

The Wider View | Tuesday 27 February 2018

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Consistency is key for tackling ill health in construction

When it comes to tackling ill health in construction, we know there's a lack of consistency across the industry. And this remains our key challenge – everyone is doing something different.

You may remember that at last year's Health in Construction Leadership Group (HCLG) summit, our CEO, Patrick Heath-Lay, launched our vision for occupational health in construction. In January we were at the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Health Summit and were struck by how far the construction industry has come in recognising that health is as important as safety.

We heard a lot at the Summit about the health challenges the industry continues to face. We saw data on the cost of ill health to the industry and wider economy, the still-frightening statistics on levels of musculoskeletal diseases and occupational cancers, and the potentially negative effects of 'presenteeism' (coming to work despite illness, stress, etc., which often results in reduced productivity) on health.

In her remarks to the ICE summit, our Head of Occupational Health, Margaret

Grahamslaw, called for the industry to show unity in meeting these challenges. [Read the full story about the ICE summit »](#)

In the next issue we'll be able to share our progress in developing the new occupational health scheme, so keep an eye out.

Strengthening B&CE's occupational health and Charitable Trust teams

Birgitte Mott has joined our expanding occupational health team as Occupational Health Manager to strengthen the delivery of our occupational health proposition, and The Charitable Trust welcomes Carolyn Tyrer as our Charitable Trust Claims Specialist.

Birgitte Mott has worked in occupational health for 27 years, and was part of a team which built an excellent occupational health service from scratch. She's as passionate as we are about improving the health of construction workers. [So, how do we plan to do improve the health of construction workers »](#)

With a background in supporting people in extreme hardship, and empowering people with the skills needed to live and work in society, Carolyn Tyrer can help us to enhance our reach in the industry, to make sure we're supporting construction workers and organisations in need of funding. [Find out how the Charitable Trust supports the construction industry »](#)

B&CE Charitable Trust – applications for Mowlem Award 2018 opening soon

Now in its fourth year, the Mowlem Award is a £20,000 grant given to an organisation that really makes a difference to training and the promotion of health and safety in the construction industry.

[Last year's winner was St-Eds](#), a registered charity that provides a positive learning environment for young people between the ages of 14 and 24.

If you know of an organisation that would benefit from this grant, please point them towards our website. Applications for this year's award will be open soon – keep an eye out for more information on our [media centre »](#)

The latest on the Taylor review

The government has now responded to the Taylor review of modern working Practices, and will take forward its recommendations on employment policy and legislation.

The review explored how worker rights and regulations could keep up with a changing labour market. In particular, it explored the rise of self-employment, zero-hours contracts and agency work. [Read our comment on the government's response to the Taylor review »](#)

Keeping your personal information secure

Keeping your personal information secure is important to us. And so, with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into effect on 25 May 2018, we thought it a good opportunity to update our [privacy notice](#) »

You'll also be able to tell us your preferences in the next issue of The Wider View so look out for further information then. [Find out what GDPR is all about »](#)

Changes to Employee Life Cover from B&CE

Our Employee Life Cover (ELC) provides financial protection to construction workers. It's an affordable benefit that gives peace of mind to employees. We've updated the ELC Rules to provide more detail about our requirements, so it's easier for you to make sure your employees will meet them.

[Find out more about Employee Accident and Life Cover from B&CE »](#)

Updated ELC Rules

When adding employees onto the scheme, or upgrading employees' cover within the scheme, employers need to be aware of the following:

- You'll need to declare to us that you have no knowledge of the employee having been diagnosed with a terminal illness (one where the expectation of life is less than one year

from diagnosis); **and**

- The employee must be 'actively at work' with you – this means:
 - he or she is physically and mentally able to do all the duties of their normal job and is doing so (absence due to holiday still counts as doing their job); **and**
 - the employee must not have been absent from work due to an accident or ill health in the 4 weeks before the start of the cover or upgrade to the cover; **and**
 - the employee must not have reduced his or her working hours due to ill health or accident in the 3 months before the cover starts, or is upgraded.

[Full details on these changes can be found in the updated ELC Rules »](#)

What do you need to do?

These updated Rules will be applied from 1 April 2018. But the existing cover you have stays in place. We just ask that you comply with the updated Rules described above when adding employees onto the scheme, or upgrading employees' cover within the scheme.

If you have any question, please contact our support team on 01293 586666, which is open Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5.30pm, or email us at support@bandce.co.uk.

We're updating our online security

Just a quick reminder that from 28 February you and your employees will only be able to access our website (including Online Services) using the safest and most up-to-date internet browsers – no matter what device you're using.

All secure websites are beginning to move over to something called TLS 1.2 – the latest version of TLS. TLS stands for Transport Layer Security, and it provides a safe, encrypted way of transferring secure data. It is the new normal for highly secure websites.

[Find out how to prepare for our security update »](#)

Tell us what you want to hear

Is the Wider View useful? Are we covering topics you want to hear about? [Tell us by taking our short survey »](#)



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