

Let's celebrate the achievements of men and women in UK rail

As we head towards the end of another year, I always reflect on the achievements we have made collectively as a sector in the previous 12 months.

Last year, Women in Rail held its first awards ceremony which coincided with the fifth anniversary of the official launch of our charity back in 2012 and provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and recognise the individuals and companies who have gone above and beyond to improving gender balance, diversity and inclusion within the UK rail sector.

In November, we opened nominations for next years' Women in Rail Awards which will again showcase those who made a significant contribution to closing the skills gap in our sector. The ceremony will take place on Wednesday 15 May at The Roundhouse in Camden, London, and will be once again hosted by Rachel Riley.

Currently, just 16.4% of the total UK rail workforce are women, an issue that Women in Rail are working tirelessly to redress, with the support of companies and key stakeholders in our sector.

As a charity, we have established a robust networking platform for our members, men and women in rail, and provide support through development workshops across the UK and our acclaimed mentoring programme; we devise initiatives aimed at positioning our industry as an attractive career choice for women; we engage with key stakeholders to promote diversity as a business strategy and – through the Women In Rail Awards – celebrate the men and women who, like us, work hard to improve gender balance, diversity and inclusion in UK rail.

If you are keen to nominate an individual for an award, then please do so by visiting the Women in Rail website: www.womeninrail.org/awards