

ArchitecturePLB consider BIM a key element of our business operations offering both effective collaboration and communication of our designs, structuring our information and its flow in a industry recognised format.

Our BIM authoring software is Revit, which we have worked with since 2010 actively developing our own protocols, user policies and training during that time.

## Approach

Autodesk Revit is our primary model authoring tool for which we have an annual subscription ensuring that we have access to the current version as well as supporting up to five previous versions. We are in the process of transitioning to a fully Autodesk solution across all our projects.

We use a number of additional tools to help us collaborate, coordinate and communicate effectively with others including:

- Ideate to help us more efficiently manage and audit data
- COBie extension for Revit for asset tagging
- Navisworks Manage for design collaboration
- NBS Chorus to integrate specification and model
- Xrev Transmit to publish the model and associated information
- Enscape for basic rendering and rendered real time walkthroughs
- SketchUp for early massing and 3D digital sketching

Our server folder structure imitates a Common Data Environment and we have experience of numerous Common Data Environments hosted by others.

In line with BS 19650, relevant projects have a BIM execution plan (BEP), which responds to the Project Exchange Information and Asset requirements, defines BIM standards and process for each project, in terms of model organisation, information exchange and collaboration protocols.

Careful development of the BEP in collaboration with the design team allows the team to work with agreed methodologies and to agreed milestones in striving for clash minimised tender and construction information.

We recognise the importance of providing modelling information that is appropriate for the project and design stage and we ensure that we tailor our approach to meet the client's needs.

## Expertise

To support Project Teams we have a Revit User Group made up of staff from across the office who have particular expertise in Revit. The group undertake training and research to ensure that we are at the forefront of innovations and developments.

We ensure that we are informed regarding the most up to date approaches across the industry through membership to BIM4Design, alongside reference to recognised literature and attendance at conferences.

We also use external consultancies to challenge and fine tune our in-house protocols to ensure that we maximise benefits to our clients and projects from the BIM approach.

We regularly review business certification options and aim to achieve accreditation within the next 5 years

When appropriate to their role, it is a prerequisite that new staff are proficient in Revit. In order to reinforce and share our BIM understanding, we organise knowledge shares and training workshops for our staff and use other external consultants to provide training as necessary.

Alongside our regular in-house gateway design reviews, we also implement model health check audits at key milestones.

A Revit/BIM mentor is assigned to each project team to ensure that the project is set up appropriately from the outset and to provide support for the duration of the project.

Signed: Jo DeSyllas Associate Director  
Last reviewed August 2023

## Related Practices and procedures that support this policy

- BIM execution plan template - 1043\_REF\_660000\_BEP- BIM Execution Plan template (NB shortly due to be updated and renumbered)

- Document Numbering - 1030-APLB-XX-XX-RP-A-0761\_  
ProjectDocumentNumberingBS\_RevP01

- 1030-APLB-XX-XX-RP-A-0762\_APLBDocumentNumberingGuidance\_  
RevP02\_230909

## Latest revision

Date	Description	Signed
19.07.2021	Rev. P01	JD
09.08.2023	Rev P02	JD