

## In The News | 28th July 2023 | Latest Facilities Management News

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The CIPD is calling on business leaders to have more HR representation on their boards. This will ensure that organisations have the people expertise they need to create positive cultures and manage risks like sexual harassment.

The value of people expertise on corporate boards report found that just a quarter (25%) of the Financial Times Stock Exchange (FTSE) top 350 firms have a board member (executive or non-executive) with an HR background, while only 2% have an HR director as an executive board member.

Susannah Haan, Senior Corporate Governance Adviser, CIPD, said: "Companies often say people are their greatest asset, but the make-up of boards doesn't reflect this. Effective boards need diverse skills and perspectives, so it's concerning that so few boards have HR expertise. This lack of people insight may lead boards to overlook people risks which can damage a firm's reputation."

CABE is now able to help professionals to demonstrate their competence to work on buildings in scope of the Act with the introduction of the Engineering Council's Higher-Risk Buildings (HRB) process.

CABE, along with other professional engineering institutions (PEIs), has worked with the Engineering



Council to develop the UK-SPEC HRB Standard. The new standard sets out the competences and the commitments that are expected of professionals and indicates the level of work they are competent to undertake.

Dr Gavin Dunn, CABE Chief Executive said: "The increased responsibility for duty-holders is a step change for the industry, and CABE is excited to be at the forefront of raising standards within the construction and property industry. Professionals working in general engineering on higher-risk buildings now have the opportunity to provide the evidence of their competence, and give those hiring general engineers the confidence that they understand the risks and responsibilities of their role as an accountable person."

Bidvest Noonan is delighted to announce that Robinson Services and its specialist security business, Sword Security (NI) ltd, have joined its group. Since its establishment in 1977, Bidvest Noonan has grown to become a market leader for services such as cleaning and security across the UK and Ireland.

Following today's announcement, Bidvest Noonan becomes one of Northern Ireland's largest employers, with a team of over 2,500 providing support to its customers. This positions the group uniquely to deliver high-quality service solutions throughout the region.

Commenting on the announcement, Jim O'Hagan, Managing Director of Bidvest Noonan's business in Northern Ireland, said: "I'm delighted that Robinson Services and Sword Security are now part of Bidvest Noonan and I'm looking forward to working with David and all of my new colleagues. Our businesses are highly compatible, which will allow us to achieve a seamless transition. For our customers and our people, this means that our operations will continue as normal, with the same dedicated teams delivering the highest standards of service."

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