonisation which require reductions in operational, embodied, refrigerant, and transportation emissions addressing whole life carbon across the building lifecycle. To get to this point we have reviewed the latest science and undertaken various industry engagement activities such as Technical Working Groups and an international consultation. The ways in which we have addressed this in the update are:

- Introducing new criteria
- Revising existing criteria
- Introducing new minimum standards to reflect what BREEAM Outstanding or BREEAM Excellent should look like.

Mixed-use buildings

We have removed the requirement for a BREEAM Bespoke Certification when a building includes up to 5 additional asset types. This change applies from Version 7 onwards — allowing projects to include up to five additional asset types within a single building without triggering the need for a Bespoke assessment.

When registering your project, start by creating an asset and entering the overall building details. The following information is mandatory:

- Country
- Address line 1
- Town/City
- Name of asset
- Asset lifecycle stage
- My organisation

Once you've registered for a Version 7 New Construction assessment, navigate to *Assessment Detail* (located in the left-hand navigation panel) and provide answers to the following:

- *Is this a Commercial or Residential Assessment*
- *What is the composition of this commercial asset?* Which includes:
 - Asset category/type/subtype
 - The GIA (Gross Internal Area of assessed building/space)
 - The NIA (Net Internal Area of assessed building/space)

If your project includes more than five different asset types, you'll need to use our BREEAM Bespoke option – please download and complete the [bespoke application form](#) (found on BREEAM Projects) and email breeam@bregroup.com.

Minimum standards

Several new Minimum Standards have been introduced, focussing on ensuring BREEAM Excellent and Outstanding buildings address the full scope of Whole Life Carbon. These include:

- Building life cycle assessment (Mat 01) now includes minimum standards for Excellent (any project stage LCA and embodied carbon reporting) and Outstanding (all project stage LCA and embodied carbon reporting).
- In the energy category the minimum standards for Excellent and Outstanding can now be achieved based on either the energy performance score achieved in Ene 01, or the operational energy performance credits achieved in Ene 02 (Predictive energy modelling).
- Ene 01 / Ene 02 now has an additional minimum standard for Outstanding that requires there to be no fuel combustion on-site.

There are also new Health and Wellbeing Minimum Standards for Daylighting, and buildings will be required to have a smoking ban in place, where it is not already prohibited by law.

BREEAM's ambition continues to be to drive sustainability improvements across the whole built environment. Based on customer feedback, there are no new minimum standards for a BREEAM Pass rating, supporting a consistent and inclusive approach.

Weightings

We have revised the country weightings as part of the V7 updates to ensure that they remain relevant and reflective of local conditions and best practice, as well as taking into account the changes that we have made to the criteria. The changes to the country weightings aim to deliver a number of outcomes:

- Increase the importance of embodied carbon in BREEAM, especially for international projects.
- Maintain the level for health and wellbeing.
- Focus the weighting of energy and carbon on grid emissions factors, as BREEAM V7 pushes towards electrification of buildings.

Draft V7 weightings were published for several countries, some of these have been refined based on feedback. The changes to the methodology are leading to the intended outcomes so we drafted weightings several additional countries that were also published for feedback.

Building types

The building types that can be assessed under BREEAM have been refined to better align with real estate market trends. This provides greater customer insight, as BREEAM reporting will align with other customer data sources. It will also increase efficiencies, as BREEAM will be able to import and export data without any need for adjustment, for example for ESG reporting. Finally, the building types across the full BREEAM lifecycle will be aligned allowing predicted performance at New Construction stage to be compared with actual measured in-use performance.

BREEAM rating boundaries

To continue alignment between different BREEAM life cycle stages and therefore help customers to close the performance gap and drive sustainability for the entire built environment, BREEAM V7 will start to align the BREEAM rating boundaries. This will happen in two stages, firstly BREEAM V7 new construction boundaries have been adjusted to provide consistent gaps between the ratings, bringing a Pass and Good ratings down by 5%. Second, in BREEAM In-Use the Acceptable rating will be removed for V7 and the Pass rating boundary aligned with New Construction in two steps over V7 and V8.

Scoring analysis

As part of the development and validation of the platform, we undertook a benchmarking exercise using our own methodology. A selection of projects previously certified under BREEAM UK New Construction (V6.1 and 2018) and International New Construction (V6) were re-evaluated to estimate how their performance would translate under V7.

To ensure robustness, we included a diverse mix of commercial building types across global regions, reflecting various assessment pathways. We aligned available evidence as closely as possible, acknowledging that in areas where technical requirements have evolved, direct credit mapping is not always feasible. Nonetheless, where clear continuity existed between versions, we applied a considered translation of performance outcomes.

For new assessment issues introduced in V7 (e.g. Hea 03 and Wat 05) we excluded minimum standard requirements from our estimates, recognising their influence on early-stage design. While these may not have been prioritised under earlier versions, their presence in V7 is expected to shift design responses and ultimately affect outcomes. As such, the projected scores should be viewed as indicative of directional performance changes rather than precise equivalence.

In terms of UK-specific results, the analysis showed an average score reduction of approximately 3% when comparing V7 with 2018, and around 5% when compared with V6.1. When comparing International V7 to V6, we saw a reduction of 10%.

It's worth noting that these impacts are not universal. Project-specific factors may yield varied outcomes, with some developments potentially identifying new opportunities for enhancement.

EU Taxonomy

In V7, we have revised specific BREEAM issues to ensure increased alignment with the EU Taxonomy. It will support reporting against technical screening criteria at the project level. BREEAM issues that demonstrate compliance with the EU Taxonomy are identified in the Technical Manual, where additional evidence is required to demonstrate EU Taxonomy compliance these are listed in the Schedules of Evidence.

