## Identifying our material issues

Our materiality assessment helps us to identify and focus on the sustainability issues and impacts that matter most to our business and our stakeholders, including customers, investors, our people and regulators.

We updated our assessment in early 2020. The assessment considered and ranked a wide range of issues. It took account of how important each issue is to our business strategy; which issues could represent a significant risk or opportunity for the business; how important each issue is to our key stakeholders (including investors, customers, employees, communities and local government); and issues where our business operations could have a significant negative or positive impact on people or the environment.

The results are shown in the matrix on page 12. The most material impacts and issues to both the business and our external stakeholders are found in the top right corner of the matrix.

The assessment showed that issues relating to the sustainability of our homes and developments – such as placemaking, community infrastructure, build quality, fire safety, affordability and environmental performance are among the key issues for our business. Health & safety also remains one of the most highly rated issues.

Compared with our previous assessment in 2016, issues relating to environmental impacts including climate change, biodiversity and air quality have increased in importance.

We expanded the initial list of issues considered in the assessment, which means some issues (such as build quality) appear on the matrix for the first time.

We will use the results of the assessment to inform the development of our environmental strategy during 2020.

**Our methodology** 



1 Issue identification

A long list of issues was identified based on our current priorities, our previous materiality assessment, business strategy, our main impacts and risks, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other



2 Stakeholder research

We sought the views of investors, local government, NGOs, academics, registered social landlords and sustainable business organisations. We also drew on consumer research, a government policy review and a media scan.



3
Internal
interviews
and research

We carried out internal interviews and research with senior leaders, functional leads, and graduates.



4 Review

Our materiality matrix was reviewed by our Chief Executive and members of our Group Management Team. stion co

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Managing land, planning and engagement

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## **Our materiality matrix**





Customer service Pages 25 to 28



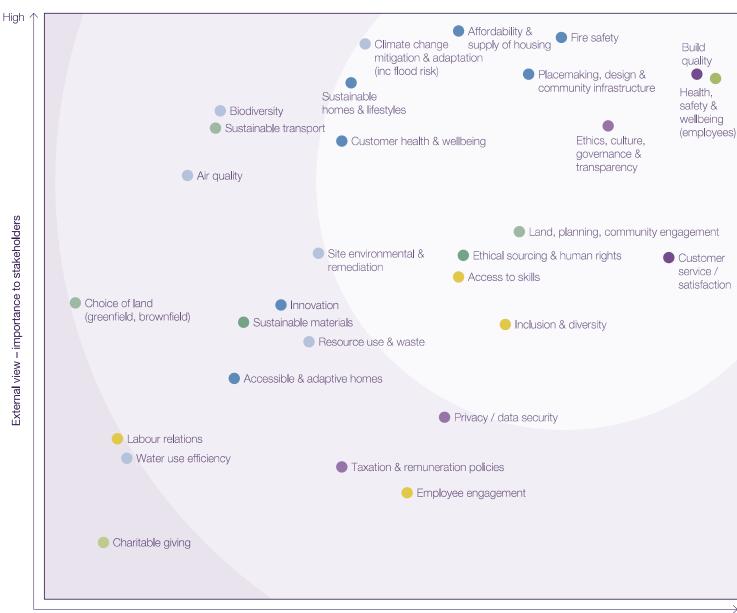




People and skills Pages 42 to 47



Governance and management
Pages 52 to 55



Medium

Internal view – importance to the business

High

A great service for customers

12