



Home
Building
Skills
Partnership

April 2023

HomeSkilled

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



HOME BUILDERS COLLABORATE ON NEW SCHEME TO EMPOWER WOMEN INTO SITE MANAGEMENT

In January the Home Builders Federation (HBF) and Women Into Construction (WiC), launched a scheme to support women to become site managers. The programme was designed in partnership with nine major homebuilders to prepare candidates specifically for the role.

Delivered face-to-face and virtually, the programme's first cohort encouraged more than 80 women across the country to attend an information session, with 18 women accepted to complete the course's work placements, exposing them to invaluable industry knowledge and experience.

The second cohort was announced on 26th April and the team was delighted to see the programme shortlisted for 'Best career development initiative' in the Women in Housing Awards.



"We are thrilled to have played a part in helping to address the gender imbalance in the home building industry and to have empowered these women to consider a role in site management"

Tracey Hill, Project and Contract Manager
at the Home Building Skills Partnership



HBF Executive Chairman, Stewart Baseley with MP Natalie Elphicke at HBF's mental health parliamentary reception

RAISING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN PARLIAMENT

In February HBF and 40 industry representatives gathered at the Houses of Parliament to highlight the work developers are doing to increase mental health awareness amongst their workforces. The Mental Health Awareness Reception was sponsored by Dean Russell, Member of Parliament for Watford, and saw the release of a new report outlining the actions industry has taken so far to tackle the stigma associated with poor mental health.

Free Mental Health Awareness Training for SMEs and the supply chain

HBF has joined up with Lighthouse Club Construction Industry Charity to offer free mental health awareness training to SMEs and those working in the supply chain.

Participants will receive advice and guidance on how to look after their own mental health and what confidential support is available to them, their colleagues and their families.

The facilitators will also discuss what signs to look out for and how to start a conversation with someone who may be struggling.

To find out more, search 'Free mental health training' on hbf.co.uk



FUNDING SECURED TO DELIVER POPULAR BRICKWORK MASTERCLASSES

Due to popular demand, free Brickwork Masterclasses will continue until September 2023. Funded by CITB, HBF launched the initiative with NHBC and the Association of Brickwork Contractors to address common issues. So far more than 9,000 bricklayers have been trained.

The 90-minute onsite sessions are designed to share practical insights and cover a range of subjects from fire stopping to bonding and lintels. All attendees take away a useful copy of the material covered on the day and relevant NHBC Standards Extracts.

Book now at hbf.co.uk/Brickwork

EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION: FUTURE TALENT CONFERENCE A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

More than 100 attendees gained valuable insights and an opportunity to network with industry experts at this year's Future Talent Conference. The event provides a unique opportunity to engage with industry leaders, learn new skills, and expand professional networks.

Look out for details of next year's event on the HBF website: hbf.co.uk



DIARY DATES



Policy Conference

Venue: Central London

Date: 11th May 2023

Apprenticeship Group Meeting

Venue: Zoom

Date: 23rd May 2023

HBF AGM and Annual Lunch 2023

Venue: Central London

Date: 24th May 2023

Diversity & Inclusion Group Meeting

Venue: Zoom

Date: 4th July 2023

Mental Health Group Meeting

Venue: Zoom

Date: 6th July 2023

DEVELOP YOUR EARLY TALENT WITH HBF'S MEMBERSHIP NETWORK

Attracting, retaining and developing early talent in home building roles is key for the industry to grow and promote a positive image. To support employers, HBF has created an exclusive membership and online platform to help inspire and develop new recruits. The Future Talent Network (FTN) offers early talent a wealth of resources and knowledge, live webinars, valuable insights, and soon-to-be-introduced monthly online networking opportunities. Membership is free for all HBF members and enrolling is easy.

Action your early talent and new recruits to sign up at hbf.co.uk/FutureTalent



BUILDING FUTURES: PERSIMMON HOMES AND CORNERSTONE EMPLOYERS INSPIRE CORNWALL'S YOUNG PEOPLE

Regular encounters with employers are essential for preparing young people for the workforce.

A study conducted by The Careers & Enterprise Company showed that more employer encounters and workplace experiences are needed to meet the national volume required by the UK government's careers strategy.

The Cornerstone Employers programme is a group of over 300 businesses that aim to transform the lives of young people in their area. Celebrated by government, Cornerstone Employers work collaboratively and strategically with networks of schools, colleges, and local stakeholders to improve careers education.

Persimmon Homes Cornwall and West Devon joined the programme to inspire young people to consider a future in the construction industry and to provide valuable volunteering opportunities for their employees. As a Cornerstone Employer, the company can better engage with local communities and demonstrate its commitment to young people in the area.

Find out more about the programme at careersandenterprise.co.uk



"I would urge all employers in the construction sector to get involved with their local Careers Hub and see how they can support the young people in their area. You can do this by signing up to 'give an hour' to deliver career activities or host workplace experiences, become an Enterprise Advisor or Cornerstone Employer"

Andy Wallis, Regional Apprentice Manager at Persimmon Homes Cornwall and West Devon

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE HOME BUILDING SKILLS PARTNERSHIP

Our goal is to create lasting change by attracting new recruits, setting the highest training standards, and sharing best practices. But we can't do it alone - we need your support to bring these projects to life.

Visit the HBSP page on HBF's website to learn about our working groups and how you can get involved: hbf.co.uk/hbsp
Alternatively, you can email the team at skillpartnership@hbf.co.uk