# Construction Is a Team Sport

Unlock Your Potential in the Built Environment

Our NOCN-endorsed programme equips you with the essential skills for a successful construction career.

Professional Communication

Teamwork

Confidence

**Initiative** 

Emotional Intelligence

Bridging the gap between technical knowledge and workplace effectiveness.

Endorsed by





## Programme Overview

1

#### Flexible Delivery Format

Choose between an intensive oneweek programme (five consecutive days) or five weekly full-day sessions. Alternative schedules and bespoke delivery options are available for specific organizational needs. 2

#### **Interactive Learning**

Each module is a full-day interactive workshop (6-7 hours including breaks) featuring a mix of theory and practical activities including discussions, role-plays, self-assessments, and case studies.

3

#### **Multiple Delivery Options**

Courses can be delivered in-person (on site or at a training facility) or online via videoconferencing for remote learners, with group sizes typically 10-20 participants.

4

#### **NOCN Accredited**

Upon successful completion,
participants receive an NOCN
Certificate of Completion and a digital
badge for their professional profiles,
demonstrating their commitment to
personal development.

#### Who Should Attend?

This programme is specifically designed for young and emerging professionals in the UK construction sector (approximately ages 18-35), including:

- Apprentices and site operatives starting their careers
- Graduate trainees and newly qualified professionals
- Office-based staff in public-facing or support roles
- Junior managers or supervisors moving into leadership positions
- FE/HE students in construction and built environment courses
- Employers and training coordinators seeking to develop their workforce

# Why Soft Skills Matter in Construction

The construction industry is evolving rapidly. Technical expertise alone is no longer enough to succeed in today's collaborative and complex project environments. According to industry research, personal qualities such as communication and people management consistently rank among the top skills gaps in construction supervision.

Our programme addresses these critical gaps by focusing on the five essential soft skills that young professionals need to thrive. These skills will help you work more effectively with diverse teams, solve problems proactively, manage conflicts constructively, and ultimately advance your career in the built environment.

"85% of project managers say soft skills like communication and empathy are as important as technical skills in project success."



3x

**Higher Productivity** 

Teams with strong soft skills complete projects more efficiently

67%

**Fewer Errors** 

Of construction managers cite improved communication as key to reducing costly mistakes 40%

Career Advancement

Faster promotion rates for those with strong interpersonal skills

# Module 1: Confidence – "Show Up Before You're Ready"

#### **Module Aim**

To help participants understand the importance of confidence in career success and provide tools to build and project self-confidence, especially in new or high-pressure construction environments.

#### **Learning Outcome**

By the end of this module, you will be able to identify personal limiting beliefs that hinder your confidence, challenge those beliefs, and apply at least two practical strategies to present yourself confidently at work.

#### **Key Topics**

- **Defining Confidence:** Understanding the difference between confidence (inner belief) and competence (actual ability)
- Impact on Workplace Success: How confidence affects opportunities and others' perceptions
- **Limiting Beliefs:** Identifying and challenging mental barriers
- **Practical Strategies:** Techniques for building and projecting confidence

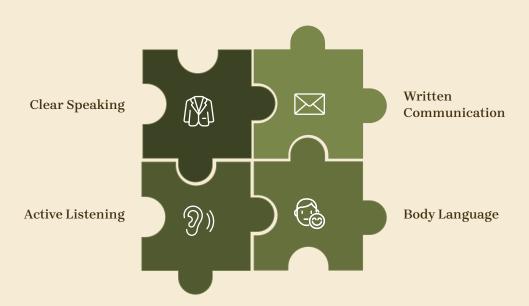


"I volunteered to lead our weekly safety briefing despite feeling nervous.

The techniques I learned helped me project confidence, and I received great feedback from my supervisor!"

- Graduate Engineer

# Module 2: Professional Communication – "Speak Like a Pro, Listen Like a Leader"



#### **Module Aim**

To develop communication skills for the workplace, focusing on the transition from casual to clear, respectful professional communication, including both speaking and listening.

#### **Learning Outcome**

By the end of this module, you will differentiate communication styles and apply effective techniques (active listening, clear and assertive speaking, positive body language) in workplace scenarios.

#### **Key Communication Components**

- **Clear Speaking:** Using precise, professional language to convey messages effectively, avoiding jargon or ambiguity.
- Active Listening: Fully engaging with what others are saying, asking clarifying questions, and demonstrating understanding.
- **Body Language:** Projecting openness and professionalism through posture, gestures, and eye contact.
- Written Communication: Crafting clear, concise, and professional reports, emails, and documentation crucial for project success.
- **Assertive Communication:** Expressing your needs, opinions, and boundaries respectfully while advocating for yourself and your team.

Mastering these communication components will empower you to navigate complex construction environments, build stronger professional relationships, and effectively influence project outcomes.

# Module 3: Teamwork – "Play Your Part, Lift the Team"



#### **Module Aim**

To instill in participants a strong appreciation for teamwork in construction and to equip them with the mindset and techniques to be effective team players.

