

RIBA



Royal Institute
of British Architects

Nationwide Sustainable Housing Awards 2009

Response to Questions

- Q1.** Is it possible for a student outside UK to submit the project?
A1. **The competition Conditions do not exclude students from outside UK as long as they comply with Eligibility criteria (or equivalent)**
- Q2.** Is it possible for the site to be outside the UK and the EU e.g. a site in Asia but in a suburban area?
A2. **The competition Brief asks that the “hypothetical context must be described in broad terms... etc” it does not specifically exclude sites outside UK, although the ethos of the competition is rooted in UK precedent.**
- Q3.** What are the outline requirements for the Phase 1 deadline and the Phase 2 deadline? Are 2x A1 boards required for a phase 1 (e.g. Analysis and Concept Design) then 2x A1 boards for phase 2 (e.g. Detail Design/Final Proposal)?
A3. **The purpose for having two deadlines is to allow competitors an option of either submitting in January or later in April. The submission requirements are 2 A1 boards plus technical report whether you choose to submit in January or in April. All submissions will be assessed together in May.**
- Q4.** Could the competition entry contain commercial areas within the residential design, such as shops and restaurants, say at the ground level of flats, or should the theme be interpreted as solely residential?
A4. **The competition Brief Introduction asks for designs for “living more sustainably in the future”. Theoretically all categories could embrace other building uses, and provided such exploration is part of the sustainable living context, a mix of uses is permissible. However the emphasis is on meeting the requirements in the context of newbuild or refurbished homes or in the community.**
- Q5.** Although ‘Suburban Urban’ is not prescriptively described, what scale of development in terms of number of inhabitants and /or site size is envisaged? Are there any restrictions? Can any guidance be provided?
A5. **Entries can be based on individual homes, provided the requirements are met, or at the community (up to EcoTowns) scale. There are no restrictions on scale as such.**

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- Q6.** The context describes a sustainable lifestyle in a 'Suburban Urban' environment. Could this be built on an inner city site, or is a genuinely suburban location envisaged?
- A6.** **The location of the site is not prescribed – the competition seeks design ideas incorporating the right ingredients in a hypothetical context (except where based on a specific refurbishment typology). The location of the site is flexible – as long as the suburban/urban ethos and the requirements are met.**