Excel calculator tools removed

The new BREEAM Platform now integrates all Excel-based calculator tools directly into the system for a more streamlined experience. Simply input your data, and the platform will automatically calculate and display the results. Please note, this functionality currently applies only to BREEAM New Construction V7.

Revisions based on feedback

We at BRE would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who provided their feedback in Summer 2024. Your input has been instrumental in helping us improve and refine the Version 7 New Construction technical manual, ensuring it is clearer and more effective for all users.

The revisions outlined below reflect the changes made based on your insights and experience.

Health and wellbeing

Hea 01 Natural light

The natural light minimum standard for an outstanding rating has been updated, removing the requirement to achieve one daylight credit. Now, one of two options can be used, these are based on meeting a minimum percentage of glazed surrounding wall area or a percentage of glazed area to floor area. Along with allowing a broader scope of complaint glare control measures.

Hea 03 Non-visual effects of light

Addition of more comprehensive methodology and guidance on how to assess the melanopic EDI, along with examples.

Hea 04 Indoor air quality

The indoor air quality plan has now been made a minimum standard for a Very Good rating. In addition, it is now worth one credit in the UK scheme where previously it was a prerequisite.

Hea 05 Indoor air quality

We've added an option for buildings with mechanical ventilation with limited comfort cooling to use the adaptive comfort methodology

Pollution

Pol 01 Impact of refrigerants

We have clarified the approach for Direct Equivalent Leakage Coefficient (DELCO) calculations under Pol 01. Where manufacturers don't provide data inputs needed to calculate DELCOs, the platform will now allow for the use of default values based on previous manuals. An additional paragraph has been added to the methodology to explain that system-specific values will be used where available; if unavailable, default values based on the system type will apply.

Water

Wat 01 Water consumption

The Wat 01 calculator will be integrated into the platform to enable more streamlined data capture. We have clarified that water consumption figures will be generated automatically as an output by the platform. Additionally, it has been confirmed that Wat 01 deals exclusively with sanitary water, and irrigation will not be included – this has been made clear through an additional note. Any use of recycled water for irrigation or other non-sanitary purposes should now be addressed under Wat 04.

Wat 04 Water efficient equipment

Clearer guidance has been provided on how to estimate water consumption for Wat 04. We have also clarified that when recycled or rainwater supplies a proportion of a non-sanitary water use, it will be deemed to be water efficient. A note has been added to confirm that planting relying on rainfall once established is a deemed-to-comply solution, and it has been agreed that baseline planting needs to be defined.

Wat 02 Water monitoring

The number of credits available for predicting water consumption under Wat 05 has been reduced from two to one. We have clarified that the additional effort required to predict water consumption when Wat 01 and Wat 04 are completed is limited due to clearer guidance on estimating water consumption in Wat 04 and the emphasis on the additional input required for Wat 05. Furthermore, we have confirmed that Wat 04 and Wat 05 credits will be filtered out for most shell and core buildings.

Energy

Ene 01 Energy and carbon performance for regulated energy uses

Minimum standard requirements have been corrected under Ene 01. Guidance notes (GNs) for both the UK and International versions have been updated, and we have clarified how Energy Performance Ratios (EPRs) are calculated from energy performance metrics. Shell-only requirements have been revised to ensure consistency with ASHRAE methodology and UK NCM reference buildings. Mixed-use buildings (residential and commercial) must now be assessed separately via the BREEAM Bespoke process. We have also clarified that shell-only buildings will be assessed based on heating and cooling demand. The m² thresholds have been corrected, and unoccupied spaces can now be excluded. Ene 04's approach to fabric performance optimisation has been adopted for shell-only assessments. Additional clarifications have been made on evidence requirements for beyond zero net regulated carbon, and alignment with EU Taxonomy requirements has been ensured. Finally, requirements for green lease agreements for shell-only retail units targeting an "Excellent" rating have been clarified.

Ene 02 Prediction of operational energy and carbon

We have corrected the m² threshold and confirmed that unoccupied spaces can be excluded under Ene 02. The energy consumption threshold has been removed, and the reference to Gross Internal Area (GIA) has been replaced with occupied GIA plus common areas. We have clarified that all expected energy uses (regulated and unregulated) must be covered and updated the evidence requirements for criteria 7 and 8. Guidance on when the model needs to be updated at the post-construction stage has been improved. Further clarification has been provided on which credits are awarded for NABERS UK compliance, and alternative routes to achieving minimum standards have been allowed. The scope and meaning of Ene 01 and Ene 02 have been clearly distinguished to avoid confusion.

Ene 03 Energy monitoring

We have clarified that estimating energy consumption is a prerequisite for this issue. Consistency with Version 6 has been ensured, with confirmation that rough estimates are acceptable for metering strategy compliance. A clear distinction has been made between estimating and predicting energy consumption.

Ene 04 Low and zero carbon technologies

Under Ene 04, we have clarified that heat pumps are not eligible. A clearer definition of competent installers has been provided, covering accreditation, training, and experience. We have ensured alignment with Part L U-values or notional building U-values and clarified how mixed low and zero carbon (LZC) technologies (e.g., PV and solar thermal) contribute to meeting generation targets. The calculation of the 76 kWh/year wind turbine generation target has been confirmed. The methodology for non-

electricity-based renewables (e.g., solar thermal) has been refined. Requirements for competent installation have been strengthened, and fabric performance optimisation has been reinforced where appropriate.

