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

New research from the CIPD suggests the quality of jobs in the North of England needs to be improved, following a negative shift in how employees think about work, and the impact on their health. The research also highlights the growing discontent among public sector workers, who are unhappy with their pay and heavy workload.

In response, the CIPD – the professional body for HR and people development – is urging employers and policy makers to improve the quality of jobs for Northern Workers.

Daphne Doody-Green, Head of CIPD in Northern England said: “This research demonstrates that workers – and particularly those in the public sector – are becoming increasingly dissatisfied and disengaged with work. Employers need to assess the quality of their jobs and consider implementing changes that will create a happier, healthier and more productive workforce.”

Businesspeople from the cleaning and hygiene sector have urged industry colleagues to get behind the British Cleaning Council-led lobbying campaign to make cleaning and hygiene a national priority.

Dave Wheadon, CEO of BCC member the National Carpet Cleaners Association (NCCA), Billy Russell, owner

of Billy Russell Cleaning, Angela Gill, Managing Director of Bio Productions Ltd, are among those who have met and lobbied MPs recently in support of the campaign.

The cleaning, hygiene and waste industry came together earlier this year to call for sector staff to help lobby MPs to have the recommendations in the report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Cleaning and Hygiene Industry, entitled Embedding Effective Hygiene for a Resilient UK, accepted in full.

Since then, individuals, businesses and trade associations across the country have been downloading and adapting a pre-written letter about the campaign from the BCC website and emailing it to their local MP.

BCC Chairman Jim Melvin said: "This is a hugely important issue. We are one of the biggest industries in the UK, worth £59bn and with a vital, frontline role in keeping people safe, well and healthy, so it is time the Government sat up and paid us the attention we are due."

New guidance designed to help organisations prioritise their people by creating an increasingly diverse and inclusive workplace culture, including by demonstrating leadership commitment or adjusting recruitment practices, has been published by BSI.

Evidence suggests that diverse organisations can out-perform their peers, while research indicates a desire for diverse workplaces, [especially amongst Generation Z](#). Research from [McKinsey](#) has found that organizations that prioritize gender or ethnic and cultural diversity stand to benefit from improved profitability, while a [BCG](#) study found that organizations with more diverse management teams were seeing 19% higher revenues.

Kate Field, Global Head of Health, Safety and Well-being, BSI, said: "A diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace culture that prioritizes people has the potential to be transformative for individuals, organizations, and society. This starts with leadership taking steps to turn ambition into action to build and sustain DEI across their organization."

The Building Controls Industry Association (BCIA) has welcomed 12 new members to the organisation in the second quarter of 2023, taking the total number of members to more than 150 for the first time ever.

BCIA president Graeme Rees said: "To ensure the BCIA appropriately reflects the shape and make up of our industry it is really important that as many of our members as possible contribute to BCIA activities wherever they can."

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