



## **CISRS Responds to Statement by Newly Formed and Unknown STA**

The Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS) and its owner, the National Access and Scaffolding Confederation (NASC), note a recent press statement and activity from a newly formed and unknown Scaffolding Training Alliance (STA).

CISRS has delivered the recognised training standard for the UK scaffolding sector for over 50 years and continues to engage constructively with training providers, employers and industry bodies. While we welcome robust dialogue across the sector, we are disappointed that the STA – an unrecognised and unverified entity – has chosen to publicly criticise proposals for CISRS that remain under development and have not yet been issued for formal consultation.

Wayne Connolly, Chair of CISRS, said “The changes that have been announced for CISRS and that are in development have been demanded by employers and card holders, while some commercially interested training providers have resisted modernisation. CISRS and NASC will continue to work directly with accredited centres and recognised industry stakeholders in a professional way and will not entertain discussions with groups whose composition and intentions are unclear.

“Our commitment is to employers and operatives across the UK, including through our longstanding engagement with Unite the Union. We believe change must be guided by those who use and rely on CISRS qualifications and not by commercial training providers with vested interests.

“The changes currently under development are both exciting and necessary. They will provide greater training capacity for 16-17-year-olds, increase practical learning time – contrary to some recent claims – and enhance quality assurance measures. A key improvement will be the mandatory recording and monitoring of learner outcomes, including failure rates – a move long resisted by some centres but essential for transparency and continual improvement.

“CISRS and NASC remain committed to a training framework that is inclusive, robust, and fit for the future of the scaffolding and access industry. We invite constructive, informed, and transparent discussion as we move forward with modernising the CISRS scheme for the benefit of all.”

**ENDS**

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS

### About CISRS

The Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS) is the industry-recognised training and qualification framework for scaffolders in the UK. Established in the 1960s, CISRS sets the standard for safety, competence, and professionalism in scaffolding. The scheme supports ongoing development through structured training, practical assessment, and regular renewal requirements. More than 80,000 scaffolders and access professionals hold valid CISRS cards worldwide (60,000 in the UK), proving their qualifications and commitment to safe working practices.

For more information, visit [www.cisrs.org.uk](http://www.cisrs.org.uk).