

# Levelling Up: Regional Research 2022



wise

## Understand regional STEM workforce patterns to get a competitive edge

### Levelling Up – WISE Regional Research Project 2022

Looking at regional workforce trends from 2015 and on an ongoing annual basis, the WISE Levelling Up Regional Research Project will provide government bodies, educators, STEM employers, recruitment agencies and service providers to the sector with information around UK regional differences related to gender balance in STEM.

### Research background

WISE members and partners have expressed increased interest in regional workforce statistics with specific regard to gender balance within the STEM sector. They report that currently available data is limited and inadequate for their purposes.

When conducting a brief analysis of women working in engineering roles in the North West and North East of England, WISE found that significant regional differences do exist (women engineers in the North West made up approximately 15% of the engineering workforce but only 3% in the North East).

Our Levelling Up Research Project will fill in the gaps to provide in-depth insight into the STEM talent pipeline with data from 2015. An additional Heat Map populated by publicly available STEM workforce data will provide insight into different roles taken up by men and women as well as information on whether they work full or part time, with capture of the rate of change over a number of years. Plans are in place to update the Heat Map on an annual basis.

### Benefits of the Regional Research

- **Showcasing:** STEM organisations will be provided with a platform to showcase their regional bases.
- **Breaking down policies:** local employers will benefit from access to best practice and regional data employment figures. This will help inform their recruitment policies.
- **Access to best practice:** companies will be able to glean best practice from other local organisations that have achieved or possess a good gender balance.
- **Detailed comparison:** Organisations will see how regions compare via the Heat Map (this will launch in the spring of 2022 with the full research findings showcased at the WISE Conference in September). The data will show changes where they occur, giving a clear indication of which initiatives work well and why.
- **Recruitment:** hiring managers will benefit from data around the regional rate of change since it will provide insight where there is demand for diverse talent. Granular sector information may be of use to them too.
- **Collaborative opportunities:** service providers will have access to the information needed to form collaborative partnerships to help create cultural change and better understand the clients they are serving.

Interested parties will be able to devise strategies to attract, retain and upskill the STEM pipeline and workforce using this data.



### Get involved

We have great opportunities to sponsor, exhibit, speak, purchase tickets for your team or host a partner event.

#### Please contact:

Deborah Kelly,  
Head of Business Development  
[d.kelly@wisecampaign.org.uk](mailto:d.kelly@wisecampaign.org.uk)  
or call  
07912 582 027