



The Women's Trade Network is a consortium of organisations working to promote gender equality in trade roles. Currently, just two percent of tradespeople are female and our mission is to change that by increasing gender diversity in the industry and raising awareness of the benefits a career in trade can offer women.



Founded by Plentific, Women's Pioneer Housing, Peabody, L&Q, Notting Hill Genesis, Direct Works, Chartered Institute for Housing and Places for People, The Women's Trade Network provides training and employment opportunities for women entering the trade industry.

Women in Trade Founding Partners:



Cem Savas
CEO, Plentific



Denise Fowler
Chief Executive, Women's Pioneer Housing



Ashling Fox
Chief Operating Officer, Peabody



Gerri Scott
Group Director Customer Service, L&Q



Elly Hoults
Group Director of Assets, Notting Hill Genesis



Russel Thompson
Chair, Direct Works and Managing Director
Places Management, part of Places for People



Sarah Dunkerley
Director of Knowledge and Learning, CIH



Debi Marriott-Laveryis
Group Executive Director Affordable Housing,
Places for People

Our Vision.

We are launching a nationwide initiative to provide training in a range of trades, offering a choice of skilled (e.g. electrics and plumbing) and unskilled (e.g. handyperson) training options. We will also support women in selecting the most suitable trade for them based on their transferable skills and work experience.

Plentific will facilitate the programme with a dedicated website to apply for training, available jobs and work experience at participating organisations.

How can you take part?

In order to achieve our aims, we want to work with partners who share our vision on this issue, who are passionate about increasing female representation in trades and who want to make a long-term change to the industry.

Our partners will be committed to playing an active role in encouraging women into the industry, committing to the 'Women's Trade Network Pledge' - a charter signed by all participating organisations to facilitate entry into the industry for women, providing jobs and on-going support to those who otherwise would not consider it as an option.

The Pledge.

Remove Barriers:

- We commit to ensuring an inclusive workplace, offering flexible working arrangements, equal pay and equal opportunities
- We commit to sharing best practices with fellow Women's Trade Network organisations, as well as the wider industry, to support long term change in the sector and remove barriers industry-wide

Empower and Support:

- We will offer support and help to build a network of role models and mentors for women entering the profession
- We will spread awareness and highlight the variety of roles available to women through our communications channels, partners, networks and residents

Increasing Access:

- We commit to sharing job opportunities, including apprenticeships and traineeships, with women who have been through the programme when a relevant position becomes available
- We will provide residents with the ability to request female-operatives and assign work orders to women in those cases

Benefits of Joining the Network:

Aside from the positive impact you will have by creating social value and greater opportunities for women in the industry, we will support your involvement through:

- Your logo on the Women's Trade Network website with a direct link to your website
- Your logo on all marketing materials for the campaign
- National, local and trade media coverage of your participation
- Social media mentions
- A support pack to provide all the marketing and PR materials you need to spread the word and showcase your commitment to diversifying the sector
- A dedicated Women's Trade Network logo for your website, social channels and marketing materials to highlight your involvement

Supported by 50 organisations

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