

10 November 2025

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written information to the Senedd’s Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee regarding the Welsh Government’s Prohibition of Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill. This letter sets out UKAS’s role as the National Accreditation Body in the context of greyhound racing.

1. UKAS’s role as National Accreditation Body

UKAS is appointed by government as the UK’s National Accreditation Body, through the Accreditation Regulation 2009, and operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department for Business and Trade. UKAS is a private company, limited by guarantee. In accordance with UK law and government policy, accreditation must operate as a public authority activity, in the public interest, delivered by a single not-for-profit National Accreditation Body¹. UKAS is the only body recognised by government for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies in the UK.

Accreditation is the recognition of the competence of organisations providing conformity assessment services, such as certification, to carry out specific activities in accordance with national and international standards².

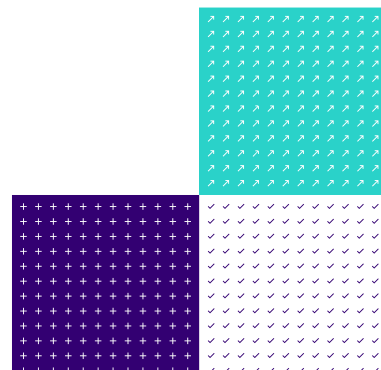
Accreditation bodies, such as UKAS, do not set the standards against which they assess. Standards are developed through multi-stakeholder, consensus-based processes; in the UK this process is delivered by the British Standards Institution and UKAS input to its standards development process where expertise on accredited conformity assessment is needed.

Accreditation is conducted on a four-year cycle, which includes an initial evaluation, annual surveillance and a full reassessment to confirm ongoing compliance and competence. It provides impartial, third-party assurance that standards are being met at the time of assessment.

UKAS’s accreditation services are used across the market, including for food and farming, renewable energy, physiological diagnostic services, forensic science, engineering and product safety.

¹ UK government policy on accreditation: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conformity-assessment-and-accreditation>

² Conformity assessment bodies also include organisations providing calibration, testing, certification, inspection, verification, validation or medical diagnostic services.



UKAS, alongside the British Standards Institution and the National Physical Laboratory, is part of the UK's 'quality infrastructure', a framework for conformity assessment, accreditation, standards and measurement. This framework supports government policy and underpins the safety and quality of products and services used across the economy.

UKAS accreditation is globally recognised, enabled through its status as a signatory to the multilateral recognition agreements of the International Accreditation Forum and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation and, within the European region, the European co-operation for Accreditation.

These multilateral recognition agreements facilitate trade and represent an extensive network of accreditations bodies promoting international cooperation on conformity assessment activities.

2. UKAS's role in the context of greyhound racing

Since March 2010, UKAS has accredited the Greyhound Board of Great Britain Limited (GBGB) to ISO/IEC 17065:2012, the international standard for bodies certifying products, processes or services, to provide product conformity certification. The scope of GBGB's accreditation is limited to the provision by racecourses of licensed greyhound racing in accordance with the relevant rules contained within the GBGB Rules of Racing. This includes the requirements of the Welfare of Racing Greyhounds Regulations 2010 and those identified within the GBGB Racecourse Certification Inspection Documents.

GBGB is also the owner of a certification scheme³, the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme, for greyhound trainers' residential kennels in England, Wales and Scotland. UKAS accredits Supply Chain In-Sites Limited to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 for their activity in relation to the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme. The Scheme incorporates PAS 251:2017 – Version 3⁴ and a series of 5 position statements, issued by GBGB, which covers requirements for the fabrication, size, facilities and management of kennels, as well as animal welfare requirements such as environmental enrichment, diet, exercise, handling, training and veterinary healthcare.

UKAS has accredited Supply Chain In-Sites Limited to deliver the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme since December 2023. Any activity that took place before that date, even if now covered by the Scheme, has not been assessed by UKAS.

UKAS notes the withdrawal of PAS 251:2017 – Version 3 and will conduct the necessary review with GBGB in advance of Supply Chain In-Sites Limited's next annual assessment to ensure that the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme remains fit-for-purpose.

UKAS's role is not to assess directly the welfare of racing greyhounds, rather it assesses the competence, integrity and impartiality of the relevant

³ A scheme owner is a legal entity with legal responsibility for the development and maintenance of a conformity assessment scheme, but may not operate it themselves.

⁴ A PAS, Publicly Available Specification, is a fast-track standard, developed by the British Standards Institution, establishing best practice for products, processes or services. PASs are developed in response to an identified market need, often at the request of a sponsor.

certification bodies to carry out their activities within the scope of the relevant standard and scheme.

Hence, UKAS's accreditation means that GBGB has demonstrated the level of competence required by the relevant international standard to certify against the requirements of the GBGB Rules of Racing and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited has also demonstrated the required level of competence to certify against the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme at the time of their assessments.

UKAS monitors GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited annually during head office and witnessed assessments. Their accreditations represent confidence at the time of the assessment in their ability to deliver the specific activities within scope of their accreditation.

UKAS does not assess any activities that fall outside the scope of the GBGB Rules of Racing and Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme respectively. The scope of UKAS's accreditation's does not include the whole-life experience of racing greyhounds. UKAS accreditation should not be seen to pass judgement on any activities outside of the scope of its assessments. For example, UKAS accreditation does not cover kennels for greyhounds under fifteen months, kennels for retired greyhounds, greyhound breeding establishments or other breeds of dogs⁵.

UKAS has a thorough complaints and feedback policy, including whistleblowing. Should UKAS receive a complaint regarding an accredited conformity assessment body, we would conduct the necessary investigations in accordance with the policy, which may include technical interviews, document review and unannounced assessment.

UKAS reviewed the Greyhound Trainers' Residential Kennels Certification Scheme in July 2023 for compliance with ISO/IEC 17065:2012 and ISO/IEC 17067:2013, the international standard for certification scheme owners⁶. This review was conducted as part of an organisational review of all UKAS's accreditation schemes to ensure that schemes remain fit-for-purpose and address any identified actions. Any issues identified were in connection with the governance of the scheme and were satisfactorily addressed.

Should you have any further questions or clarifications as to UKAS's role, colleagues or I would be pleased to discuss.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Gantley

Chief Executive
United Kingdom Accreditation Service

⁵ When a combination of racing and retired greyhounds, or greyhounds that are deemed puppies and/or are an age whereby they are ineligible to race, are accommodated within greyhound trainers' residential kennels, then the requirements of PAS 251:2017 – Version 3 apply to both.

⁶ Note: Scheme reviews can take place before a grant of accreditation is awarded, as in this case.