Provide information to individuals or groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals



Overview

This standard covers the provision of information to individuals or groups of people on how to promote the health and well-being of animals. You will be able to prepare and provide accurate and complete information and present it in a manner that is suited to your audience.

Users of the standard will need to ensure that their practice reflects up-to-date information and policies, and that they work within the limits of their authority, expertise, training, competence and experience.

The standard is suitable for anyone working with animals with responsibility for providing information to individuals or groups on how to promote the health and well-being of animals.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 maintain a high level of professional competence and ethics
- P2 comply with relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice at all times
- P3 demonstrate good practice in promoting the health and welfare of animals in your own dealings with animals
- P4 prepare and provide information on promoting the health and well-being of animals, which is appropriate to the audience
- P5 provide information which is consistent with the organisation's policy on health promotion
- P6 make relevant appropriate materials available
- P7 provide advice on promoting animal health and well-being in a manner, and at a level and pace that is appropriate to the individual or group you are advising
- P8 provide advice on how risks to animal health and welfare may be reduced
- P9 offer individuals the opportunity to discuss and seek clarification
- P10 recognise the limits of your own knowledge and competence and seek advice from other professionals where appropriate
- P11 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation.

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your professional responsibilities and the need to maintain professional competence
- K2 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice
- K3 the importance of the duty of care for animals and how their welfare needs may be addressed
- K4 good practice in promoting animal health and well-being and how your own behaviour can influence others
- K5 the different ways in which animal health and well-being can be promoted
- K6 the general care requirements for specific animals i.e. nutrition, accommodation, exercise
- K7 the main **sources of information** and how to determine their value
- K8 the limitations of your own knowledge and competence and where to seek advice
- K9 the potential problems and liabilities that may arise, for both you and the organisation, if the wrong information is given
- K10 methods and materials for providing information and how to ensure it meets the needs of your audience
- K11 how to check that information has been understood and how to provide opportunities for clarification
- K12 how to recognise normal behaviour patterns and changes in animal behaviour
- K13 the early signs of changes in behaviour associated with fear, aggression, stress, pain and ill health,
- K14 the difference between health promotion and risk reduction strategies in maintaining animal health and well-being and why both are needed
- K15 the information that is confidential and why
- K16 appropriate records to be kept and the importance of confidentiality and the requirements of the Data Protection Act

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Glossary

Current animal welfare legislation:

- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Sources of information:

- organisations
- publications, websites
- legislation
- social media
- codes of practice

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