



WYLFA NEWYDD



## Eira Owen

Site Security Lead

Age 30

### What's your current role?

I'm the Site Security Lead for Horizon Nuclear Power at the Wylfa Newydd site on Anglesey.

I work with people such as the Government's nuclear regulators and the local police to ensure they are happy with our security measures.

A team of security guards look after the day-to-day security of the site but it's my job to make sure they have all the policies, procedures and emergency arrangements they need to carry out their duties.

### What did you study when you were at school and what qualifications do you have?

I completed my GCSE's with average grades and I returned to school to complete my A levels - but I left school without completing them as I got my first full time job.

### Your career so far...

From 2001 to 2006 I was a Sales Assistant at an Orange mobile phone shop. Although I loved this job, I wanted to stay living in North Wales and I felt there were no opportunities to progress without me having to move away.

In 2006 I got a temporary job, working in administration at the Magnox Wylfa Nuclear Power Station, but I soon got an opportunity to move jobs and I became the Security Access Administrator for the site.

In 2010 I became the Site Security Officer for the Power Station. I had already filled in for this job as part of my previous job, so I knew what it was all about and it felt like the natural next step.

### How did the knowledge you've gained through previous roles help you to get your job at Horizon?

The best skills I gained in my job at the mobile phone shop were learning how to deal with customers and how to be flexible. These skills have proved invaluable in the jobs I've done since then because I have to deliver difficult messages to people all the time. Sometimes they might have to change their plans as a result of our advice but they generally appreciate that we're just trying to keep our site secure and make sure that everybody goes home safely at the end of the day.

### What are your top tips for somebody who wants a job in the nuclear industry?

- You need to be sure of yourself, confident in your knowledge and able to demonstrate experience.
- If you get an interview, be prepared and look professional. Think about the questions you'll be asked by the interviewer, and plan some questions you want to ask.
- Work on your negotiation skills. I have to say 'no' to lots of people, but then we work together to find a solution.

### Where do you see your career in 10 years' time?

I hope by then I will have been promoted to the position of Site Security Manager and be working on the fully-operational Wylfa Newydd nuclear power station.