

EIC Labs Working Group meeting



Paul Greenwood – Operations Director

Wednesday 9th February 2022



UKAS: A World of Confidence

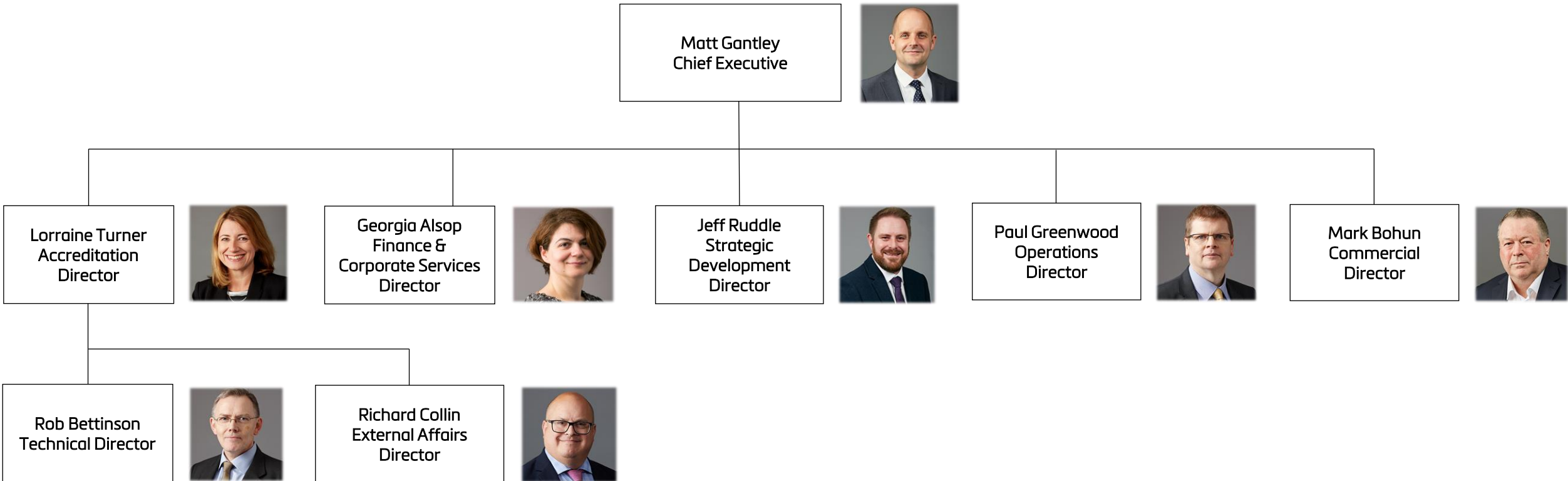


About UKAS:

