

AbbVie award of Ibec *KeepWell Mark* reflects the company's ongoing support of employee health

AbbVie, the global biopharmaceutical company which has a commercial headquarters in Dublin, has been presented with the Ibec *KeepWell Mark*. The award is an evidence-based accreditation given for Irish employers who significantly investing in workplace health and well-being.

AbbVie, which employs more than 700 people across five commercial and manufacturing sites in Ireland, is one of first biopharmaceutical/pharmaceutical companies to receive the workplace health and well-being accolade. Ibec states that the aim of the award is to help businesses benchmark workplace well-being activity through a series of systematic and methodical steps.

This focus on industry leading employee wellbeing also contributed to AbbVie being named as the No.2 Best Large Workplace in Ireland at the recent 2019 *Great Place to Work* awards.

The company co-ordinates its approach to employee health and wellbeing through a programme titled 'AbbVie Vitality'. This initiative includes resources and tools which encourage a holistic approach to health and its success has been based on the company providing organisational support for employee proactivity on managing their personal well-being.

Using this cross-site Vitality programme, AbbVie has made a strong commitment to improving its workplace wellbeing practices since its formation in 2013. Activities have included a wide range of initiatives focusing on enhancing employees' physical health and the prevention of illness, as well as seeking to improve mental and psychosocial well-being

Commenting on the receipt of the *KeepWell Mark*, **Miriam Cunningham, Occupational Nurse with AbbVie and Vitality Lead**, said the company continuously looked for ways to help its people balance their work and personal lives. "We have improved and coordinated a number of wellness projects over the past number of years to so that we can create a safe, secure and pleasant working environment for all of our people.

"The Ibec *KeepWell Mark* provides us with a fantastic evidence-based framework, enabling us not only to benchmark our wellness initiatives against our peers but also helping us to progress in areas that provide the most impact for our people and business," she added.

The *KeepWell Mark* framework includes a self-assessment and an onsite assessment from an Ibec approved external assessor. The accreditation takes a holistic approach focusing on eight key areas of potential improvement that can affect business performance –leadership; absence management; smoke free; physical activity; health & safety; mental health; healthy eating. Each assessment culminates with a report that outlines areas for improvement.

-ENDS-

Notes to the editor:

About AbbVie

Founded in 2013, AbbVie is a global, research-driven biopharmaceutical company committed to developing innovative advanced therapies for some of the world's most complex and critical conditions. It employs more than 700 people at five manufacturing and commercial sites across Ireland. The company's commercial headquarters is based in Dublin as is a separate international manufacturing and engineering services centre. AbbVie has two manufacturing plants in Sligo and one in Cork.

The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to markedly improve treatments across four primary therapeutic areas: immunology, oncology, virology and neuroscience. In more than 75 countries, AbbVie employees are working every day to advance health solutions for people around the world. For more information about AbbVie, please visit us at www.abbvie.com. Follow @abbvie on Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn.

About The KeepWell Mark

The KeepWell Mark, an Ibec initiative, is an evidence-based accreditation and award that recognises Irish employers for investing in workplace health and wellbeing. Its aim is to help Irish organisations benchmark workplace wellbeing activity through a set of systematic and methodical steps. The framework includes a self-assessment, an onsite evaluation from Ibec wellness experts, and a report that outlines areas for improvement – allowing your business to chart its way to success.

It is based on 'The Workplace Wellbeing Charter, National Award for England'. This highly successful award is endorsed by the UK Department of Health and has been awarded to over 1,000 British organisations. It is widely recognised as the business standard for workplace wellbeing across the UK.

About Ibec

Ibec is the group that represents Irish business both domestically and internationally. It has over 180 professional services staff in seven locations and is the umbrella group of over 40 different sectoral industry associations. It has over 7,500 members; home grown, multinational, big and small, spanning every sector of the economy. Together they employ over 70% of the private sector workforce in Ireland.

Ibec and its sector groups lobby government, policy makers and other key stakeholders nationally and internationally to shape business conditions and drive economic growth.

Ibec is a market leader in forecasts and surveys. Ibec's role as public commentator on the economy has been significant, having correctly identified the turnaround during the economic crisis. More recently, Ibec has accurately forecast economic growth rates and identified the opportunities that these, along with low interest rates, provide for national infrastructure investment.

Through its press office, Ibec sets out the views of business on key issues, regularly leading the national print and broadcast media. Ibec executives regularly speak at major national and international conferences and debates and are members of key government expert groups and committees.

Ibec provides a wide range of professional direct services to members including employer advice and representation on HR and industrial relations issues. The on-the-ground aspect of this service places Ibec in a unique position of being close to the challenges and concerns of employers. This enables

the team to better capture and articulate issues affecting competitiveness and business development to government and policy makers.

Media Contact:

Andrew Shaw

Communications Manager

AbbVie

Tel: +353 1-428-7972

Mob: +353 87-752-5445

Email: andrew.shaw@abbvie.com