UKAS Policy Advisory Forum – Health and Social Care Sub-Group

GOVERNMENT’S POLICY ON ACCREDITATION IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The following is the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Department of Health’s agreed policy on accreditation in health and social care.

- UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) is the sole government recognised national accreditation body in accordance with EU Regulation 765/2008 (the legislation that established the legal framework for accreditation in Europe).

- UKAS’ role as the National Accreditation Body thus applies in the health and care sectors as in all others. In accordance with EU and UK legislation health and social care quality assurance schemes should be developed with the engagement of UKAS.

- Where new quality assurance schemes are planned in the NHS or social care, particularly where there is interest in schemes awarding certification or accreditation, their initiators should work with UKAS from an early stage to ensure that the schemes are sufficiently rigorous to meet EU and UK accreditation requirements.

John Mortimer
Senior Advisor Accreditation