

The UKAA Resources Reference List

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This list of sources indicates material to which you might refer as part of your revision for or completion of the UK Adaptation Assessment. This list is not exhaustive, but it is intended to be a helpful starting point. It is essential that you are familiar with the Architects Code, but the other material that you should refer to will vary depending on your role in practice, level of seniority and amount of experience working on projects in the UK.

Accessing the materials on this list

This list refers to three types of material:

- Online
- Book
- Document

If you are currently in practice it may be that you have access through your employer to some of the books listed below through a subscription database or their own collection.

Materials that are free to access are indicated.

1. Professionalism

All UK architects are expected to uphold the Standards of the Architects Code, and it is recommended that you read the RIBA Code of Professional Conduct.

1.1 Architects Code

The Architects Code of Conduct and Practice is a positive statement of what professionalism and ethics mean to architects, and explains in clear terms the behaviours and high standards that are expected of all UK architects. The Architects Code is published by the Architects Registration Board.

- **ARB, Architects Code: Standards of Conduct and Practice 2025;** (online, free)
<https://arb.org.uk/architect-information/architects-code-standards-of-conduct-and-practice/>

1.2 RIBA Code of Professional Conduct

The RIBA Code of Professional Conduct is published by the Royal Institute of British Architects, and sets out the standards of professional conduct and practice which the RIBA requires of all its members.

- **RIBA, RIBA Code of Professional Conduct;** (online, free)
<https://www.riba.org/media/hdlp0w20/code-of-professional-conduct-1-april-2021pdfpdf-1.pdf>

2. Practice and management of projects

These items provide an overview of the practice of architecture in the UK.

2.1 Introduction to the UK architectural and regulatory context

Useful 'primers' on UK architectural practice, giving an introduction to the regulatory and legal context.

- **The Architect in Practice: 11th Edition;** David Chappell & Michael Dunn 2016; Blackwell Publishing (book)
- **RIBA Handbook of Management 2024;** Matt Thompson 2024; RIBA Publishing (book)

2.2 Design and delivery processes in UK architecture

These sources include detail on the roles and responsibilities of key participants and activities undertaken at each point in the design and delivery process.

- **RIBA Plan of Work 2020 Overview;** (online, free)
<https://www.architecture.com/knowledge-and-resources/resources-landing-page/riba-plan-of-work>
- **RIBA Job Book; 10th Edition;** Nigel Ostime 2020; RIBA Publishing (book)

3. Law

These sources provide legal context for architectural practice in the UK.

3.1 Law affecting the practice of architecture

A widely-used reference about law affecting the practice of architecture in the UK. It covers English Law, tort, land law, the statutory framework, building contracts, dispute resolution and law affecting practice.

- **Architects Legal Handbook: 11th Edition;** ed Speight and Thorne 2025, Routledge (book)

3.2 Development law

Factsheets on legal aspects affecting development in the UK, in particular rights to light and party walls.

- **Anstey Horne Resources on Rights to light and Party Walls;** (online, free)
<https://www.ansteyhorne.co.uk/resources>

4. Architect appointment and fees

These sources provide information about architects' appointments (contracts).

4.1 Guidance

Comprehensive guidance about using architects' appointments and fee calculation.

- **Good Practice Guide: Fees;** Peter Farrall and Stephen Brookhouse 2024, RIBA Publishing (book)

4.2 RIBA contracts

An introduction to RIBA contracts, and standard architect contracts used in the UK. These standard contracts may be available to access as specimen copies from a subscription database through your workplace.

- **(About) RIBA Contracts;** (online, free)
<https://www.riba.org/work/business-tools/riba-contracts/>

- **RIBA Standard Professional Services Contract 2020 (2024 Amendment): Architectural Services;** RIBA Publishing (document, contract proforma)
- **RIBA Building Regulations Principal Designer Professional Services Contract 2024;** RIBA Publishing
- **RIBA Domestic Professional Services Contract 2020 (2024 Amendment): Architectural Services;** RIBA Publishing (document, contract proforma)

5. Planning, historic buildings, building regulations and inclusive design

Information relating to the regulatory context that pertains to building in the UK.

5.1 Development control

Information on how development is controlled, including planning policy, applications and legislation related to historic buildings.

