



Business Desk
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Birmingham legal director appointed as chair of influential rail group



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A legal director at law firm Shakespeare Martineau, has been appointed chair of a new body promoting diversity in the rail industry.

Claire Burrows succeeds Nicki Crossland as head of the Women in Rail West Midlands (WRWM) group.

WRWM was launched in the region in 2016 to promote diversity in the rail industry, whilst supporting and empowering its members. The group provides a forum for members to develop their network locally while supporting professional development, personal growth and confidence.

Ms Burrows said: "Although I've been involved with WRWM for a few years already, I am excited to be appointed as chair. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead and building on all the great work achieved by the group to date.

"With the West Midlands now at the centre of some of the UK's most ambitious rail projects, transport is firmly on the regional agenda and there has never been a better time to gather like-minded individuals to help influence, encourage and embrace the local rail agenda.

“The group aims to reach out to and engage with more women and men who are connected to the rail sector in the West Midlands, to support and develop the great talent we have in our local industry and to inspire others to join it.”

WRWM has also announced three new steering committee members; Tessa McInness, Senior Legal Advisor, Alstom Group; Alexandra Tranter, Apprentice Engagement Manager at National College High Speed Rail and Kathy Howarth, Business Development Manager at National College High Speed Rail.

Adeline Ginn, founder of Women in Rail said: “We are thrilled Claire Burrows has agreed to be the new head of WRWM. Since joining the group, she has been a strong support to Nicki Crossland and a vital part of the organisation in the region. Claire’s enthusiasm and drive will bring continued energy to the efforts of WRWM, while her professional expertise will provide great insight for our members.”

Pictured are: Rajinder Pryor (Network Rail), Nikki Crossland (Qi Performance) and Claire Burrows (Shakespeare Martineau).