

# MADE IN SUNDERLAND: A FUTURE LIVING DESIGN COMPETITION



## INTRODUCTION

Sunderland City Council together with MOBIE and the Riverside Development team are inviting the Young People of Sunderland to collaborate with their households, families, relations and friends to design homes that could be built on the Riverside site.

We are all having to live much more of our lives at home than usual. We are sharing spaces of different sizes, layouts and styles and different facilities with our family groups, large or small, differing ages, genders and generations. So what better time for you to think about the design of the future homes and new community in Sunderland.

The design of every new home needs to consider, its location, the method of construction, the building materials, use of energy and above all how the home will be used and how its use might change over its lifetime. In designing a new home and community we must consider the protection of our planet and create a safe and healthy environment that we need and deserve.

## THE SITE

You should start by learning about the chosen site where your home(s) will be built and the surrounding new community created. You can look at the site on a map or from old photographs and, if possible, research about it on the internet. You can visit the site and take photographs, make sketches and rough plans, take measurements of key distances. We are setting up a data-room where you can look at existing plans, previous proposals, useful drawings, and some historic material.

## LANDSCAPE, NATURE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

If you visit the site you could carry out a site survey. Check out the 'lie of the land' and the setting of the site and surrounding landscape. Ask yourself some key questions, like how big the site is, is it flat, are there any changes in levels? Is it easy to reach the site? Is it a quiet site or noisy? Where does the sun rise and set? Note any possible obstructions to the development

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such as trees, overhead cables, historic buildings.

What plants and creatures currently call this site home? How much wildlife is already here, might there be any protected species. Is there an opportunity to create more green space and wildlife habitat in redeveloping the site?

## PEOPLE, COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

Find out what kinds of services, facilities and activities are on or close to the site. Are there things to do? Is there a sense of place?

## HERITAGE

Sunderland has a rich, proud, industrial and manufacturing heritage. We want you to research the heritage and history of the site. What has happened here, how has it changed over time? Who worked here, what has been made and built here, what techniques and processes were used?

What kind of homes were Sunderland people living in in the past? You could talk to your and your family and your friends', older relations to find out if they can recall and remember anything about its past. We want your home design to reflect the proud industrial and manufacturing history of Sunderland.

## THE DESIGN CHALLENGE

### Your Home Design

Your challenge is to design a home that will fit on a 6 by 9 metre plot. It should be designed to be part of a terrace. It should include outdoor space/ gardens for relaxing outside. You must decide who you are designing your home for. What will they need and how will they live? Will their needs change over time?

Show us how your home will meet their needs. Your plans must explain the layout of the house, for instance, how many bedrooms, rooms, how many bedrooms, over how many floors, what other rooms and what kind of outdoor space it will have. Will outdoor space be private or shared?

### Meeting Future Needs

Your designs must consider the planet. It must be a 'green' home to build and run. Its construction must use sustainable materials, which could include recycled materials and minimise waste. It must offer low running costs, energy use and have zero carbon emissions. Think about how the design of your house can reduce the need for materials and energy.



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and then how you can create the energy that is needed from renewable resources.

Show us how your home will consider the health and wellbeing of the people who live in it as well as those in the surrounding community. Consider what new and digital technologies the occupants might need and enjoy.

Your new home should be beautiful to look at, as well as beautiful to live in. Finally, how well will your design last into the future – i.e. will it be flexible for future adaptations to future lifestyles?



### Modern Methods of Construction and Offsite Manufacture

Your homes must be suitable for Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and Offsite Manufacture (OSM). These are different ways of making homes, they are created from parts made in a factory, units or as a whole in a factory. These are brought to the site and fitted together on site. They are designed to make new housing more efficient, improve quality and make the building faster building faster, reduce costs and provide safer, cleaner and more comfortable conditions for the construction of the house.

You might want to do some research into MMC and Offsite Construction methods and reflect this knowledge in your ideas. We will be happy to help and guide you through this part, please see the contact details at the end of this brief.

### SUBMISSION DETAILS

There are 4 submission age categories: 7-11, 12-15, 16-18 and 19-24 years  
You can submit a physical or digital entry. Please provide something like:

- 2x A1 boards showing your designs
- Your site history and heritage report
- You will probably want to make a model, you only need to submit photos of your model (but keep your model safe as we may want to display it later in the exhibition)
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Please send your submissions to MOBIE's Head of Education, Gerry Ruffles, via email to [gerry@mobie.org.uk](mailto:gerry@mobie.org.uk) by Friday, 26th March 2021

Also if you or your school or college would like to arrange an online meeting or chat to discuss any details or answer questions about the competition or some help with Modern Methods of Construction techniques or if you will appreciate some help with materials please contact Gerry Ruffles via email [gerry@mobie.org.uk](mailto:gerry@mobie.org.uk). You can also visit the website [www.mobie.org.uk](http://www.mobie.org.uk)

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## HOW WE WILL ASSESS YOUR ENTRIES

- How has the submission considered the site and its surroundings, how has this influenced the design?
- How does the submission reflect the people, communities and their activities that will use the site and its surroundings?
- How has the submission considered 'future living' in Sunderland?
- How has the submission considered what is special about your 'Sunderland-made' Home?
- How has the submission focused on the 'greenness of the' home, how does it protect the planet and the environment?

**Good Luck!**



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