

CSGN Forum 2014 – Residential Greening Workshop Notes

<p><i>Do you think that landscape is valued?</i></p>	<p>Some developers do put a value, or at least recognise the value of a landscaped development, particularly the “higher end” builders as it sells houses. The “landscape” that a buyer gets is obviously “charged for” in the sale of the property or communal charges though.</p>
<p><i>Why can't all developers do this?</i></p>	<p>Landscaping is bottom of the list of “add ons” when infrastructure such as services or new schools have to be provided.</p>
<p><i>Why can't social housing providers design/provide better landscaping on their developments?</i></p>	<p>Social housing tenants are already faced with the bedroom tax or reduced benefits and can't afford higher maintenance fees. Why “pick on” social housing developers to landscape or improve greenspace around developments when other housing developers aren't asked for improved landscaping on their developments? Planning officers stated that it is very difficult to get developers to think about landscaping up front when designing new developments. Unfortunately, landscaping is added as a condition that has to be thought of after the rest of the development is designed.</p>
<p><i>Who should lead on ensuring that landscape is not an afterthought?</i></p>	<p>There was a general feeling that landscaping needs to be given a higher profile in new development but difficult to identify one particular leader on this subject. Possibly needs to come from Government.</p>