



Video title: Career Stories – Women in Tech (Meet Louise)

Hi, I'm Louise Dennehy. I'm Chief Information Officer at the Central Bank of Ireland. I was always kind of interested in kind of maths and science subjects. In my teenage years, people were playing with Spectrum computers and Commodore 64, and I was interested to understand what programming was about. So when I was a teenager, or I was 12 or 13, I signed up for a night course in programming.

Times were different. I think there was one computer and about 20 people in the class, but I really just kind of caught the bug at that age.

I've been working in private industry and insurance and financial services for over 20 years, but I really kind of got to the stage where what I was doing was a little bit of a repeat of what I had done before. And so I thought it was a great opportunity to think about an entirely different sector. And so a job in the Central Bank, having a completely different drive and ambition and objective seemed to me to be a really interesting opportunity.

It was interesting when it came to the Central Bank, I just found the culture, one, that it's really strongly collegiate and really helpful. And I have to say I was bowled over by the level of professionalism that people aspire to.

More recently, I had the honour to become the sponsor of the Rainbow Network, and it was really an experience really, for me to support the Network in their endeavours and I think they did some fantastic work through the month of June on their Pride activities and in particular with their education, which has been really invaluable right across the Bank. I think working in the Central Bank is a great environment for all to work in. I think we have a very strong dedication to growing skills and to enabling kind of lifelong learning. So that's a great opportunity for anyone who joins, and many people are availing of that.

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