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Construction fails to make LGBT ranking for 11th successive year

22 JAN 2019 | BY CAROLINEWADHAM

Not a single construction company has made the Stonewall top 100 LGBT+ inclusive employers f 11th year in a row.

The index measures workplace inclusivity for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) peop from across the public, private and charity sector and has been released on an annual basis since

Last year *Construction News* found that only one firm has ever made it into the top 100 since it w launched, and the sector is again absent from this year's list.

A Stonewall spokesperson said: "Not only are LGBT communities louder and prouder than ever be there's also a clear business case for construction companies to pay attention to the experience o LGBT staff too.

"We're keen to work with construction companies to help them improve diversity and inclusion fo workforces."

Federation of Master Builders chief executive Brian Berry said: "It is appalling that no constructio companies have been on Stonewall's LGBT+ company rankings for more than a decade.

"We need to encourage more of the LGBT+ community to apply for construction apprenticeships, can transform the culture of the industry."

In a survey jointly carried out by *Construction News* last year just under a third of all LGBT+ survey respondents said working in construction has had a negative impact on their mental health, with respondents feeling uncomfortable about their gender identity / sexuality when visiting construc sites.

The Construction Industry Council's diversity and inclusion panel chair Maria Coulter said: "On-site very macho culture and a lot of people are hiding themselves."

She added that some work has been done on LGBT inclusivity has been done at large companies sector and the same should be done at other firms.

Stonewall's top 100 is compiled from submissions it has received. Organisations who enter are as demonstrate their competence in 10 areas of employment policy and practice, including network groups, senior leadership, and how well they've engaged with the LGBT community.

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