Ene 05 Energy efficient equipment

We have clarified that detailed predictions of energy and water consumption are not required at the preassessment stage under Ene 05. Simple engineering estimates or benchmark values will be sufficient for the initial assessment. Guidance on estimating energy consumption for in-scope equipment and systems has been improved, and table 6.6 and the worked example have been corrected. We have clarified that if no in-scope systems are present, credits are not available. Additional guidance has been provided on estimating energy consumption for unregulated uses.

Ene 06 Energy efficient systems

The intent and training requirements for Ene 06 have been clarified. The text has been updated to specify that "drive controllers capable of variable speed, variable-voltage, and variable-frequency (VVVF) control of the drive motor or equivalent" are required. We have confirmed that payback is not the only consideration – trade-offs with embodied carbon and operational savings are allowed. Supplementary guidance from KBCN1621 has been incorporated, and the scope has been expanded to include digital signage and electronic displays.

Ene 07 Flexible demand response

We have clarified the number of standard and exemplary credits available under Ene 07. Adjustments have been made to reflect grid signals during periods of high renewable energy availability. Evidence requirements for installed systems and controls have been improved. We have also confirmed that labs are out of scope.

Ene 08 Installed controls

We have expanded platform access for data entry by electrical and mechanical engineers under Ene 08. Where possible, tables have been consolidated to simplify the scoring system. We have confirmed that the specified functionality of HVAC controls must be supported by product specifications and engineer confirmation.

Land use and ecology

The Land use and ecology section has been comprehensively re-written to align with the latest ecology principles ensuring the integration of EU Taxonomy requirements. The updates also include clearer guidance, improved calculation methods, and better alignment with UK biodiversity laws, making the process more straightforward for assessors and developers. For International, a new two-tier approach for assessing ecological risks has been introduced, with a simpler process for low-risk sites and a more detailed one for complex sites. Measures to reduce ecological harm during construction have been strengthened, ensuring that measured changes in biodiversity are recorded using recognised tools, rewarding those that achieve no net loss or a net gain. The changes clarify requirements, reduce technical queries, and give more authority to ecologists. New credits are available for site improvements and achieving no net loss in biodiversity.

Summary of changes by issue

International New Construction Version 7

Management

Issue	Description of update
Man 01 Project brief and design	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project planning and Stakeholder consultation: Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment. - BREEAM AP credits: Sustainability Champion terminology replaced with BREEAM Advisory Professional (AP). More detailed criteria requirements and methodology.
Man 02 Life cycle cost and service life planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.
Man 03 Responsible construction	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental management: Updated checklist for best practice pollution prevention. - BREEAM AP (site): Sustainability Champion terminology replaced with BREEAM Advisory Professional (AP). More detailed criteria requirements and methodology. - Responsible construction management: Re-named from considerate construction and new checklist provided. Introduction of reduced criteria for small-scale projects. - Site monitoring: Minor changes only. EU Taxonomy alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key EU taxonomy points are included within Responsible construction management.
Man 04 Commissioning and handover	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment. EU Taxonomy alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU Taxonomy requirements included for buildings over 5000 m².
Man 05 Aftercare	Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previous exemplary credit removed. - New exemplary credit to encourage Zero Carbon Transition Plans for projects that are not on track to be net zero carbon.

Health and wellbeing

Issue	Description of update
Hea 01 Natural light	Changes to the scope of the assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New issue, restructured from previous visual comfort issue, to include glare control, daylight, direct sunlight to windows and view out. Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glare control – New exemplary credit using numerical analysis have been introduced to provide a more robust glare assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daylight – New minimum standard for daylight for Outstanding rating, updated since draft consultation. - Direct sunlight to windows – A new credit recognising the importance of daylight in spaces used for residential purposes. <p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daylight – Improvement to the criteria encouraging the use of computer-based design modelling to accurately simulate daylight provision. - View out – Additional route to compliance based on new methodology. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Guidance Note 50 outlining the computer-based modelling methodologies for daylight and glare. - Glare control – Added clarifications on compliant forms of glare control.
Hea 02 Artificial light	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New issue, restructured from previous visual comfort issue, to include internal and external lighting, zoning and occupant control and lighting control. <p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum standard for avoiding flicker via high frequency ballasts removed as it is now standard practise. - New prerequisite on managing flicker and stroboscopic effects reflecting the new challenges for lighting quality. - Zoning and occupant control has been separated into a new single credit. - New exemplary credit on lighting control of dimming range and colour tuning. <p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates to the internal and external lighting criteria with more explicit requirements and clarifications. With improved filtering of credits where internal or external lighting not specified. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement in flicker requirements in line with latest best practise.
Hea 03 Non-visual effects of light	<p>NEW ISSUE</p> <p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One credit, focussed on the benefit of light supporting a healthy circadian rhythm. - Additional methodology and information added to issue.
Hea 04 Indoor air quality	<p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional credit now available for the emissions from construction products. - Smoking ban and Indoor air quality plan will be required within asset for very good rating or above. - Removed potential for natural ventilation credit. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised methodology for M&E products in emission from construction products. Updates to the ventilation standards listed and to the air quality sensor information. <p>EU Taxonomy alignment</p> <p>Aligned with the EU taxonomy reporting requirements.</p>

Hea 05 Thermal comfort	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific changes to the structure and formatting have been introduced to align International with UK where suitable. - Clarified assessment options when using air-conditioning, natural ventilation, or mechanically ventilated buildings with limited comfort cooling. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional clarifications on the methodology and mixed mode assessments - Updates to suitable weather files have been included.
Hea 06 Acoustic performance	<p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indoor ambient noise and sound insulation have been split up, now each criterion is worth one credit in line with UKNC. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated methodology on testing, measurement, and calculation to clarify content. - Updated use of Speech Privacy Potential.
Hea 07 Safe and accessible design	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <p>New issue name, minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.</p> <p>Change in credits</p> <p>New exemplary credit included on security of site and building.</p>
Hea 08 Security	Not applicable to INT.
Hea 09 Private space	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Hea 10 Hazards	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Hea 11 Water quality	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.

