

## In The News | 21st October 2022 | Latest Facilities Management News

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Welcome to InTheNews – covering all the FM news you may have missed over the last week:

The Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) is proud to announce the formation of its [Sustainable Buildings Task Force](#).

Leaders from global companies in the built environment have come together to form the Task Force at the invitation of His Majesty King Charles III, in his former role as His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

The Sustainable Buildings Task Force is made up of global CEOs from throughout the buildings industry working together to accelerate the delivery of net zero buildings to reduce carbon emissions. The Task Force supports the overall SMI mission to speed the world's transition to a sustainable future by engaging and challenging public, private, and philanthropic sectors to bring economic value, in harmony with social and environmental sustainability.

Elsewhere and the [UK Green Building Council \(UKGBC\)](#) has today announced the creation of a new cross-industry group of experts to support the creation of new outputs related to Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain.

UKGBC's Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Project aims to assist organisations in taking practical action on Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain in light of changes to UK legislation in place for November of 2023, which will mandate a 10% biodiversity net gain on all new development.

As part of this project, UKGBC has onboarded several project partners, who will be forming a steering group, and a review group to help steer and shape the final output. They bring a range of expertise to ensure that the outcome is both communally created, but also represents a wide knowledge base and includes as much insights as possible.

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Research now and a poll has found gender biased language and use of stereotypes is widespread within UK workplaces, with women asked to make tea or coffee almost three times more than men.

Women are also more than twice as likely than men to be asked about the wellbeing of their children, and twice as likely to be asked to do menial or admin-based tasks (37% vs 19%).

The survey also found women are made the target of sexist jokes almost three times more than men showcasing the deeply ingrained gender bias which permeates UK workplace culture.

The latest research from Samsung UK and Ireland also found UK employees are using biased language on average four times a week (80%), with almost half (46%) revealing that gender biased language is showing up at work.

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Contracts now and [ISS UK and Ireland \(UK&I\)](#) confirmed that it has successfully retendered and retained its facilities management contract with Edinburgh College, Scotland's Capital College that provides high-quality education and training to people and businesses across the region and beyond.

This new contract, commencing 1 August 2022, has been awarded on an initial five-year basis, with the option of a possible further two-year extension beyond that.

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