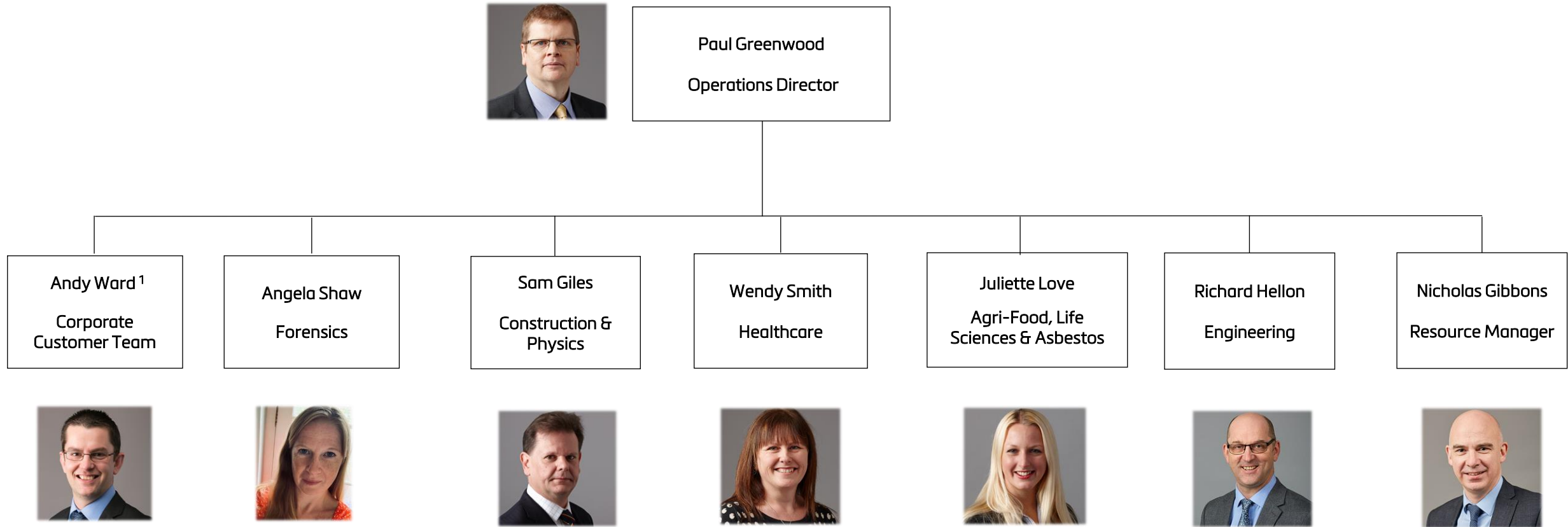
- + Founded in 1966, consolidated as UKAS in 1995
- + Not for Profit and non-profit distributing organisation
- + Appointed as sole UK National Accreditation Body
 - + Regulation on Accreditation and Market Surveillance No 765/2008
 - + Incorporated in GB law by the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018, with deficiencies corrected by the Product Safety and Metrology Amendment etc. (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 UK Statutory Instruments 2019 No. 696
 - + Northern Ireland, Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008 of the European Parliament
- + Accreditations: 3,221
- + 33,000 assessment days
- + 265 full time staff
- + 190 permanent Assessment Managers
- + 700 External Technical Assessors



UKAS Structure: Executive



UKAS Structure: Operations



⁽¹⁾ Andy Ward from 1st April 2021 until 31 March 2022 (secondment)

Our Purpose:

UKAS delivers the UK's National Accreditation Service.

We underpin the UK and global quality infrastructure with our independence and expertise, creating trust and confidence in the products and services we all rely upon.



Our Vision:

To be the world's foremost accreditation body, recognised and respected for the development and delivery of accreditation services for the benefit of society now and in the future.



Our Mission:

Working alongside our customers and in collaboration with UK Government and key stakeholders, our mission is to build a world of trust and confidence in the products and services accreditation underpins.



Our Strategic Priorities:

To deliver this Vision, Mission and Values we will focus on five core strategic priorities:

- + To excel in areas of technical expertise and service
- + To be agile, enabling the organisation to adapt and innovate
- + To be perceptive in developing talent and building knowledge
- + To deliver financial stability and productivity
- + To be respected and recognised as the world's foremost accreditation body



Supporting Government:

