

London's first green plant academy opens at Earls Court

26 JUN 2025 | BY **HARMSWORTH**



A new training academy specialising in zero-emission construction vehicles has opened in west London, to help tackle the capital's skills shortage in green construction.

The Green Plant Academy, located on the site of the [future Earls Court redevelopment](#), is the first of its kind in London, according to Transport for London (TfL).

It has been developed by TfL's property subsidiary Places for London, The Skills Centre and the Earls Court Development Company, with support from industry partners including Sunbelt Rentals, Lynch, the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), FM Conway and the National Open Construction Network.

The facility offers fully funded, industry-recognised training in the use of electric and hybrid plant, including excavators and rollers with zero tailpipe emissions. Learners will be trained on live construction kit and benefit from hands-on sessions using the latest low-carbon machinery.

Opening during London Climate Action Week (running from 21-29 June), the academy aims to support the city's transition to net zero while building a pipeline of skilled operatives for upcoming infrastructure and housebuilding projects.

According to CITB forecasts, an additional 251,500 construction workers will be needed across the country by 2028. In London alone, Places for London expects a demand for 6,200 plant operatives by 2028, driven by the capital's housing pipeline.

Related questions you can explore with Ask Construction News, our new AI search engine.



What are London's current and upcoming emission standards for non-road mobile machinery?

What are the UK's net-zero targets and construction sector's contribution?

What are recent examples of UK construction projects using low-carbon methods?

What current regulatory challenges are major UK construction-related companies facing?

What major redevelopment projects are currently underway in London?

If you would like to ask your own question you just need to [login](#), [register](#) or [subscribe](#).

The academy forms part of the Earls Court masterplan, which proposes 4,000 new homes and 10,000 jobs. It will serve communities in Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham and Westminster.

Laura Miller, construction skills manager at Places for London, said the training facility would prepare Londoners for careers in sustainable construction and enable developers to meet environmental targets on upcoming schemes.

Rebekah Paczek, director of public affairs, social impact and community relations at ECDC, said the academy was a “major step forward” in delivering the green workforce needed for long-term regeneration.

Courses will be delivered in partnership with NOCN and CITB as part of London's Inclusive Talent Strategy. The facility will also contribute to the goals of the London Growth Plan, which includes a revamp of the adult education system.

The Green Plant Academy is operated by The Skills Centre, which delivers construction training across the UK.



Source: [TfL press release](#)