



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Between

**The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity**

and

**The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences**

This is an agreement between The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity hereinafter called CIMSPA and The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences hereinafter called BASES.

### I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this MOU is to clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each party as they relate to working in partnership to ensure the Sport and Physical Activity sector workforce is aligned to employer needs and supported to achieve excellence.

This MOU is intended to:

- Outline the roles and occupations that each organisation will take responsibility for or work together to support in the development of professional standards.
- Clarify the role of both organisations in setting standards for professionals working in the Sport and Physical Activity sector.
- Outline a partnership approach to degree endorsement.
- Agree the communications plan to HE institutions and members in line with this MOU.

### II. BACKGROUND

**CIMSPA:** Launched in 2011, CIMSPA is the professional development body for the UK's sport and physical activity sector. CIMSPA has been awarded chartered status by the Privy Council, which came into effect at the start of January 2012 and was subsequently review June 2019. CIMSPA provides leadership, support and empowerment for professionals working in sport and physical activity and a single unified voice for the sector.

The Institute holds long term strategic priorities:

- Individuals have a clear route into and through the sector
- The public have confidence in the sector
- Employers have access to the best people
- Education providers stand out from their competitors
- Are the "go-to" for policy makers

The vision statement of the Institute is: To shape a recognised, valued and inclusive sport and physical activity sector that everyone can be part of.

Mission: Through our work we will:

- Allow individuals to realise their potential by having a clear route into and through our sector.
- Provide employers with the best people.
- Ensure the availability of quality and relevant learning and development opportunities.
- Be the lead organisation on sport and physical activity workforce policy.
- Give the public increased confidence in a professional, respectable sector.

**BASES:** Established in 1984, BASES is the professional body and membership association for sport and exercise sciences in the UK. BASES' mission is to deliver excellence in sport and exercise sciences through the promotion of scientific research and evidence-based practice, and the development of professional standards for the sport and exercise sector. BASES has a range of accreditations and endorsements that maintain high standards in sport and exercise science, providing a quality assurance framework for practitioners and laboratories. It is licenced by the Science Council to award Chartered Scientist status to members who meet the requisite standards and criteria. The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) have approved BASES to deliver the Sport and Exercise Psychology Accreditation Route (SEPAR). Successful candidates are then eligible to apply for HCPC registration as a *Practitioner Psychologist*. An agreement was signed in October 2021 whereby BASES would house Clinical Exercise Physiology UK (CEP-UK) within our organisational structure. Clinical Exercise Physiologists are now eligible for professional registration with the Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS). BASES is currently exploring chartered status by the Privy Council Office.

As a company limited by guarantee, the Association's objects are:

- The promotion of research in sport and exercise sciences
- The encouragement of evidence-based practice in sport and exercise sciences
- The distribution of knowledge in sport and exercise sciences
- The development and maintenance of high professional standards for those involved in sport and exercise sciences
- The representation of the interests of sport and exercise sciences nationally and internationally.

### **III. CIMSPA RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU.**

CIMSPA shall undertake the following activities:

- Consult and collaborate with BASES throughout the consultation process for the development of professional standards for the roles identified in Appendix A: sections 1a and 1b
- Refer to *BASES* and *BASES membership* in the professional standards documentation developed for the roles identified in Appendix A: sections 1a and 1b (where applicable).

- Refer to the BASES undergraduate endorsement scheme (BUES), and in the future, the new BASES Post Graduate endorsed courses once piloted, in the professional standards framework for the roles identified in Appendix A: sections 1a and 1b (for graduate-level roles in applied sport and/or exercise).
- Outline via CIMSPA communication channels, i.e., website and social media the purpose of CIMSPA's endorsement of Sport and Exercise Science degree programmes.
- Provide BASES with a quarterly report detailing the degree programmes endorsed by CIMSPA and the Professional Standards they cover.
- Work with BASES to explore the differences and similarities between BASES Undergraduate and Postgraduate endorsement criteria and the CIMSPA endorsement process with the aim of establishing potential for BASES Undergraduate and Postgraduate endorsed courses to be either partially or fully recognised within the CIMSPA endorsement process.
- Invite BASES to contribute to all CIMSPA Higher Education forums and CIMSPA's annual partner conference.
- Invite BASES to have a representative on the Performance Sport Professional Development committee
- Work towards the development of standardised processes for HE programme endorsement
- Ensure key stakeholders (including Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, Public Health England, NHS) provide BASES with the opportunity to contribute to CIMSPA's quarterly newsletter to members and partners.
- Explore where BASES accredited members sit within CIMSPA Chartered membership and what this may mean for individuals who wish to be members of CIMSPA and of BASES