Energy

Energy issues have been reconfigured as follows:

International NC V6 and UK NC V6.1		New Construction V7	
Issue number	Issue name	Final issue number	Issue name
Ene 01	Reduction of energy use and carbon emissions	Ene 01	Energy and carbon performance for regulated energy uses
		Ene 02	Prediction of operational energy and carbon
Ene 02a	Energy monitoring	Ene 03	Energy monitoring
Ene 02b	Energy monitoring		
Ene 04	Low carbon design	Ene 04	Low carbon design
Ene 08	Energy efficient equipment	Ene 05	Energy efficient equipment
Ene 03	External lighting	Ene 06	Energy efficient systems
Ene 05	Energy efficient cold storage		
Ene 06	Energy efficient transport systems		
Ene 07	Energy efficient laboratory systems		

Ene 10	Flexible demand side response	Ene 07	Flexible demand response
		Ene 08	Installed controls

Issue	Description of update
Ene 01 Energy and carbon performance for regulated energy uses	<p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Criteria are less prescriptive; you can select whether to use local building regulations or ASHRAE methodology for compliance.</p> <p>Added in adjustment factors for countries with nZEB or similar energy regulations. These are applied to the notional metrics to more fairly reward performance over stringent reference baselines.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment Aligned with the EU taxonomy reporting requirements.</p>
Ene 02 Prediction of operational energy and carbon	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major reconfiguration and clarification of methodology for predicting operational energy use.</p> <p>Additional credits for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third party verification of energy model • Predicted energy performance compared to benchmarks. <p>Scoring for predicted energy performance will use a similar methodology to BREEAM In Use. New energy use intensity and carbon intensity benchmarks for use in this issue have been generated for all building types.</p>
Ene 03 Energy monitoring	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Requirements for energy monitoring displays in residential building removed as they are the responsibility of the building owner or manager rather than the developer.</p>
Ene 04 Low carbon design	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Same scope but with passive design separated out into building form analysis and building fabric performance.</p> <p>Additional credits for achieving performance targets set for building fabric performance (up to 2 credits) and LZC technologies (1 credit).</p>
Ene 05 Energy efficient equipment	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Credits available now reflects the amount of energy using equipment included in the project (up to 5 credits available).</p>

	Credits awarded are based on the proportion of energy use by energy using equipment that is efficient.
Ene 06 Energy efficient systems	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Combines old Ene 03, Ene 05, Ene 06, and Ene 07 but with scope widened to incorporate other energy using systems. Laboratory equipment is now out of scope.</p> <p>Major reconfiguration and clarification and simplification of requirements plus the introduction of alternative method for demonstrating energy efficiency.</p> <p>Credits available now reflects the amount of energy use by systems included in the project (up to 10 credits).</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of energy use by energy using systems that is efficient.</p>
Ene 07 Flexible demand response	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Scope modified to include all fixed building systems and to excludes loose equipment and services.</p> <p>Now up to one standard and one exemplary credit (was one exemplary) depending on the fixed building systems that use electricity.</p> <p>Credits available reflects the scope for flexible demand side response capabilities.</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of those systems that have flexible demand side response capabilities.</p>
Ene 08 Installed controls	<p>NEW ISSUE</p> <p>This issue recognizes installed controls that enable building servicing systems to respond more efficiently to the demand for energy services.</p> <p>Up to two standard credits and one exemplary credit are available for this issue.</p> <p>The number of credits available is determined by the building services installed and the number of credits awarded is based on the functionality of the installed controls for the installed services.</p>

Transport

Issue	Description of update
Tra 01 Transport assessment and travel plan	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BREEAM UK and International are now fully aligned. - Tra 01 Transport assessment and travel plan captures previous Tra 01 Public transport accessibility, Tra 02 Proximity to amenities and Tra 05 Travel plan.

	<p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two credits for Transport assessment and travel plan. <p>Changes to criteria – simplified criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in formatting and added clarifications. - Transport assessment and travel plan is required no later than Concept design. - Addition of compliance notes and definitions from the Knowledge Base. <p>Methodological change – revised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change the acronym for Accessibility Index (AI) to Public Transport Accessibility Index (PTAI). - Clarification on the Transport assessment and travel plan considerations - Tra 01 tool calculation to be replaced on the BREEAM Platform. <p>Clarification of evidence requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification on the Transport assessment and travel plan considerations.
Tra 02a Sustainable transport measures	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BREEAM UK and International are now fully aligned. - Tra 02 integrates significant aspects of what was previously 'Tra 03 Alternative modes of transport'. <p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to 10 credits. Credits available are related to the PTAI of the site and the implemented sustainable transport options. <p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tra 02a encourage the implementation of sustainable transport options and measures by the travel plan recommendations. - The transport options are categorized into public, private, active, and alternative options. - Addition of compliance notes and definitions from the Knowledge Base. <p>Methodological changes – new and revised methodology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure assesses developments based on the provision of active (fully operational) and passive (future-ready) charging spaces. Only EV fast charging power ratings of 7 kW and above are recognized. To meet minimum requirements, developments must include at least 10% active and 20% passive EV infrastructure. <p>Clarification of evidence requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification and detailed evidence requirements for sustainable transport options.
Tra 02b Sustainable transport measures (Residential)	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tra 02ba integrates aspects of Public transport accessibility, and proximity of amenities and extends the list of sustainable options. <p>Change in credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to 8 credits. Credits available are related to the PTAI of the site and the implemented sustainable transport options. <p>Changes to criteria</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor changes in formatting, updates on the criteria and added clarifications. - Transport assessment and developing a travel plan included as a prerequisite. - The electric vehicle charging infrastructure scope has been updated to promote its adoption in the built environment. <p>Clarification of evidence requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification and detailed evidence requirements for sustainable transport options.
Tra 04 Maximum car parking capacity	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This issue is removed. Projects are limited to external requirements rather than actively seeking to reduce reliance on transport by private car.
Tra 06 Home Office	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This issue is being removed. BREEAM acknowledges the crucial role that working from home can play in reducing transportation emissions. However, the criteria for a home office specification fall into redundancy due to existing criteria covering essential aspects of room design.

