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Planters to stop ram raids

Floral features supplier Plantscape has launched a sister company called Securiscape to sell street furniture capable of stopping ram raids and terror attacks.

Cathedral plan unveiled

Landscape architect Gillespies has unveiled a £3m plan to unify two key spaces in the shadow of Leicester Cathedral. Cathedral Gardens will bring together two previously separate spaces, the city's cathedral precincts and the grounds of a former grammar school. The new square will offer a tranquil setting that will also be able to host outdoor events for up to 800 people.

Irrigation courses offered

Landscape garden designers and contractors could add value to their schemes by offering irrigation services, according to Access Irrigation, which is to host three courses in December on irrigation, rainwater harvesting and regulations.

BRIEFS

Firm marks 35th anniversary

WHITING LANDSCAPE



Whiting Landscape celebrated its 35th anniversary with 200 people at its 6ha site in Wildmoor Lane, Bromsgrove, recently. The landscape construction firm donated £3,600 to Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Village section completed

Landscape architects and urban designers at BDP have overseen the completion of part of a 1,500-house urban village they masterplanned in Warrington. Chapelford is being built on the former RAF Burtonwood site.

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Speakers at High Line Symposium discuss need to invest in more green spaces across London

Developers share their vision for green infrastructure investment

By Jez Abbott

Developers who have been won over to the need to spend heavily on green infrastructure shared their approaches last week at a major conference.

Speakers from Britain and the USA spoke at the High Line Symposium run by the Landscape Institute and Garden Museum, inspired by the mile-long park on a former elevated rail freight line in New York.

Grosvenor estate surveyor Nigel Hughes, said the property company reassessed the case for more landscape after reading landmark studies including CABE Space's *Paved with Gold*, which helped inspire a 20-year strategy to improve visual identity by the firm.

"We also did a green-infrastructure audit, the first of its kind, by LUC designers," he said. "This led us to use more street trees and grass, art by Antony Gormley



High Line: the redeveloped former elevated freight line in New York

— even bee hives. This is the backbone of what we want to achieve and such investment improves returns."

Helen Fisher, programme developer for the 200ha Nine Elms project around Battersea Power Station and New Covent Garden Market, said the urban gridlock lacked "permeability and connectivity", and would be opened up by a linear park and other spaces.

She added: "We want to create a new quarter with £1bn of infrastructure in an area that has a deficit of green space. We will create spaces and links to existing ones and make every one work really hard to free the current sense of isolation felt by locals."

Regeneration firm Ingham Pinnock worked on Camlin Lonsdale's £40m motte-and-bailey in Towcester, with green infrastructure "at its

Mayor's view



BORIS JOHNSON, LONDON MAYOR, VIA CONFERENCE VIDEO LINK

"We have noticed the phenomenal success of the High Line project in New York and are looking at ways of emulating the achievement with projects that clean and green London."

heart", said director Ross Ingham. Green infrastructure went in first, leaving development "ticking away" in the background.

"This showed credibility to wider regeneration issues, improved public perception of regeneration and helped galvanise resolve through local authority changes such as elections," he added. "Developers were impressed that the public sector was doing rather than saying."

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MyDesignTheSainsburyLaboratory

PROJECT

Award-winning science building in Cambridge Botanic Garden.

BACKGROUND

The Sainsbury Laboratory, a plant science research centre in the University of Cambridge's Botanic Garden, scooped the UK's biggest and best architecture award last week, the Stirling Prize.

Christopher Bradley-Hole Landscape and Schoenaich Landscape Architects worked with architect Stanton Williams on the £82m 11,000sq m modern block with glazed walls herbarium and hard surfacing punctuated by trees.

OUTCOME

The design, according to Stanton Williams, reconciles complex scientific requirements with the need for the architecture to respond to its landscape setting.

The building houses a research laboratory, meeting rooms and auditorium for staff at the botanic garden. Stirling Prize judges described the overall design as "timeless" and "exceptional."

Lord Sainsbury said: "This sets a new standard for laboratory design and blends beautifully with the historic botanic gardens."

