

December 2009

We would like to introduce the second ISAS Assessment Manager who started with UKAS on Monday 30th November. Debbie Love is a qualified radiographer with both NHS and private sector experience.

UKAS is continuing to process new ISAS customer applications. Submit an application now to be included in the first cohort of open applications. Capacity limits are determined by the number of authorised assessors and assessment managers available. Once capacity has been reached, we will form a waiting list. All waiting customers will be kept informed of where they are in the queue and their anticipated date for commencement. Further information on how to apply can be found under the [Getting Accredited](#) section.

Following the third ISAS Preparatory Workshop for potential customers, future workshops will now be capped at 30 delegates so that we are able to provide better support and have more time for interaction to answer specific queries throughout the day. There are still a few places available at the Cardiff and London workshops in January 2010 and the Newcastle workshop in March and we are currently in the process of fixing dates for a workshop to be held in Belfast during Spring 2010. Registration information and further details can be found within the [Pre-application Information & Preparatory Workshops](#) section.

The early implementer sites have now begun submitting their first web-based assessment for review by the UKAS Assessment Team. The expectation is that the first organisation will be accredited by early summer 2010, subject to satisfactory completion of all accreditation requirements.

The dates for the next cohort of ISAS assessor training and a copy of the assessor selection, training and appointment process are now available in the [ISAS recruitment and Jobs](#) section. Submit an application now if you would like to be considered for this cohort of training. All authorised assessors will gain CPD for participating in ISAS. The assessor selection and training programme for ISAS has been reviewed by the College of Radiographers and has been deemed as suitable CPD for radiographers. Details are currently being agreed with The Royal College of Radiologists regarding CPD entitlement.

The owners of ISAS (the Colleges) have appointed a team from the University of Hertfordshire and the Institute for Employment Studies to carry out an independent benefits realisation analysis of ISAS. This will involve a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the early implementer sites over the next 18 months.

Preparation is now well underway for UKRC 2010. In addition to the ISAS stand, we will also be holding an early rise session at the conference to inform of progress with ISAS from both customer and assessor perspectives.

And finally, UKAS recently held the annual Think Tank event which, this year, focussed on Quality and Safety in Health Provision. The event was attended by around 50 strategic thinkers representing regulators, patient representatives and care homes and gave opportunity for stimulated debate. Guest speakers included Jamie Rentoul, CQC Director of Regulation and Strategy, Dr Graham Hoadley, National Clinical Lead for Service Improvement, Dr Anna Dixon, Director of Policy at the King's Fund and Sir Duncan Nichol. During his short presentation, Sir Duncan Nichol, a UKAS Non-Executive Director (formerly the Chief Executive of the NHS and Chairman of CPA) said:

"Lord Darzis quality framework is driving the use of accreditation as a mainstream tool to deliver high quality in the NHS"

*Sir Duncan Nichol, UKAS Non-Executive Director (UKAS Think Tank Event, 30th November 2009)*