Water

Issue	Description of update
Wat 01 Water consumption	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major simplification of the Wat 01 calculator with benchmarks based on installed water using components only (rather than assuming being fixed for some building types).</p> <p>Removal of requirement to assess facilities in a neighbouring building when none are present in the actual building.</p> <p>Scoring scale revised – recycled water use is always recognised (previously this only happened when water efficient components were installed).</p> <p><i>EU reporting output added</i></p>
Wat 02 Water monitoring	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>No significant change to scope or criteria.</p> <p>Methodology and evidence sections provide more clarity around the requirements.</p>
Wat 03 Water leak detection and prevention	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>No significant change to scope or criteria.</p> <p>Methodology and evidence sections provide more clarity around the requirements.</p>
Wat 04 Water efficient equipment and systems	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major reconfiguration and clarification and simplification of requirements plus the introduction of alternative method for demonstrating water efficiency.</p>

	<p>Credits available now reflect the amount of water using systems included in the project (up to 5 credits).</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of water use that is by water efficient systems.</p>
Wat 05 Prediction of operational water use	<p>NEW ISSUE</p> <p>Predict operational water use.</p> <p>For sanitary water use, undertake Wat 01 calculation but with expected occupancy (rather than standard occupancy).</p> <p>For non-sanitary water use estimated water consumption.</p> <p>Credits awarded for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicting water consumption • Setting an in-use water consumption target • Committing to measure water consumption in use

Materials

Issue	Description of update
Mat 01 Building life cycle assessment	<p>This issue has been completely rewritten and extensive changes have been introduced. The International and UK issues are now fully aligned.</p> <p>Change in credits – 7 + 3 exemplary credits.</p> <p>Changes to criteria – New criteria include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept-design LCA and embodied carbon Reporting – 2 credits • Technical-design and embodied carbon Reporting LCA - 1 credit • Post-construction LCA and embodied carbon Reporting - 2 credit • Comparison against the embodied carbon benchmark - Up to 2 credits (plus 1 exemplary credit) • Submit embodied carbon data to a public database – 1 exemplary credit. <p>Methodological changes – The new methodology includes calculations and reporting of LCA and Embodied carbon at building level during concept design, technical design, and post-construction design. The calculations must still be completed with a BREEAM recognised LCA tool following EN15978. The credits for different life cycle stages can be achieved independent of one another (i.e. if you don't target the concept design credit you can still target the technical design credit).</p> <p>Changes to the scope of the assessment – The benchmark comparison credits have been introduced. This includes embodied carbon performance scales for different building types.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment and other reporting outputs – Requirement to report GWP impacts to clients and consider setting scope and methodology requirements added.</p> <p>Clarification of evidence requirements – Clarification of evidence requirements across all stages.</p>

Mat 02 Environmental product declarations	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for full alignment. This credit was previously included within Mat 01.</p> <p>Change in credits – 1 credit.</p> <p>Changes to criteria – Specification of products with a recognised environmental product declaration (EPD).</p> <p>Methodological changes – Fully aligned with UK NC V7 issue.</p> <p>Changes to the scope of the assessment – Fully aligned with UK NC V7 issue.</p> <p>Clarification of evidence requirements – Clarification of evidence requirements across all stages.</p>
Mat 03 Responsible sourcing of construction products	<p>Methodological changes – Substantial formatting changes and clarifications to the methodology section to make it easier to follow. The UK and International issues are now fully aligned.</p>
Mat 04 Durability and resilience	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment, including inclusion of criteria 3 and 4 from UK issue in order to fully align.</p>
Mat 05 Material efficiency	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.</p>

Waste

Issue	Description of update
Wst 01 Construction waste management	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for alignment.</p> <p>Change in credits – 4 credits.</p> <p>Changes to criteria – The criteria are now presented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-demolition audit (1 credit) • Construction resource efficiency (2 credits) • Diversion of resources from landfill (1 credit) <p>Methodological changes – Fully aligned with UK NC V7 issue (except construction resource efficiency benchmarks)</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment and other reporting outputs – Alignment with EU taxonomy waste reporting requirements, including the EU Construction and Demolition Waste Management Protocol.</p>
Wst 02 Recycled aggregates	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.</p>
Wst 03a Operational waste	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.</p>
Wst 03b Operational waste	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.</p>
Wst 04 Speculative finishes	<p>Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.</p>
Wst 05 Adapting to climate change	<p>EU Taxonomy alignment</p>

	Clearer reference “state of the art” climate change projections and considerations for implementing solutions to provide full alignment with EU Taxonomy.
Wst 06 Disassembly and adaptability	<p>Changes to criteria – Minor amendments to the wording of the criteria to make it clearer. Full alignment between UK and International issues. Now also applies to residential assessments.</p> <p>Methodological changes – Revised to fully align with ISO 20887.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment and other reporting outputs – Alignment with EU taxonomy requirements in reference to ISO 20887 for assessing the disassembly or adaptability of buildings.</p>