Quality Management




Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Farm/Environment




defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Building regulations




Communities
and Local Government

Forensics




Forensic Science Regulator
Overseeing Quality

Emissions/Trading




defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Asbestos




HSE
Health & Safety
Executive

Drinking Water




defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Food safety



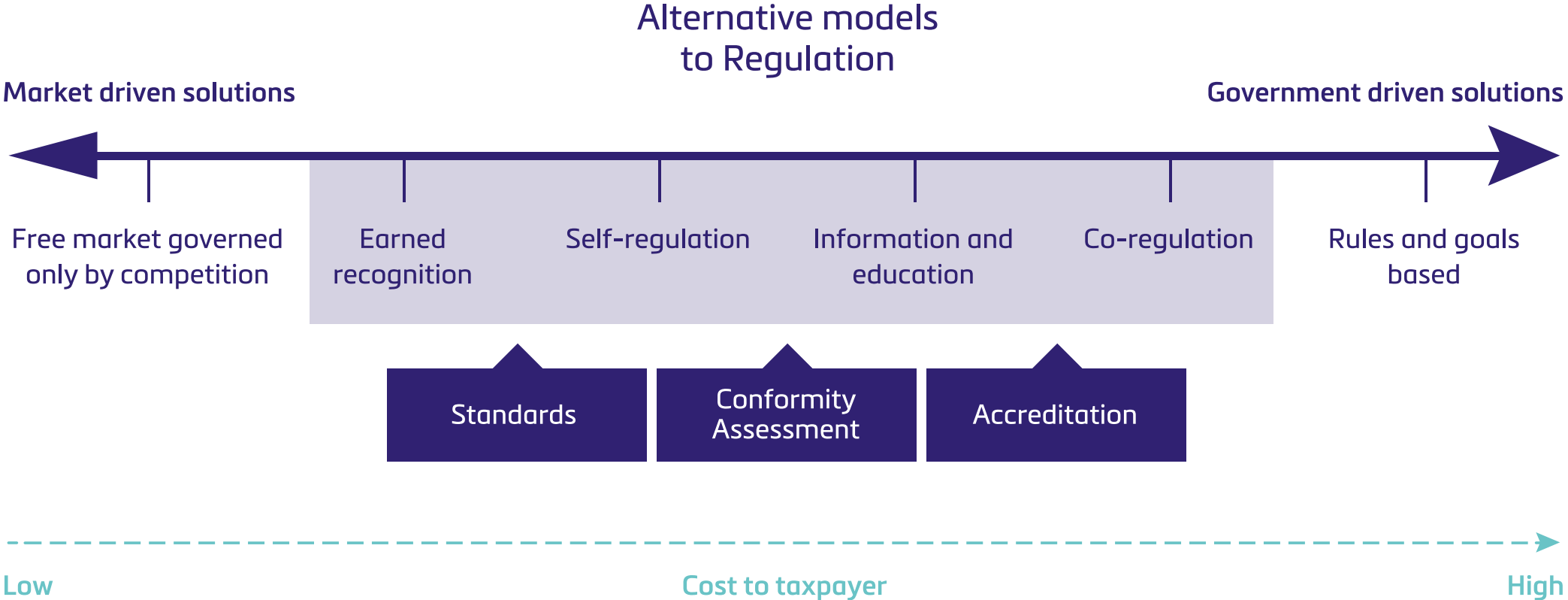

**Food
Standards
Agency**
food.gov.uk

Health Care




NHS

Supporting Government:



UK Gov/BEIS: Conformity Assessment & Accreditation Policy

- + For Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) Accreditation is
 - + applicable to both the regulated and non-regulated sectors.
 - + the topmost level of control for CABs
 - + an authoritative statement of the technical competence
- + Accreditation is a public authority activity and should operate in public interest
- + UKAS should be self-supporting but run as a not-for-profit activity.
- + Accreditation should operate with integrity; independence and impartial and free from commercial pressure.
- + Central to Government policy is the requirement that “where a UK CAB requests accreditation, it shall do so from UKAS as the sole NAB for the UK”.
- + In addition, it recommends UK businesses, government and local authorities requiring third party conformity assessment services to source such services, where they exist, from conformity assessment bodies accredited by UKAS.
- + For conformity assessment bodies established outside of the UK, it recognises the equivalence of their accreditation where delivered by accreditation bodies that are members of the European or international multilateral agreements (i.e. those operated by the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF)).



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

UKAS: Governance & Representation

Government and Regulators



Customer Associations



Business & Industry



Professional bodies and other interests



Consultation and guidance via:

Technical and Market:

- + Technical Advisory Committees
- + External Industry Groups
- + Appointed Technical Focal Points
- + Development Pilots

Strategic/Policy:

- + Policy Advisory Forum (60 members)
- + Policy Advisory Council (Linked to Board)
- + Healthcare Steering Group
- + IR4.0 Steering Group

Defining Accreditation:

Accreditation is the ongoing formal recognition of the competence, impartiality and integrity of a conformity assessment body to perform specific conformity assessment tasks:

Conformity assessment covers:

- + Testing - e.g. Covid-19 antigen tests
- + Inspection - e.g. Passenger lifts
- + Certification – e.g. ISO 9001 Quality Management
- + Verification and validation - e.g. Emissions trading scheme (greenhouse gas reports verification)

Conformity Assessment Body activities:

