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

The UK's private security industry must recruit, train and license more than 62,000 new security officers over the next 12 months to keep up with the growing demand for their services and keep the public safe, according to the <u>British Security Industry Association (BSIA)</u>, the trade body for the professional security industry in the UK.

Research conducted amongst BSIA members, who provide over 70 per cent of private security services in the UK, indicates that the UK's private security sector needs to boost the number of licensed security officers by 62,000 to more than 450,000 over the next 12 months to meet growing demand and departures from the sector. The industry anticipates losing almost 20,000 officers from its workforce through factors including retirement and departures following Brexit and Covid-19.

To meet demand, the BSIA has launched a major national initiative, '<u>People, Property, Places:</u> <u>Professionally Protected</u>', to increase awareness of the crucial work that security officers carry out.

The team developing the UK's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard (the NZCBS) has launched a call for evidence, to help inform and guide the development of the Standard.

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Having established governance and delivery teams, the NZCBS coalition is now calling on UK built environment industry practitioners to supply operational energy and embodied carbon performance data for their buildings. This will support the development of their evidence base over the coming months.

Once developed, the UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard will provide a single agreed definition and methodology for the industry to determine what constitutes a net zero carbon building.

One of the construction industry's leading employers for women has announced a range of roles for people looking for a step up in construction.

Currently women only make up around 14% of those working in the construction sector, due to reasons ranging from insufficient training to generalised perceptions around the industry's roles.

Following recent growth, specialist property solutions provider <u>Fortem</u>, has announced several management opportunities within its award-winning team and it is keen to hear from women interested in progressing their career.

Mike Hart, managing director at Fortem, said: "Giving men and women equal opportunities to succeed doesn't have to be difficult, and we are proud that our board, our departments and our schemes reflect a more equal workforce that realise the potential of all."

And finally, <u>Amey</u> is launching its own version of the Kickstart programme after signing up to the initiative in 2020.

This initiative was launched by the Government in 2020 following the Covid 19 outbreak providing funding to employers so they could offer 16-24-year-olds on Universal Credit an opportunity to take part in sixmonth job placements. Amey signed up to the programme and since its launch has taken on 21 young people, 16 of which are now in full time employment with Amey.

The initiative, which ended in March 2022, proved such a success that Amey has now developed its own version. Launching next month, Headstart (as it will be known) is aimed at a broader age range and forms part of Amey's new ESG strategy, Bolder Steps Together. It is also helping to support Governments ongoing Levelling Up Agenda – which aims to provide employment opportunities for underrepresented groups.

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