Land use and ecology

Issue	Description of update
Lue 01 Site selection	<p>EU Taxonomy alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Addition of requirement to use the standard ISO 18400 or equivalent to align with the requirements in EU Taxonomy. <p>Clarification of evidence requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Clarification of evidence requirements in PCR for criterion 1. Reduces number of non-conformances at QA. – Removal of checklist A7 requirement where more onerous than local contaminated land standard
Lue 02 Ecological risks and opportunities	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for full alignment.</p> <p>New routes for assessment introduced for whole Lue section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foundation route for sites with low ecological risk - Comprehensive route for sites with more complex ecology <p>Issue divided into two sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey and evaluation - Determining ecological outcomes
Lue 03 Managing impacts on ecology	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for alignment.</p> <p>Risk reduction measures proposed in previous issue are required to be implemented to lower impact on site ecological during the site clearance and construction phases of the project.</p>
Lue 04 Ecological change and enhancement	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for alignment.</p> <p>Issue split into two sections (dependent on route):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecological enhancement – similar to V6. - Quantifying change in ecological value – use of national or international biodiversity net gain tool to assess the change in habitat from pre to post development and reward projects for no net loss and net gain. - Where an ecologist confirms that biodiversity net gain is not appropriate for the site projects are still able to achieve one credit by using the urban greening factor methodology.
Lue 05 Long term ecological management	<p>UK NC V7 issue introduced to International NC for full alignment.</p> <p>New credit for including a section on ecology and biodiversity in handover documentation supplied to the tenant/building owner.</p>

	Similar intent and requirements to current V6 issue in terms of a management plan, but with more comprehensive requirements.
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Pollution

Issue	Description of update
Pol 01 Impact of refrigerants	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>It is now a prerequisite for all refrigerant gases to have zero ozone depletion potential.</p>
Pol 02 Local air quality	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Criteria relate to NO_x only – This is a simplification as data on VOCs and particulates are not always available.</p> <p>Same limits now apply regardless of the appliance type as it is more equitable for the same limit to apply to all appliance types.</p> <p>Lower limit only applies in areas of low population (was low air quality areas) as population density data is available worldwide and strongly correlates with air quality and also reflects the number of people affected by poor air quality.</p>
Pol 03 Flood and surface water management	Better match with UK NC and the terms used in BREEAM In-Use on sources of flood risk for greater consistency. More international references and terminology introduced.
Pol 04 Reduction of nighttime light pollution	Better match with UK NC. Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Pol 05 Reduction of noise pollution	Better match with UK NC. Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.

UK New Construction Version 7

Management

Issue	Description of update
Man 01 Project brief and design	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project planning and Stakeholder consultation: Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment. Requirement for a clear sustainability brief introduced.
Man 02 Life cycle cost and service life planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment.
Man 03 Responsible construction	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental management: Inclusion of new checklist for best practice pollution prevention. - Responsible construction management: Minor updates to items within checklist and scoring requirements. Introduction of reduced criteria for small-scale projects. - Site monitoring: Minor changes only. EU Taxonomy alignment Key EU taxonomy points are included within responsible construction management.
Man 04 Commissioning and handover	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor changes to improve clarity and ease of assessment. EU Taxonomy alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU Taxonomy requirements included for buildings over 5000 m².
Man 05 Aftercare	Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previous exemplary credit removed. - New exemplary credit to encourage Zero Carbon Transition Plans for projects that are not on track to be net zero carbon.

Health and wellbeing

Issue	Description of update
Hea 01 Natural light	Changes to the scope of the assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New issue, restructured from previous visual comfort issue, to include glare control, daylight, direct sunlight to windows and view out. Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glare control – New exemplary credit using numerical analysis have been introduced to provide a more robust glare assessment. - Daylight – New minimum standard for daylight for Outstanding rating, updated since draft consultation. - Direct sunlight to windows – A new credit recognising the importance of daylight in spaces used for residential purposes. Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daylight – Improvement to the methodology encouraging the use of computer-based design modelling to accurately simulate daylight provision. - View out – Additional route to compliance based on new methodology.

	Methodological changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Guidance Note 50 outlining the computer-based modelling methodologies for daylight and glare. - Glare control – Updated clarifications to compliant forms of glare control.
Hea 02 Artificial light	Changes to the scope of the assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New issue, restructured from previous visual comfort issue, to include internal and external lighting and zoning and occupant control. Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New prerequisite on managing flicker and stroboscopic effects. - Zoning and occupant control has been separated into a new single credit. - New exemplary credit on lighting control of dimming range and colour tuning added. Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Updates to the internal and external lighting criteria with more explicit requirements and clarifications. With improved filtering of credits where internal or external lighting not specified. Methodological changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement in flicker requirements in line with latest best practice.
Hea 03 Non-visual effects of light	Changes to the scope of the assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completely new issue, worth one credit, focussed on the benefit of light supporting a healthy circadian rhythm. - Additional methodology and information added to issue.
Hea 04 Indoor air quality	Change in credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indoor air quality plan will be worth one credit and be required within asset for very good rating or above. Methodological changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Revised methodology M&E products in emission from construction products. EU Taxonomy alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aligned with the EU taxonomy reporting requirements.
Hea 05 Thermal comfort	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Allowed mechanically ventilated buildings with limited comfort cooling to use adaptive comfort method.
Hea 06 Acoustic performance	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Hea 07 Safe and accessible design	New issue name, minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Hea 08 Security	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.