- + Laboratories - Testing and Medical examinations (ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189)
- + Laboratories – Calibration (ISO/IEC 17025)
- + Certification Bodies - Product certification (ISO/IEC 17065)
- + Certification Bodies - Certification of persons (ISO/IEC 17024)
- + Certification Bodies - Management systems certification (ISO/IEC 17021)
- + Inspection (ISO/IEC 17020)
- + Validation and Verification (ISO 14029)
- + Proficiency Testing Providers (ISO/IEC 17043)
- + Reference Material Producers (ISO 17034)
- + UK Designated/EU Harmonised standards – consensus driven

Mutual Recognition: Equivalence

- + Accreditation is part an international network to ensure equivalence and acceptance of results. It aims to removal of technical barriers to trade
- + Tested, inspected or certified once, accepted everywhere
- + There is mutual recognition agreement (MRAs) at two levels:
 - + Technical recognition between accreditation bodies. Purpose of these MLAs is to allow the accredited conformity assessment of signatories of the MLA to be recognised by other members of the MLA. Hence, the acceptance of products and services across national borders. This is based upon peer evaluation and continued surveillance to ISO17011. Signatories must be declared competent to ISO 17011. EA members must also be compliant with the principles of the EU Accreditation Regulation 765/2008.
 - + Bilateral agreements between states. The objective is to promote trade in goods between nations by facilitating market access and aim to benefit industry by providing easier access to conformity assessment.
- + UKAS is the United Kingdom member of:



International Accreditation Forum



International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation



European Co-operation
for Accreditation

Mutual Recognition: UKAS & EA Membership

- + UKAS is founding member of European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA)
- + UKAS is an active and influential member, over two decades
- + Membership normally requires AB members to be in EU or EFTA Member State or candidate country
- + EA has revised membership criteria with the aim that UKAS remains an EA member
- + As signatory to the EA MLA the accreditation system operated by UKAS continues to be accepted by the other signatories as equivalent to their own accreditation system
- + UKAS's membership of both the ILAC and IAF, including full signatory status of their mutual recognition agreements) have been unaffected by the UK's exit from the EU



European Co-operation
for Accreditation

C19 Pandemic: Adapting to the longer-term

- + Since May 2021: Assessments planned in most optimal way, involving returning to site assessment where essential with risk-based approach
- + With recent lifting of regulatory limits on social contact, increasingly moving back to conducting on-site assessments as a matter of course, but will continue with the “blended” approach.
- + International: More guidance will be produced for International visits – unlikely until late 2022
- + Workplace testing: Still offering customers the option of requesting a negative C19 PCR test result
- + Vaccination: Maintaining vaccination log
- + Consent: Consent from for employees and contractors, via our electronic signature system

Guidance:

- + IAF - ID 3:2011 and IAF ID12:2015.
- + UKAS - TPS62 “Management of Extraordinary Events or Circumstances”, TPS 73 “UKAS Policy on Accreditation and Conformity Assessment During the COVID-19 Outbreak” and TPS 74 Blended Approach to Auditing for Management Systems.



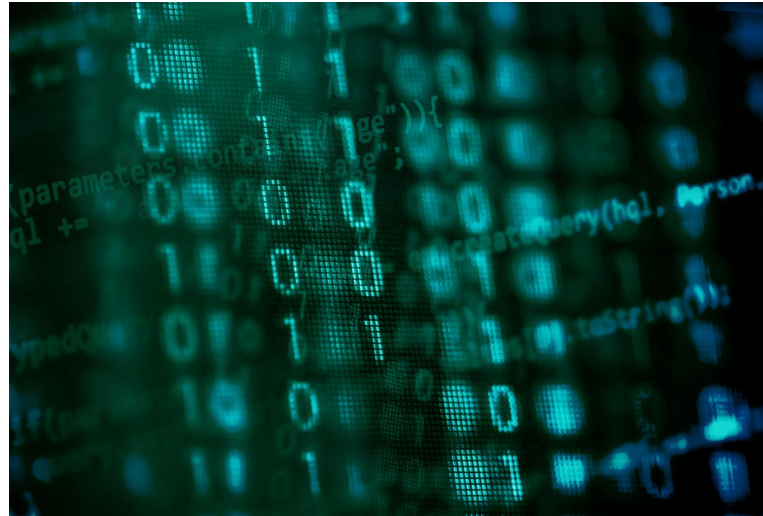
Opportunities & Challenges:

