The Problem

Our places, be they villages, towns, cities or regions, are diverse and unique. They are shaped by their location, connections, natural surroundings, history, culture, economies, and the people who live, visit and work in them. Our interventions in the built environment do not sufficiently recognise the importance of local context, or the complexity of interconnected built and natural systems and the changing needs of the people that use them. This reduces their impact and leads to suboptimal outcomes.

The Vision

A holistic and data-enabled understanding of place and space, bringing together robust and accessible data on the local population, economy and environment, with insights and priorities from local stakeholders, to create the foundation for better decision-making and more impactful interventions. Matrix working, across organisations, government departments and specialisms, breaks down silos and creates an environment where data and insight can be effectively translated into interventions and outcomes. Interventions are developed and delivered by the parties with the most appropriate mix of authority, expertise, capacity and capability. Public and private investment flows into balanced portfolios of interventions, aided by an improved understanding of local assets, needs and priority outcomes.

The Benefits

- Improved evidence-base for local outcomes: Data, insight and engagement enabling better understanding and consideration of local outcomes.
- Innovative use of data and new technology to develop and deliver quality interventions: Rapid developments in technology and processing power will continue to increase our ability to use and manipulate data and embed it in decision-making and delivery processes.
- Collaborative relationships between local and national authorities: The emphasis on collaboration and local/regional solutions develops and strengthens new relationships between public and private sector partners, increasing resilience and supporting more effective long term planning and delivery.