- **The Essential Guide to Planning Law: Decision-Making and Practice in the UK;** Adam Sheppard, Deborah Peel, Heather Ritchie, Sophie Berry 2017; Policy Press (book)
- **Good Practice Guide: Making Successful Planning Applications;** Colin Haylock 2021; RIBA Publishing (book)
- **National Planning Policy Framework 2024 and proposed reforms 2025;** (online) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2> and https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/69417a0958a21370f58f3010/December_2025_NPPF_Consultation_document.pdf
- **An Introduction to Architectural Conservation;** Nick Evans 2019, RIBA Publishing (book)

5.2 Design standards

Information related to the minimum health and safety design standards expected of buildings in the UK.

- **Approved Documents, Building Regulations;** (online, free) <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/approved-documents>
- **What are the Building Regulations?** Local Authority Building Control (online, free) <https://www.labc.co.uk/about-labc/what-are-building-regulations>

5.3 Inclusivity and accessibility

A useful reference for inclusive and accessible design.

- **Inclusive Design: Implementation and Evaluation;** Jordana Maisel 2017; Taylor & Francis (book)

6. Health and safety

The UK Government takes seriously the health and safety of buildings in the UK, requiring everyone to take their respective responsibility for the safe design, construction, use and maintenance of buildings. These duties are set out in primary legislation and with oversight by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

6.1 Required duties

Legislation for and information about required duties.

- **The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015;** (online) <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/51/contents> & <https://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/cdm/2015/index.html>

6.2 Defined role

A guide on the defined role under the legislation.

- **RIBA Principal Designer's Guide;** Dieter Bentley-Gockmann 2024; RIBA Publishing (book)

6.3 Guidance and Information related to the Building Safety Act

The Grenfell Tower tragedy (2017) exposed dangerous practice and flaws in the delivery of building projects. New legislation in The Building Safety Act set out new duties and processes, particularly in relation to high-risk buildings and Building Regulations compliance.

- **The Building Safety Act, Government Guidance;** (online, free)
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-building-safety-act>
- **Building Safety Reforms, HSE Guidance;** (online, free)
<https://www.hse.gov.uk/building-safety/index.htm>
- **Building Safety Act: what are the differences for architects between the CDM Principal Designer role and the Building Regulations equivalent?** (online, free)
<https://www.riba.org/work/insights-and-resources/professional-features/building-safety-act-professional-features/building-safety-act-differences-between-principal-designer-roles/>
- **The Building Safety Act, RICS Guidance;** (online, free)
<https://www.rics.org/news-insights/building-safety-act-faqs>

7. Procurement and contract administration

The UK construction professional has at their disposal a variety of possible contracts for use with building projects. The two most commonly used are the JCT and NEC standard forms. In addition, RIBA Publishing produces a domestic building contract for residential clients. For the purpose of the assessment, you should refer to guidance about the JCT and NEC standard forms.

7.1 Building procurement

A good introduction to the different forms of building procurement used in the UK that links to standard building contracts.

- **Which Contract? Choosing the Appropriate Building Contract;** 6th Edition; Sarah Lupton and Manos Stellakis 2019, RIBA Publishing (book)

7.2 Contract law

A primer on the law behind the contracts.

- **Construction Contracts: Law and Management;** 5th Edition; Will Hughes 2015; Routledge (book)

7.3 Guidance for specific contracts

Targeted guidance and information about the use of specific contracts.

- **Construction Contracts: Law and Management;** 5th Edition; Will Hughes 2015; Routledge (book)
- **Understanding JCT Standard Building Contracts;** 10th Edition: David Chappell 2018; Routledge (book)
- **Deciding on the appropriate JCT contract 2024;** (online, pdf guide & flow chart, free)
<https://www.jctltd.co.uk/docs/Deciding-on-the-appropriate-JCT-contract-2024.pdf> &
<https://www.jctltd.co.uk/docs/Guide-to-selecting-the-appropriate-JCT-main-contract-2024.pdf>
- **Guide to (various) JCT Contract;** Sarah Lupton and Manos Stellakis 2025; RIBA Publishing (books)
- **Architect's Guide to NEC4;** Frances Forward 2019; RIBA Publishing (book)
- **Successful Contract Administration: For Constructors and Design Professionals;** CW Cook 2014; Taylor & Francis (book)