Immediate

- + Built Environment, Construction Products
- + Healthcare (esp. COVID testing)
- + UKCA
- + Forensics
- + Climate change / net zero

Medium to Long Term

- + IR4.0: AI, IoT, Blockchain, Drones, Autonomous Vehicles
- + Information security / GDPR
- + Food provenance and sustainability



Product Certification: UKCA

- + UK Conformity Assessed (UKCA) system came into effect 01 Jan 2021
- + Existing Competent Authorities appoint 'Approved Bodies' on same basis as Notified Bodies, i.e. through UKAS accreditation
- + At next assessment, UKAS will review the CABs changes to reflect the UKCA system
- + Approved Bodies must have an active UK registered office from which key technical policies and decisions are made
- + UKCA Bodies listed on Government database (<https://www.gov.uk/uk-market-conformity-assessment-bodies>)



Developments:

- Customer Portal – Pilot commenced February 1st
- Digital Assessment Tool/Reporting – as above
- Risk Based Assessment – Testing 2021, pilot in Asbestos sector 2022
- Certificate Verification Database – Mid 2022

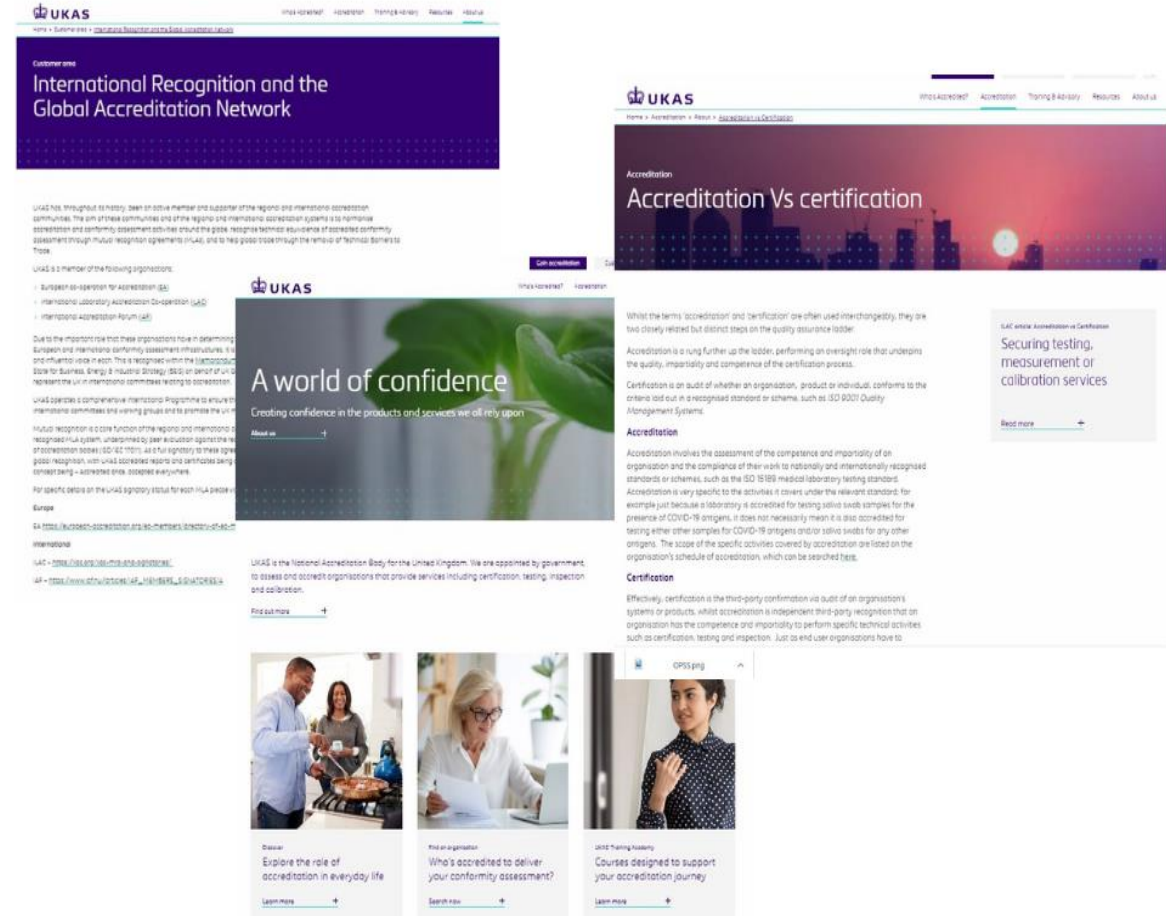


The New Website

Launched January 2021, the refreshed UKAS website is designed to provide easy access to critical information and improve the user experience.