Energy

Issue	Description of update
-------	-----------------------

Ene 01 Energy and carbon performance for regulated energy uses	<p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Added a flexible weighting scale for the three metrics. The weighting for demand will now be proportional to the relative size of heating and cooling energy consumption within the building's total regulated energy.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment Aligned with the EU taxonomy reporting requirements.</p>
Ene 02 Prediction of operational energy and carbon	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major reconfiguration and clarification of methodology for predicting operational energy use.</p> <p>Additional credits for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third party verification of energy model • Predicted energy performance compared to benchmarks. <p>Scoring for predicted energy performance will use a similar methodology to BREEAM In Use. New energy use intensity and carbon intensity benchmarks for use in this issue have been generated for all building types.</p>
Ene 03 Energy monitoring	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Requirements for energy monitoring displays in residential building removed as they are the responsibility of the building owner or manager rather than the developer.</p>
Ene 04 Low carbon design	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Same scope but with passive design separated out into building form analysis and building fabric performance.</p> <p>Additional credits for achieving performance targets set for building fabric performance (up to 2 credits) and LZC technologies (1 credit).</p>
Ene 05 Energy efficient equipment	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Reconfiguration and clarification of requirements.</p> <p>Credits available now reflects the amount of energy using equipment included in the project (up to 5 credits available).</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of energy use by energy using equipment that is efficient.</p>
Ene 06 Energy efficient systems	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Combines old Ene 03, Ene 05, Ene 06, and Ene 07 but with scope widened to incorporate other energy using systems. Laboratory equipment is now out of scope.</p>

	<p>Major reconfiguration and clarification and simplification of requirements plus the introduction of alternative method for demonstrating energy efficiency.</p> <p>Credits available now reflects the amount of energy use by systems included in the project (up to 10 credits).</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of energy use by energy using systems that is efficient.</p>
Ene 07 Flexible demand response	<p>NEW ISSUE for UK</p> <p>Scope modified to include all fixed building systems and to excludes loose equipment and services.</p> <p>Now up to one standard and one exemplary credit (was one exemplary) depending on the fixed building systems that use electricity.</p> <p>Credits available reflects the scope for flexible demand side response capabilities.</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of those systems that have flexible demand side response capabilities.</p>
Ene 08 Installed controls	<p>NEW ISSUE</p> <p>This issue recognizes installed controls that enable building servicing systems to respond more efficiently to the demand for energy services.</p> <p>Up to two standard credits and one exemplary credit are available for this issue.</p> <p>The number of credits available is determined by the building services installed and the number of credits awarded is based on the functionality of the installed controls for the installed services.</p>

Transport

Issue	Description of update
Tra 01 Transport assessment and travel plan	<p>Changes to the scope of the assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BREEAM UK and International are now fully aligned. <p>Changes to criteria – simplified criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in formatting and added clarifications. - Addition of compliance notes related to the Public Transport Accessibility Index (PTAI). <p>Methodological change – revised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change the acronym for Accessibility Index (AI) to Public Transport Accessibility Index (PTAI). - Clarification on the Transport assessment and travel plan considerations. - Tra 01 Excel tool to be replaced on the BREEAM Platform.

	Clarification of evidence requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification on the Transport assessment and travel plan considerations.
Tra 02 Sustainable transport measures	Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of compliance notes and definitions from the Knowledge Base. Methodological changes – new and revised methodology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure assesses developments based on the provision of active (fully operational) and passive (future-ready) charging spaces. Only EV fast charging power ratings of 7 kW and above are recognized. To meet minimum requirements, developments must include at least 10% active and 20% passive EV infrastructure. Clarification of evidence requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification and detailed evidence requirements for sustainable transport options.

Water

Issue	Description of update
Wat 01 Water consumption	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major simplification of the Wat 01 calculator with benchmarks based on installed water using components only (rather than assuming being fixed for some building types).</p> <p>Removal of requirement to assess facilities in a neighbouring building when none are present in the actual building.</p> <p>Scoring scale revised – recycled water use is always recognised (previously this only happened when water efficient components were installed).</p> <p><i>EU reporting output added</i></p>
Wat 02 Water monitoring	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>No significant change to scope or criteria.</p> <p>Methodology and evidence sections provide more clarity around the requirements.</p>
Wat 03 Water leak detection and prevention	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>No significant change to scope or criteria.</p> <p>Methodology and evidence sections provide more clarity around the requirements.</p>
Wat 04 Water efficient equipment and systems	<p>International and UK fully aligned.</p> <p>Major reconfiguration and clarification and simplification of requirements plus the introduction of alternative method for demonstrating water efficiency.</p>

	<p>Credits available now reflect the amount of water using systems included in the project (up to 5 credits).</p> <p>Credits awarded are based on the proportion of water use that is by water efficient systems.</p>
Wat 05 Prediction of operational water consumption	<p>NEW ISSUE</p> <p>Predict operational water use.</p> <p>For sanitary water use, undertake Wat 01 calculation but with expected occupancy (rather than standard occupancy).</p> <p>For non-sanitary water use estimated water consumption.</p> <p>Credits awarded for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicting water consumption • Setting an in-use water consumption target • Committing to measure water consumption in use

