



### February 2019

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#### Cardiff

**RGB Group starts £20m Cardiff student job**  
Crosslane Student Developments has signed up RGB Group on for its 391-bed purpose-built student accommodation scheme in Cardiff.  
**391-bed purpose-built student accommodation in Cardiff**



The Shrewsbury-based contractor will deliver the Howard Gardens job in Cardiff. This latest scheme means developer Crosslane' joint venture with Harrison Street Real Estate Capital, now has a £180m student portfolio of 1,685 beds in Leeds, Coventry, Portsmouth and Swansea Investec is providing £19m finance for the development of the new Cardiff scheme.

Crosslane is acting as development manager for the JV to oversee construction of the Howard Gardens site to ensure it is completed on time, ahead of the 2020/21 academic year, and to budget. David Smith, Managing Director at Crosslane Student Developments, said: "Howard Gardens is a cluster flat focused design, which gives students in Cardiff much needed and better value accommodation. It will help encourage

students to be part of a community and share social experiences, while the majority of recent student accommodation developments in the city have been self-contained studio apartments.

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#### Cardiff

**£5m training firehouse in Cardiff**

The South Wales Fire & Rescue Service have appointed ISG to build a new training facility in Cardiff. The compartment fire behaviour training facility has been designed by Lawray Architects The compartment fire behaviour training (CFBT) facility at the fire brigade's Cardiff training and development centre is the first of its kind in Wales. The three-storey concrete and brick clad facility, designed by Lawray Architects, will enable South Wales Fire & Rescue to deliver realistic training to operational crews in a smoke-filled environment using a range of real fire scenarios.



This will support the delivery of breathing apparatus training by improving the skills of operational firefighters through raising their awareness of the hazards involved in tackling fires in buildings. The new training facility incorporates a specialised ventilation system with smoke capture, extract and filtration systems to achieve zero emissions into the atmosphere. Dutch specialist Haagen

supported the design of the training firehouse. previous blue light projects for ISG include three schemes for Cheshire Fire service, including Lymm Response Hub and Safety Central, a five-bay fire station and safety training centre, and the completion of a four-year capital build framework with Cleveland Fire Authority worth more than £22m.

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## Safe lifting next to railways

When operating mobile cranes next to railway lines make use of the new official safety guide prepared by the Construction Plant Hirers Association (CPHA) The good practice guide focuses on the risks of operating in close proximity to rail tracks. It includes topics such as: a hierarchy of risk elimination and reduction; requirements for crane configuration and setting up; and lift planning. It also includes sample documents such as a foundation pre-rigging inspection report form.



*The 29-page document, Good practice guide: Requirements for mobile cranes alongside railways controlled by Network Rail, has been produced by the Construction Plant-hire Association's (CPA) crane interest group in co-operation with Network Rail. It is based on the same principles as the previously published guidance on tower cranes alongside railways, and is free to download from [the CPA website](#).*

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## UK & Europe

**Marriott announces plan for 30 new European hotels**

Marriott International plans to accelerate its European expansion by opening almost 30 new hotels by the end of 2020. Its Courtyard by Marriott brand has announced it expects to expand its European footprint of 63 hotels by almost 50% over the next two years.



In addition to strengthening its portfolio in its established markets of Germany, France and the UK, Courtyard will open in seven other destinations including Armenia, Finland, and Iceland. It has also recently opened a new hotel in Paris and one in Hamburg is scheduled to open in spring 2019. Courtyard Paris Gare de Lyon is a 19-storey tower with 249 guest rooms and Courtyard Hamburg City will have 276 rooms and be equipped to host a range of business and conference events. The UK market already has seven Courtyard hotels and is slated to further expand its portfolio with the addition of five cities such as London, Glasgow and Oxford. Following the opening of Courtyard Paris Gare de Lyon, the footprint in France is expected to grow to 10 hotels with eight in Paris. The upcoming opening of Courtyard Munich Garching will be followed by a further three properties anticipated to open in Hamburg, Munich and Darmstadt.

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## Fees Are Now due for 2019 ASAP

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