News articles and resources are published weekly to promote the benefit of accreditation and share the advantages experienced by our accredited customers.

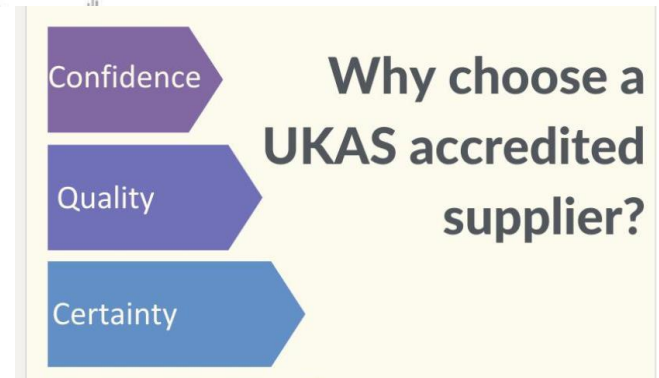
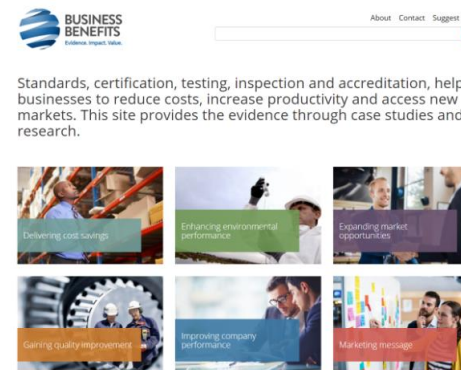
- + Case studies
- + Videos
- + Testimonials
- + Thought leadership



Social Media

Targeted to publish 2-3 posts daily (Mon-Fri) covering UKAS activity, the benefits of accreditation and our role within global accreditation.

- + Trebled number of followers in last 18 months
- + Over 6000 Twitter followers
- + Over 18,000 LinkedIn followers
- + 10-20 weekly posts
- + High engagement rate and click throughs
- + Significant number of shares of UKAS posts
- + Driving awareness of accredited certification



Newsletters

Sharing regular information with registered subscribers on a range of topics.

- + Over 18,000 subscribers to UKAS UPDATE (quarterly)
- + Monthly Publications update
- + Ad-hoc email campaigns to all UKAS customers



