

IABSE Future of Design London 2025

Design Competition: Reimagining Millennium Structures in a Net Zero Future

1.0 Brief

As we look ahead to 2050, a pivotal milestone where the UK aims to have achieved Net Zero, this design competition invites participants to reimagine one of the iconic millennium structures through the lens of sustainability, innovation, and cultural relevance.

Participants are asked:

If you were to redesign a millennium structure in 2050, when we have reached Net Zero, what would your submission be?

You may choose to reinterpret:

• A Millennium Bridge in one of its current locations: Newcastle, Glasgow, Dublin, or London;

or

• A Millennium Building/Structure such as the Millennium Dome (now The O2) in London, Millennium Point in Birmingham, or the Millennium Stadium (now Principality Stadium) in Cardiff.

Your design should reflect:

- A bold vision for a sustainable future;
- Integration of Net Zero principles;
- Cultural and community relevance;
- Aesthetic and structural innovation.

Submissions should be visual led, with sketches encouraged and minimal text.

2.0 Judging Criteria

The submissions will be evaluated by a jury of practicing engineers and architects on the following criteria:

Submissions will be evaluated by a panel of engineers and architects based on:

- Design Excellence and Originality: Creativity, visual impact, and conceptual strength;
- Sustainability: Integration of Net Zero strategies and environmentally responsible design;
- Functionality and Innovation: Usability, adaptability, and forward-thinking solutions;
- Feasibility: Practicality and constructability in a 2050 context;
- **Cultural Relevance**: Connection to the chosen site's identity and community.

Please note that the judging criteria emphasize the response to the brief rather than the mode of presentation.

Prizes will be awarded at the jury's discretion.

3.0 Submission Details

3.1 Format

Participants are required to submit one A1-size poster in PDF format. Please email your submission to events@iabse.org.uk. To ensure fairness in the judging process, please do not include any identifying marks (such as entrant names, company/organization names, or logos) on the posters themselves. Instead, provide the name(s) of the participant(s) separately within the email body.

Each submission can include a variety of content types, such as text, graphs, images/renders, sketches, and drawings, provided they fit within the A1-size poster.

Judging and Awards: The winner of the competition will be announced at the conference and will also have the opportunity to give a short presentation during the event. Therefore, shortlisted entrants are strongly encouraged to attend.

The organizing committee will print the shortlisted submissions. These posters will be displayed for public viewing throughout the conference and will be available for collection at the end of the day.

Participation: Submissions can be made individually or in teams of up to four members. A prize of £200 will be awarded to the winning submission.

4.2 Programme

End 10 th July 2025	Design brief issued
5pm, 4 th September 2025	End of questions period. Any questions about
	the brief or the competition should be sent to
	events@iabse.org.uk. Answers will be made
	available to all competitors and published on
	the IABSE UK website.
5pm, 11 th September 2025	Deadline for competition submission
18 th September 2025	Shortlisted entries notified
25 th September 2025	Display and winner announcement at the IABSE
	FoD Conference London 2024