Think you're recruiting fairly? Well think again

David Hancock, head of construction at the Cabinet Office, said he was issuing guidance to public bodies to improve the gender balance in construction.

Paul Fox, founder of Constructive Coaching, is in favour.

The problem is the construction sector is seen as a poor career choice by women. Just 5.5% of the workforce is female.

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Mr Hancock said the recommendations were "no surprise" and that they would be welcomed by the industry.

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The recommendations were made by a group of experts who were tasked with looking at how to improve the gender balance in the industry. They recommended that public bodies should be required to report on their progress in this area, and that employers should be encouraged to take action to make the sector more attractive to women.

Mr Fox said: "It is important to note that these recommendations are not new. They have been made by various organisations and groups over the years, but they have not been acted upon."

He added: "We need to do more to attract women into the construction sector. It is not just a matter of improving the gender balance; we also need to make the sector more attractive to men as well."