Materials

Issue	Description of update
Mat 01 Building life cycle assessment	<p>This issue has been completely rewritten and extensive changes have been introduced. The International and UK issues are now fully aligned.</p> <p>Change in credits – 7 + 3 exemplary credits.</p> <p>Changes to criteria – New criteria include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept-design LCA and embodied carbon reporting – 2 credits • Technical-design LCA and embodied carbon reporting – 1 credit • Post-construction LCA and embodied carbon reporting – 2 credits • Comparison against the embodied carbon benchmark – Up to 2 credits (plus 1 exemplary credit) • Submit embodied carbon data to a public database – 1 exemplary credit. <p>Methodological changes – The new methodology includes calculations and reporting of LCA and Embodied carbon at building level during concept design, technical design, and post-construction design. The calculations must still be completed with a BREEAM recognised LCA tool following EN15978. The credits for different life cycle stages can be achieved independent of one another (i.e. if you don't target the concept design credit you can still target the technical design credit).</p> <p>Changes to the scope of the assessment – The benchmark comparison credits have been introduced. This includes embodied carbon performance scales for different building types.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment and other reporting outputs – Requirement to report GWP impacts to clients and consider setting scope and methodology requirements have been added for EU Taxonomy alignment.</p> <p>Clarification of evidence requirements – Clarification of evidence requirements across all stages.</p>

Mat 02 Environmental product declarations	No changes
Mat 03 Responsible sourcing of construction products	Methodological changes – Substantial formatting changes and clarifications to the methodology section to make it easier to follow. The UK and International issues are now fully aligned.
Mat 04 Durability and resilience	Minor changes in formatting.
Mat 05 Material efficiency	Minor changes in formatting.

Waste

Issue	Description of update
Wst 01 Construction waste management	Minor changes in formatting.
Wst 02 Use of recycled and sustainably sourced aggregates	Minor changes in formatting.
Wst 03 Operational waste	Minor changes in formatting.
Wst 04 Speculative finishes (Offices only)	Minor changes in formatting.
Wst 05 Adapting to climate change	EU Taxonomy alignment – Clearer reference “state of the art” climate change projections and considerations for implementing solutions to provide full alignment with EU Taxonomy.
Wst 06 Disassembly and adaptability	<p>Changes to criteria – Minor amendments to the wording of the criteria to make it clearer. Full alignment between UK and International issues.</p> <p>Methodological changes – Revised to fully align with ISO 20887.</p> <p>EU Taxonomy alignment and other reporting outputs – Alignment with EU taxonomy requirements in reference to ISO 20887 for assessing the disassembly or adaptability of buildings.</p>

Land use and ecology

Issue	Description of update
Lue 01 Site selection	<p>EU Taxonomy alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of requirement to use the standard ISO 18400 or equivalent to align with the requirements in EU Taxonomy. <p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of compliance notes related to temporary structures and hard landscaping. Reduces the need for technical queries and the number of non-conformances at QA. - Clarification related to prison assessments. Reduces the need for technical queries and the number of non-conformances at QA.
Lue 02 Ecological risks and opportunities	<p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed pre-requisite relating to legislation. - Made alterations to the methodology to increase clarity. Makes it easier for assessors to understand.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed several items to put more onus on SQE's knowledge and expertise. - Addition of how to assess using a mixture of routes. Reduces the need for technical queries. <p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarifications that give the SQE more authority. - Addition of definitions from the Knowledge Base. Reduces the need to look in both the manual and the BREEAM Knowledge base.
Lue 03 Managing impacts on ecology	<p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed pre-requisite relating to legislation. - Intent remains the same, but alterations have been made to make the requirements more clear and less repetitive with other issues. - No net less criteria no longer applicable to foundation route. <p>Methodological changes Made alterations to the methodology to increase clarity. Makes it easier for assessors to understand.</p> <p>Changes in credit allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two credits are now available for the 'implementation of measures of site' for both routes. - One credit available for 'no net loss'.
Lue 04 Ecological change and enhancement	<p>Changes to criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed pre-requisite relating to legislation. - Updated the benchmarks to align with English Biodiversity Net Gain law. Encourages developers to go above and beyond the minimum requirement required by English law. - Clarification on the off-site enhancement rules. Will reduce the number of technical queries needed. <p>Methodological changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Added a calculation methodology for sites with low or zero biodiversity baseline pre-development based on absolute change in biodiversity units. Sorts out a common problem for sites with no ecological features pre-development. - Now allow the use of the Statutory Biodiversity Small Sites Metric (SSM) where allowed under English law. Allows more flexibility for small developments. - Removed reference to Guidance Note 36 and replaced with the methodology for the UK Government Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Puts all the guidance in one place and makes the process clearer for the assessors. <p>Changes to criteria – simplified criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in formatting and added clarifications. Makes the process clearer for assessors. <p>Clarification of evidence requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated references to Statutory Metric. Reduces number of non-conformances at QA. - Added evidence requirement related to relevant legislation. Reduces number of non-conformances at QA. - Addition of planting schedules, landscape plans and site inspection reports. Reduces number of non-conformances at QA.

Lue 05 Long term ecology management and maintenance	Changes to criteria – simplified criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed pre-requisite relating to legislation. - Removed repetitive requirements. - Change in formatting and added clarifications. Makes the process clearer for the assessors.
-----------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Pollution

Issue	Description of update
Pol 01 Impact of refrigerants	International and UK fully aligned. It is now a prerequisite for all refrigerant gases to have zero ozone depletion potential.
Pol 02 Local air quality	International and UK fully aligned. Criteria relate to NO _x only – This is a simplification as data on VOCs and particulates are not always available. Same limits now apply regardless of the appliance type as it is more equitable for the same limit to apply to all appliance types. Lower limit only applies in areas of low population (was low air quality areas) as population density data is available worldwide and strongly correlates with air quality and also reflects the number of people affected by poor air quality.
Pol 03 Flood and surface water management	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Pol 04 Reduction of nighttime light pollution	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications.
Pol 05 Reduction of noise pollution	Minor changes in formatting and added clarifications. Changes to criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The noise level criteria now specify that it must be at least 5 dB lower than the background noise throughout the day and night.