**B&CE to acquire Constructing Better Health from CSCS**

B&CE and the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) jointly announced on January 19 2016 that B&CE will acquire Constructing Better Health (CBH).

Don Ward, chief executive of Constructing Excellence, commented: “This is welcomed by Constructing Excellence as a valuable integration of important and complementary industry initiatives which will improve the uptake of occupational health measures in the sector and strengthen the UK’s global leadership in this arena.”

**Further detail**

B&CE is a not-for-profit organisation that has been providing financial and welfare benefits to the construction industry for the past 70 years. CBH is the national scheme for the management of occupational health in the construction industry. The aim of the scheme is to improve the health of the industry workforce.

The move comes as the issue of occupational health in construction continues to rise up the industry agenda as it becomes clear that more needs to be done to provide simple and easy to use services to continue to improve occupational health in the sector.

The transition will take place over the coming months and, subject to finalising legal agreements, B&CE will initially take over the running of the current CBH operational model. Building on market analysis and research already undertaken, B&CE will engage with the sector to reform the current CBH offering with a view to meeting the current and future needs of the industry.

This engagement will identify quick wins for improvement of the existing model as well as setting out the strategic plan for future industry provision. This work will be supported through the formation of a number of working groups, taken forward jointly with the construction industry (clients and employers) and Health & Safety sector, to identify the future needs.

**Patrick Heath-Lay, Chief Executive Officer of B&CE, said:**

*“This is a great opportunity to take forward the important work of strengthening occupational health within the construction sector. We want to build on the work that Constructing Better Health has done over the past few years and, following a period of intensive engagement with the sector, launch a new proposition that really delivers for construction workers and employers.*

*“B&CE is proud of the work that it has done in providing simple financial and welfare benefits to the construction sector over the years. We will bring our knowledge and experience to deliver a valued occupational health scheme. We provided financial support to the CBH pilot scheme and have supported the work of Constructing Better Health from day one. We know that we can deliver a new scheme that will benefit construction even more than the existing scheme does.”*

**Graham Wren, Chief Executive of Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS), said:**

*“Since Constructing Better Health was established in 2004 the organisation has grown and now has around 340 employer customers. However, the importance of occupational health in the UK construction industry has grown in recent years and the CSCS Board have concluded that further growth opportunities for CBH can be better realised as part of B&CE.*

*“The Board considered the ability to offer occupational health alongside existing employee benefits to be a good strategic fit with Constructing Better Health, benefiting from the resources and experience of B&CE in order to invest and grow occupational health services to the benefit of the construction sector.”*

**ENDS**

**Note to editors**

B&CE is a not-for-profit organisation – we operate for the benefit of our members and their dependants. We were founded in the construction industry back in 1942. Now we offer a workplace pension, employee accident cover, employee life cover and employee healthcare.

We currently manage assets of over £2.6 billion, with more than three million members and over 18,500 corporate accounts.

For over 30 years, B&CE has provided workplace pensions to employers large and small. We’ve operated ways to automatically enrol employees into pension saving for over ten years.

In November 2011 we announced The People’s Pension, our flexible solution to help employers to comply with their automatic enrolment duties. It’s designed for people rather than profit and is suitable for any organisation in any sector. We launched a new streamlined solution for small employers in November 2015.

The People’s Pension has won us a number of awards, including the Defaqto 5 Star Rating for auto-enrolment in 2015 and DC Provider of the Year at the UK Pensions Awards in 2014.

We tweet as **@bandce** and **@peoplespension**.