

## **Revised Principles Document**

### Introduction

The original RISAS documents were issued in May 2006. The scheme now has significant operational experience which has identified potential improvements. In addition, the RISAS Board identified the need for greater clarity in the roles and responsibilities of interested parties and for a document to cover the operation and management of the scheme. A review of the existing principles document also identified sections of text that should be transferred into more detailed scheme documents.

### Changes to RISAS/001 – Principles of the Scheme

The major change to the document is a clear statement of the roles and responsibilities of all the parties involved, including RSSB, Scheme Manager, Accreditation Agency Manager, through RISABs to suppliers and customers. A post of Scheme Manager is created, to be responsible for driving the scheme forward. This post is separate from the post of Accreditation Agency Manager to ensure the impartiality of the Accreditation Agency.

The development of the scheme has identified that there will be a continuing dialogue between a supplier and its RISAB following the assessment, looking at significant changes to the organisation or personnel involved in the work, or where there have been significant issues with the product or service assessed. This is one of the key features of RISAS, for effective investigation and resolution of issues post assessment and generating confidence in the outcome and the supplier.

A User Group has also been established. The aim of the group, which is open to interested parties, is to share best practice and to propose developments and improvements to the scheme.

The other scheme documents are also being updated and an extra document, Operation and Management of RISAS, created, to cover all the requirements of the Scheme.

The updated version of RISAS001 can be found at:

[http://www.risas.co.uk/RISAS/RISAS\\_Marketing/RISAS001%20-%20Issue%203%20-%20Principles.pdf](http://www.risas.co.uk/RISAS/RISAS_Marketing/RISAS001%20-%20Issue%203%20-%20Principles.pdf)

An Archive of old versions of the RISAS documents can be found at:

[http://www.risas.co.uk/RISAS/RISAS\\_Marketing/Archive.zip](http://www.risas.co.uk/RISAS/RISAS_Marketing/Archive.zip)