

**TOPIC**

The competition site is the next site in the redevelopment of a poorly designed and problematic area of housing built in North West London in the 1970s. This work is approximately 75% complete. The brief requests varied residential accommodation around a new park. The challenge is to create a proposal that improves the residential environment and the amenities for the wider community. It is envisaged that the site will become an exemplar of a new urbanity and positive change in the area.

CONURBATION

The Study Area is within the Stonebridge Estate in Harlesden, a large multicultural and multi-racial area in the London Borough of Brent in North West London. It is near to an arterial road leading into central London and the main railway line into Paddington Station. Several different architectural practices have worked on the early stages of the re-design and the result is a dense, low rise but varied urban landscape. It has existing shops, a pub and a new nursery by Alsop and Partners.

SITE

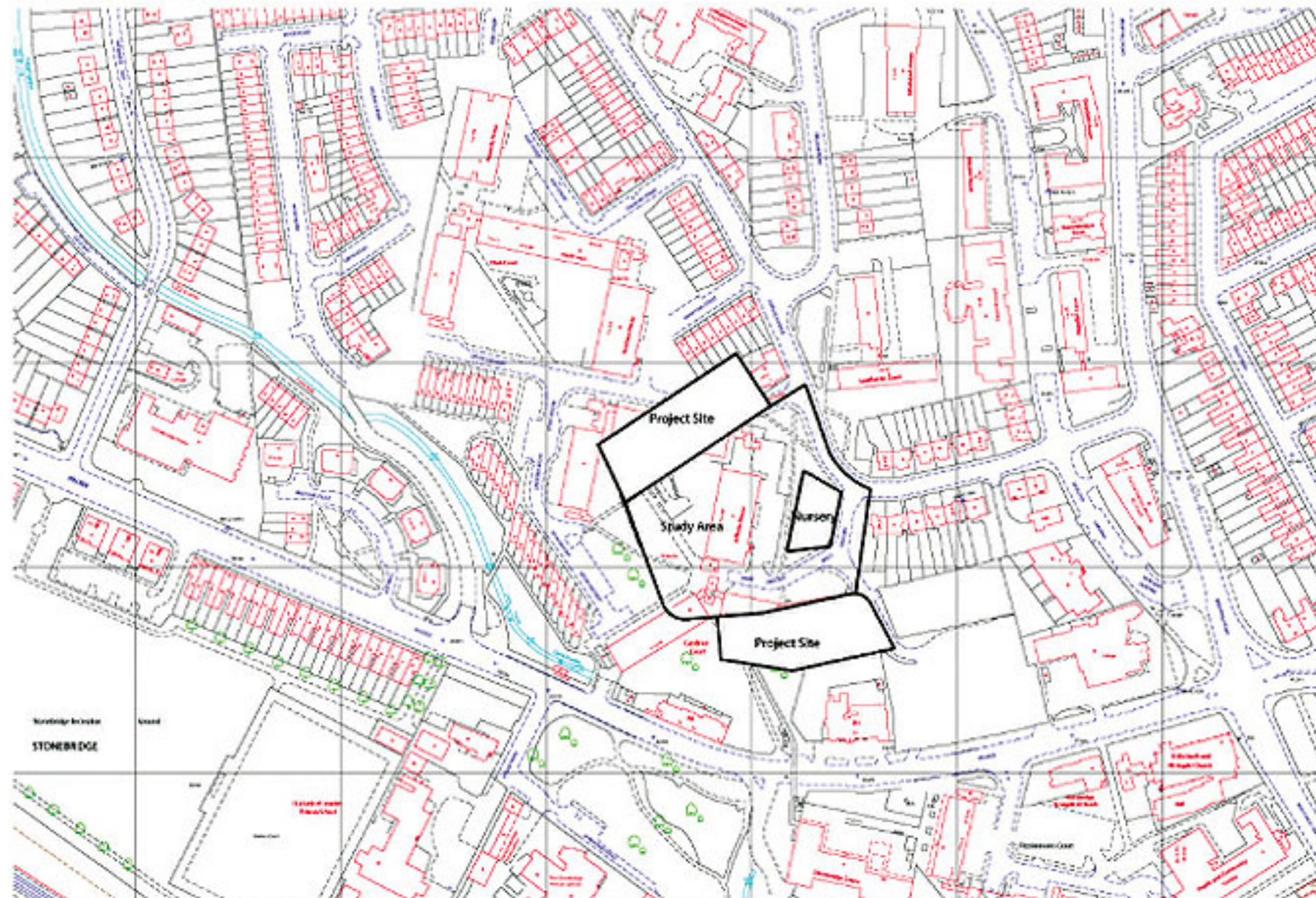
Competitors are expected to design both the terraces of housing and the park of approx. 1 hectare. This raises issues of how private dwellings interact with public space, how landscape and built form relate and how the site connects to the urban blocks in the surrounding streets. Designers should also respond to the new, striking nursery building with the site. The site is currently occupied by two 1970s high-rise housing blocks but these will soon to be demolished.

Population: 4.500

Location: Harlesden, northwest London nd

Study area: 2 ha

Project area: 1 ha

**PROGRAMME**

It is the intention of the remodelling programme that all sectors of the community will have access to generously sized and robustly built homes. The new homes will be a mix of housing for rent and for sale. The proposals for the site should be in line with the overall strategic masterplan which stipulates blocks of terraced housing and flats, generally at 4 storeys. New homes should be capable of being reconfigured into larger or smaller units.

ISSUES**Social / functional**

Stonebridge is very diverse. 29% of the residents are Caribbean, 23% are African, 19% are white, 19% are black British and 10% are Asian or from elsewhere. A range of sizes and house types are required.

Sensitive

The proposals should address the sloping park and respond to the nursery building. There will be private space behind the terraces. Streets should prioritise pedestrians over cars.

Sustainability

Competitors are invited to put forward innovative proposals for minimising energy consumption and apply environmentally friendly design principals, wherever possible.

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