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Press Release

## **TOP BUSINESSWOMAN ANNE RIDGEON JOINS CRC BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Anne Ridgeon, chairman of builders' merchants the Ridgeons Group, has joined Cambridge Regional College's Board of Governors.**

Anne, who took over the helm of the family-owned business in 2004, has seen it grow to one of the biggest privately-owned builders' merchants in the country with 21 branches across East Anglia.



CRC's new Governor, Anne Ridgeon

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College principal Rick Dearing said he was delighted that Anne had joined CRC's board of Governors, and said her experience in business and the construction industry would be invaluable.

"The College has a long-standing relationship with Ridgeons – many of our students go on to work there, and we have developed many training initiatives together. Anne will be a great asset to the College; her wealth of knowledge and experience of industry, training and business development will be invaluable."

Last year, Ridgeons was one of the regional winners of the National Training Awards for outstanding contribution and commitment to training in the workplace. The company was nominated jointly with CRC for a programme focusing on new building methods and materials designed to address climate change and environmental sustainability.

The winning training initiative with CRC was driven by Ridgeons' strategy to develop a workforce able to advise and inform customers on modern construction methods, in order to increase sales, and build on its leading reputation for customer service.

Anne, the fourth generation family member of the business founded in 1911 by Cyril Ridgeon, has been listed as one of Britain's top 100 entrepreneurs.

She said: "We are so fortunate to have such a progressive place of learning on our doorstep, with its exceptional vocational training facilities and support available for our young people. I feel very privileged to be joining their board of Governors."

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**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest Train to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.