

Amey's Rising Star Julie breaks down barriers

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Julie Heyes, Strategic Highways Data Manager at [Amey](#), has won the Rising Star award at the prestigious Construction News Awards ceremony. The award showcases remarkable individuals who have shown innovative thinking, strong determination and significant contribution to successful projects.

Having started in a technical support role on the Amey, Area 10 contract in April 2019, Julie quickly progressed to the Data Manager role, with managers recognising her 'can-do' attitude, knowledge and enthusiasm. After delivering successfully on several projects, further progression led to Julie being appointed Data Manager for Amey Transport & Infrastructure Hub, where she continues to deliver amazing work.

Julie adds: "I am delighted to receive the Rising Star Award. After leaving school with a handful of qualifications, I found unskilled work with no direction, guidance or any role models.

"Since working at Amey, I have been recognised for my commitment, positive attitude and ideas to improve processes. My manager has supported me and recognised my skills, helping me to develop within Amey.

"Working in a predominantly male environment can bring its challenges, especially in a STEM role. I have found Amey to be extremely inclusive and opportunities for women are actively encouraged, having helped me in my career progression so far. I love my job and want to break down barriers for others, be a role model and give individuals, who have the can-do attitude, the opportunity to succeed and flourish."

One example shows Julie leading on the apprenticeship recruitment programme regionally last year with a commitment to recruit five apprentices annually on the Area 10 contract. This recruitment programme will help improve employment locally, creating a long-term career for many across the region and bringing diverse individuals with new ideas into the contract.

Sector Business Director for Transport Infrastructure at Amey, Andy Denman said: “Julie has a thirst to be involved and the ability to enhance project performance across our Highways portfolio. It’s fantastic to see Julie receive the Rising Star Award at one of the most prestigious and coveted awards events. Her passion, motivation and innovative ideas support so many successful projects. Julie thoroughly deserves this award.”