Government and Public Relations

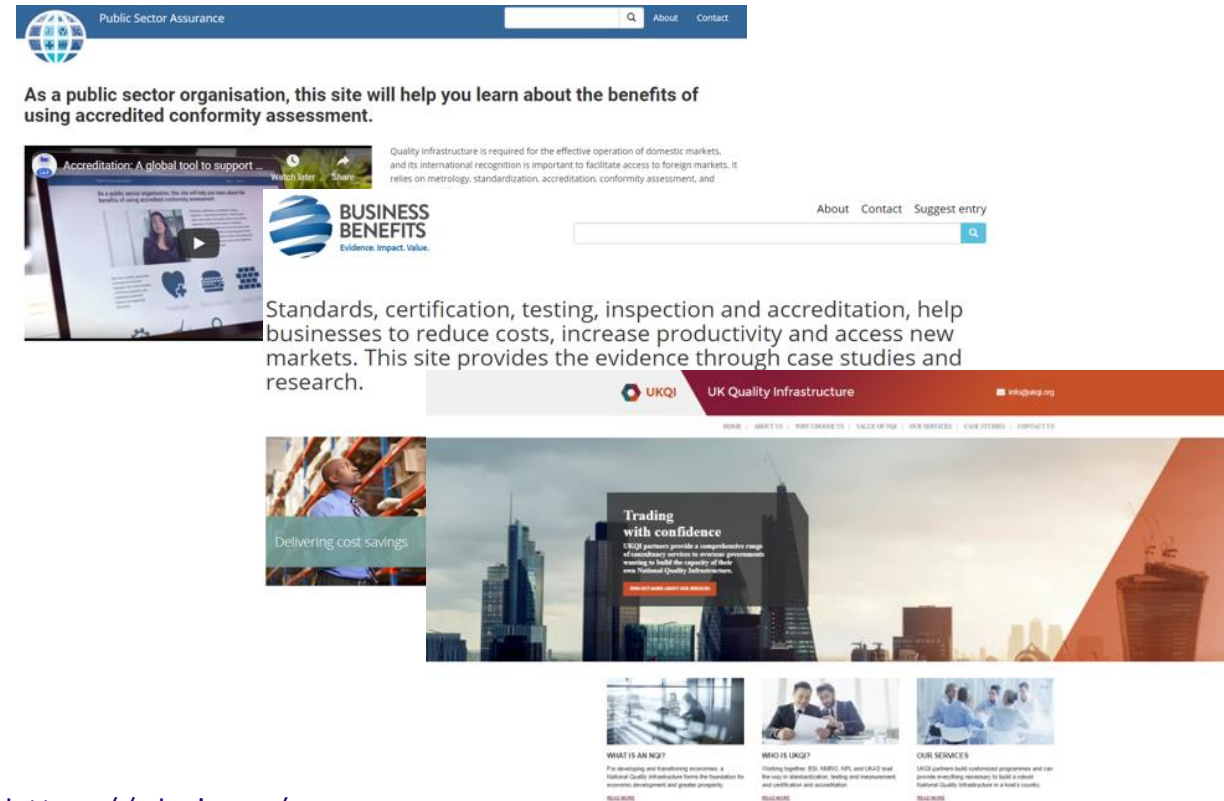
UKAS engages a specialist PR agency to create in-depth articles and thought-leadership to promote the benefits of accreditation.

- + 2-3 articles created monthly
- + Media outlets across all sectors targeted
- + Continuous media monitoring in all sectors
- + Accredited Certification v non accredited underway



Promoting accredited conformity assessment

- + UKAS works alongside IAF, ILAC and EA in the promotion of accredited certification through active participation in committees and working groups.
- + UKAS constantly seeks opportunities to discuss the benefits of accreditation with regulators, sector groups etc.
- + Development of a UKAS database of accredited certification. Free to use, publicly accessible and at no additional cost to our customers. Will provide a single point to verify UKAS accredited management system certification. Should launch in early 2022 and will move onto product certification afterwards
- + Supporting IAF CertSearch to become viable to use and trusted by certification bodies – UKAS recently joined the IAF Database Management Committee to support this initiative
- + UKAS is also contributing to an IAF TFG on counterfeit certification. Aim is to provide guidance and also processes that can be used to undermine and address not only counterfeit certification but also what is being referred to as 'bad actors' i.e. sub-standard CBs that try to pass off their certification as being of equal value to accredited certification.



<https://ukqi.org/>

<https://business-benefits.org/>

<https://publicsectorassurance.org/>

UKAS Training Courses

METHODS

Interactive face-to-face courses delivered by practising Lead Assessors

Virtual Instructor-led Training using Adobe Connect

New eLearning programmes to support with common challenges in accreditation

PORTFOLIO

Certification

17021-1 | 17024 | 17065

Healthcare

IQIPS | QSI | 15189 | 22870

Laboratory Management

17025 | 17043 | Uncertainty

Verification & Validation

17029 | Method Validation

Inspection

17020 | Scene of Crime

The more skilled proficient our customers are in managing their accreditation, the more value accreditation can bring, and the safer products and services will become.

- + Interactive courses utilising applied learning tools
- + Practising Assessors with a wealth of experience in conformity assessment
- + A leading virtual platform
- + Free access to post-course clinics to discuss technical concepts with trainer and peers



I was really impressed with the content and delivery of the course. I wasn't sure what to expect from the virtual environment, but it far exceeded what I imagined it would be like.

Sarah Davies, Magna



Thank you – Questions?
www.UKAS.com

A world of confidence