

18 November 2025

UKAS response to Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, International Relations Committee query.

Query (received 12.11.25):

“We still need clarity on the suggestion from Dogs Trust that the UKAS process is “purely a document-auditing certification,” whereas GBGB stated that “all licensed stadia and residential kennels are subjected to an annual, independent inspection by external auditors.” From Matt Gantley’s letter, where he states that “UKAS’s role is not to assess directly the welfare of racing greyhounds,” we take it that UKAS is not the external auditor referred to by GBGB. However, it remains unclear to what extent on-the-ground inspections take place, what they involve, and their frequency.”

UKAS response:

The evidence referenced above by the Dogs Trust, suggesting that UKAS completes “purely a document-auditing certification”, conflates the certification activities of GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited with their accreditation by UKAS.

UKAS, as National Accreditation Body, assesses the technical competence and impartiality of conformity assessment bodies, such as certification bodies like GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited.

Therefore, UKAS is not the organisation ‘auditing’ licensed greyhound stadia and residential kennels, rather it is confirming the technical competence of GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited, against the relevant standard and scheme, to do so.

The “independent inspection by external auditors” referred to by GBGB is likely the certification activity carried out by GBGB, in accordance with the GBGB Rules of Racing, and by Supply Chain In-Sites Limited, in accordance with the Greyhound Trainers’ Residential Kennels Certification Scheme.

Accreditation is conducted on a four-year cycle. This involves a full evaluation of the conformity assessment body every fourth year and a surveillance assessment in the intervening years to ensure ongoing compliance with the relevant standard or scheme.

UKAS’s annual surveillance assessment of GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited consists of an assessment of a sample of their certification activity, including, but not limited to document checks. For example, UKAS’s assessments include accompanying these certification bodies on their audits to assess their interpretation and application

of the schemes within their accredited scope, as well as reviewing a sample of their audit reports for completeness and presence of objective evidence. UKAS may also assess the training of certification body auditors, complaints and appeal handling and management systems.

Hence, UKAS's assessments are not of greyhound welfare directly, they are of the activities of GBGB and Supply Chain In-Sites Limited within the scope of their accreditations.

UKAS notes inspection and certification are separate forms of conformity assessment. As such, for the purpose of activities within scope of their UKAS accreditation, where GBGB refer to "inspection" they mean "certification".

Ends.