#### **IV. BASES RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU.**

BASES shall undertake the following activities:

- Play a key role in the development and review of professional standards or the roles identified in Appendix A: sections 1a and 1b, by;
  - Attending Professional Development Committee meetings.
  - Providing feedback on standards in development.
  - Engaging key stakeholders to support the development of professional standards.
  - Working with their networks to promote the use of professional standards.
- Support CIMSPA's HE partnership programme by;
  - Attending partner network meetings.
  - Advising on the annual review of BASES endorsement processes for Higher Education Institution's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
  - Sharing learning and insight from the existing BASES undergraduate endorsement scheme (BUES).
  - Work with CIMSPA to explore the differences and similarities between the CIMSPA endorsement process and BASES Undergraduate and Postgraduate endorsement criteria with the aim of establishing potential for CIMSPA endorsement to be either partially or fully recognised within the BASES Undergraduate and Postgraduate endorsement process.

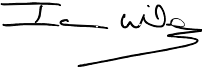

- Provide opportunities for CIMSPA to contribute to the BASES annual conference and communication to member organisations about our joint work.
- Explore where CIMSPA Chartered members sit within BASES accredited membership and what this may mean for individuals who wish to be members of CIMSPA and of BASES

**V. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:**

1. The agreement can be modified on an ongoing basis if agreed by the two parties.
2. The agreement can be terminated should either party does not carry out the actions identified.

**VI. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE**

This MOU shall be in effect upon the signature of Party A's and Party B's authorized officials. It shall be in force from 9 October 2023 to 8 October 2024  
Parties A and B indicate agreement with this MOU by their signatures.

<i>British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES)</i>	Chartered Institute for the Management of Physical Activity Sport (CIMSPA)
Signature: 	Signature: 
Ian Wilson	Colin Huffen MCIMSPA
Chief Executive Officer	Head of Workforce Policy and External Affairs
<i>Date: 9 October 2023</i>	<i>Date: 09/10/2023</i>

## **Appendix A: Further background and detail on areas of work.**

### **1. Responsibility for occupations.**

CIMSPA has outlined a Professional Standards matrix, this can be viewed [here](#).

#### **1a. Roles and occupations that BASES will have responsibility for and for which CIMSPA will refer partners to BASES:**

##### Elite Sport Performance Specialists & Assistants:

- Sport Scientist (interdisciplinary);
- Sport Physiologist;
- Sport Psychologist;
- Sport Biomechanist.
- Performance Analyst
- Sports Skill Acquisition Practitioner

##### Health and Exercise/Fitness Specialists:

- Exercise Scientist (including roles in Applied Clinical Exercise Science, like Clinical Exercise Physiologist);
- Exercise Physiologist;
- Exercise Psychologist;
- Exercise Biomechanist.

#### **1b. Roles and occupations for which CIMSPA and BASES will share responsibility for and will work together to define standards for professionals:**

##### Health and Exercise/Fitness Specialists:

Roles within the Sport and Physical Activity sector that design, deliver and evaluate exercise programmes, and promote health and wellbeing, including professionals working in Exercise Therapy & Rehabilitation and Health Promotion & Disease Prevention (Primary and Secondary), working in the following settings:

- Practitioners working with people with long term or chronic illness;
- Practitioners working with people with moderate health issues;
- Practitioners working with people with no diagnosed health issues to promote or support health and wellbeing.

#### **1c. Roles in which CIMSPA will have responsibility for and develop standards for professionals:**

- All other roles listed in the professional standards library.