#### **Learning Outcome**

By the end of this module, you will be able to describe why teamwork is critical in construction, identify different roles and their contributions on a project team, and demonstrate behaviors that support team success.

"Construction is a team sport – success comes from cooperation, understanding roles, and a shared 'we' mindset rather than an individualistic 'me' approach."

#### From "Me" to "We"

Shift from a siloed mindset to a collaborative approach that prioritizes project success over individual achievement.

#### **Team Success**

Learn how strong teamwork leads to improved project outcomes, safety, and workplace satisfaction.



#### **Team Roles**

Understand the various roles in a construction project and how they interconnect to create a functioning whole.

#### **Effective Team Player**

Develop key behaviors including reliability, communication, helping others, and respect for each member's contribution.

Hands-on activities include the "Marshmallow Tower Challenge," team role exploration exercises, and collaborative problem-solving scenarios based on real construction projects.

# Module 4: Initiative – "Step Up and Stand Out"

#### Module Aim

To encourage and enable participants to take initiative in the workplace – to go beyond what is asked, solve problems proactively, and contribute ideas – while also understanding appropriate boundaries.

#### **Learning Outcome**

By the end of this module, you will be able to identify opportunities to take initiative at work and demonstrate through examples or role-play how to proactively add value to a task or project without explicit instructions.



#### **Recognize Opportunities**

Identify situations where you can add value beyond your assigned tasks

#### Plan Your Approach

Consider appropriate actions that align with team goals and safety protocols



#### **Take Action**

Implement your initiative with confidence and clear communication

#### Review & Learn

Reflect on outcomes and adjust your approach for continuous improvement

#### **Key Benefits of Taking Initiative:**

Taking initiative fosters personal development through new skills and career advancement, while simultaneously enhancing project efficiency, speeding up problem resolution, and boosting overall team morale.

## Module 5: Emotional Intelligence – "Own Your Reactions, Understand Others"

#### Module Aim

To cultivate emotional intelligence (EI) in participants, increasing their self-awareness, selfregulation, empathy, and social skills for better leadership, teamwork, and client relations.

#### **Learning Outcome**

By the end of this module, you will be able to explain the components of emotional intelligence and demonstrate techniques for managing your emotions and communicating with empathy during challenging situations.

#### **Self-Awareness**

Recognize your own emotions and their impact on your behavior and decisions

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#### Social Skills

Build relationships, resolve conflicts, and lead effectively through emotional awareness

#### Self-Regulation

Manage your reactions, especially in high-pressure situations common on construction sites

#### Motivation

Harness emotions to achieve goals and maintain a positive attitude

#### Empathy

Understand others' perspectives and respond appropriately to their emotions

#### Why EI Matters in Construction

On busy, high-stakes construction sites, emotions run high. Professionals with high emotional intelligence effectively resolve conflicts, enhance safety through open communication, build stronger client relationships, lead teams, and manage pressure.

#### **Practical EI Techniques**

You'll learn and practice valuable tools, including:

- 4-7-8 breathing technique
- Using "I" statements
- Empathic listening
- Reading emotional cues
- Constructive feedback

## Benefits of the Programme

#### For Participants:

Enhanced Career Prospects

Develop the soft skills consistently identified as critical for advancement to leadership positions in construction

Immediate Application

Learn practical techniques you can apply the very next day on site or in the office

Increased Confidence

Build the self-assurance to speak up, take initiative, and handle challenging situations effectively

Professional Recognition

Receive an NOCN Certificate and digital badge to enhance your professional profile

#### For Employers:

Improved Productivity

Benefit from better communication, teamwork, and proactive problem-solving

Reduced Errors & Rework

Clear communication and attention to detail reduce costly mistakes

Enhanced Team Morale

Create a more positive work environment with better conflict resolution and collaboration

Talent Retention

Develop and retain promising young professionals by investing in their growth

"This programme fills a critical skills gap in the construction industry by focusing on the interpersonal capabilities that truly determine career success and project outcomes."

## **Get Started Today**

Invest in the future of your career or workforce with our NOCN-endorsed Construction Is a Team Sport programme. Developing these five essential skills will give you or your team the competitive edge in today's collaborative construction environment.

#### **In-House Training**

We can deliver the programme at your site or facility for groups of 10-20 participants, tailored to your specific organizational needs and schedule.

#### **Open Courses**

Join participants from various organizations at our regular open courses, offering valuable networking opportunities alongside skill development.

#### **Online Delivery**

Our interactive virtual classroom option provides the same high-quality experience for remote teams or individuals who cannot attend in person.

#### What's Included:

- Five full-day interactive training modules (30-35 hours total)
- Comprehensive course materials and worksheets
- Practical assessments with personalized feedback
- NOCN Certificate of Completion
- Digital badge for your professional profile
- Post-course support resources

Based on Errol Lawson's book *Construction Is a Team Sport: The Five Skills Every Young Professional Needs to Succeed in the Built Environment*, this programme has been developed in consultation with industry feedback and current research on skills shortages.

Contact us today to discuss your training needs and schedule your programme.

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# Ready to Build Your Future?

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