

Press release

Title UK's first ever aerial window cleaning training academy launches at HMP & YOI Isis
From Landsec
Date EMBARGO: 00:01 Thursday 6 September 2018

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The UK's first ever aerial window cleaning training academy has launched today at Her Majesty's Prison & Young Offender Institution Isis, in a move to tackle the ongoing UK skills shortage, while helping to reduce reoffending.

The Aerial Window Cleaning Academy trains people serving their final six to twelve months of their sentence at HMP & YOI Isis to scale and clean high-rise buildings. With a focus on rehabilitation, the Academy provides the opportunity to obtain a qualification that can be transferred into employment following release.

The first of its kind across the UK, the Aerial Window Cleaning Academy is a result of a partnership between Landsec, London-based charity Bounce Back and cleaning services company, NJC (Not Just Cleaning Ltd), and is backed by the Ministry of Justice.

According to the Ministry of Justice, rehabilitation initiatives like the Academy will help to cut the £15 billion annual cost of reoffending; ex-offenders in employment are up to nine percentage points less likely to commit further crimes. At present, however, only 17 per cent of offenders are employed one year after release.

Miles Webber, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability Director at Landsec, commented: "Breaking down barriers that prevent people from finding employment is a core part of our sustainability programme. We're proud to be joining forces with our partners to continue to create opportunities that help get more people back into work, building a stronger future for them, our customers and our communities."

Bounce Back has helped over 1,000 people through its programmes across five London prisons and local communities. The charity's programme has a re-offending rate of less than 12%.

Fran Findlater, founder and CEO of Bounce Back said: "At Bounce Back our objective is to offer an end-to-end service of skills training, bespoke support for individuals and employment in order to reduce re-offending and support the government's rehabilitation strategy.



“Working with partners in the industry such as Landsec and NJC in this new venture will help to address a skills shortage in response to employer needs, while giving people a second chance to fulfil their potential.”

NJC reinforced the role rehabilitation has in supporting the UK job market.

Paul Crilly, Managing Director at NJC said: “As the UK approaches the threshold of full employment, NJC is committed to helping those groups furthest from the jobs market, including ex-offenders, into mainstream employment, and we are delighted to have developed this training academy.”

Prisons Minister, Rory Stewart said:

“We know that offenders who secure employment upon release are much more likely to turn their backs on crime, making our society and communities safer.

“That is why earlier this year we launched our Employment and Education Strategy to harness the power of work to change lives and cut reoffending.

“This academy at HMP Isis is an excellent example of delivering on that pledge – it will train prisoners in key work skills needed by local businesses and give offenders the chance they need to begin a new chapter.”

Landsec will continue its work with Bounce Back and Not Just Cleaning as they look to open a new construction academy in HMP Leeds in the next financial year.

Businesses that are interested in finding out more about supporting ex-offenders should visit <https://offenderemployment.campaign.gov.uk/>.

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About Landsec

At Landsec, we believe great places are for people to experience and are made with the experience of great people. Across 24 million sq ft of real estate and a portfolio valued at £14.1 billion, we own and manage some of the most successful and recognisable assets in the country.

In London, our portfolio totals more than £7.8 billion, and consists of 6.4 million sq ft of real estate. From the world-famous Piccadilly Lights to the transformation of Victoria, SW1, we deliver exceptional experiences for the businesses and people that live and work in, and visit, the capital.



In Retail, across our 17.6 million sq ft of assets, we create outstanding experiences for customers and guests alike. Combined with the strength and resilience of our portfolio, this means we regularly outperform industry benchmarks for footfall and sales. We offer more than convenience and choice, recognising that memorable destinations are key to attracting the shoppers and retailers of today, and tomorrow.

We also aim to lead our industry in critical long-term issues – from diversity and community employment, to carbon and climate resilience. Everything we do is grounded in experience and begins with people. We deliver value for our shareholders, great experiences for our customers and positive change for our communities. At Landsec, everything is experience.

Find out more at landsec.com.

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About Bounce Back

Bounce Back is a charity that trains in construction skills in HMP's Brixton, Wandsworth, Isis, Pentonville and Feltham as well as CSCS training in a number of other prisons across the UK.

Founded in 2011, Bounce Back has worked with over 1000 people, and its re-offending rate is currently monitored at 12%. Bounce Back works with a large number of contractors and corporates as well as individuals to find ways to raise awareness, change perceptions and help people into employment. Currently training over 100 people a day across its centres, Bounce Back has an 85% success rate on people leaving prison either going into further training or employment.

Find out more at bouncebackproject.com.

About NJC

NJC supports positive business outcomes and helps to support brands. With a progressive, aspirational approach, NJC aims to bring customer service focus, attentiveness, passion and commitment to all the cleaning and support services it provides. The NJC DNA is at the heart of everything – the insatiable desire to go the extra mile for customers.

Find out more at njcdna.com.