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### Overview

This standard covers planning and monitoring the diet and nutrition for animals in your care.

You will need to identify the nutritional requirements of the animals and develop feeding plans containing all the necessary information for those responsible for feeding the animals. You will also need to monitor feeding and evaluate animal health and development and take appropriate action when monitoring reveals problems.

This could be for a variety of species or for a single species in your care.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and ensure that you meet the legal responsibilities for your duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation.

The standard is suitable for those working with animals with specific responsibilities for planning and monitoring animal diet and nutrition.

# LANAnC46

## Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 maintain your own professional conduct and ethics and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
- P2 comply with relevant animal health and welfare and other animal related legislation and codes of practice at all times
- P3 ensure that work is carried out in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
- P4 select and implement appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures and ensure they are maintained
- P5 specify arrangements for the recycling or disposal of waste in accordance with legal and organisational procedures
- P6 plan diets to meet the nutritional needs of animals in your care, considering **relevant factors**
- P7 communicate effectively with others and seek professional advice when necessary
- P8 produce feeding plans in a level of detail sufficient to allow others to implement them
- P9 evaluate, select and source suitable nutritional foodstuffs to meet the requirements of the feeding plans
- P10 implement and monitor procedures for storage and stock rotation
- P11 ensure facilities, supplies, equipment and any other resources required (including staffing) are available
- P12 ensure that everyone involved in the implementation of the feeding plans has the skills and knowledge required to carry out the activities
- P13 monitor and review the effectiveness of diets and feeding plans on animal health, well-being and performance
- P14 make modifications, if necessary, to the feeding plans which are consistent with feedback received and the needs of the animals concerned
- P15 ensure appropriate records are maintained as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

# LANAnC46

## Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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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 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K4 the importance of implementing appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures and how this can be achieved
- K5 legal and organisational requirements for the handling, storage and disposal of waste
- K6 the factors that should be taken into consideration when planning animal diets and providing **nutritional requirements**
- K7 the main sources of information available to establish nutritional requirements
- K8 where and when to seek advice and guidance on the planning of animal diet and nutritional requirements
- K9 how to formulate a diet and calculate nutritional requirements for different animal species, life stages and levels of activity
- K10 the effect of malnutrition on animal health and welfare (deficiency and excess)
- K11 the importance of body scoring when managing animal nutrition
- K12 the characteristics and function of different foodstuffs
- K13 the different forms of foodstuff available, and allowable under legislation, and what needs to be considered
- K14 the role of supplements and nutraceuticals
- K15 the reasons for including any dietary additives or substitutes and the legislation that relates to such inclusion (e.g. the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985)
- K16 the types of commercial substitute foods and vitamin/mineral supplements available, quantities required, common side effects or adverse effects of inaccurately calculated levels
- K17 the different types of nutrients and their impact on animal health and welfare
- K18 lifestyles, diseases and illnesses that require special diets
- K19 how to develop feeding plans based on the objectives and available

## LANAnC46

### Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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- resources, including behavioural requirements of the animals and the use of feeding as enrichment and its use in training
- K20 the importance of briefing and maintaining communications with those involved in the implementation of the feeding plans
- K21 the factors to be monitored including animal behaviour and condition, quantities being eaten, and costs of feeding
- K22 how to calculate the effectiveness of a feeding plan in achieving animal growth, development and performance
- K23 the importance of reviewing and revising the feeding plan to ensure it continues to meet objectives
- K24 the importance of establishing and maintaining diet and nutrition records

## LANAnC46

### Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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#### Scope/range

#### Relevant factors to consider when planning diets:

- 1 species feeding behaviours and dietary needs
- 2 purpose for which the animal is being kept
- 3 life stages
- 4 levels of activity
- 5 condition score or weight
- 6 health
- 7 prevention/management of disease
- 8 enrichment and use in training

# LANAnC46

## Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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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

**Nutritional requirements:** food; water; supplementary food

## LANAnC46

### Plan and monitor animal diet and nutrition

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<b>Developed by</b>	Lantra
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Lantra
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Licensed Animal Technologist; Senior Animal Technologist; Team Leader; Animal Facility Manager; Animal Care
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<b>Suite</b>	Animal Care and Welfare; Animal Technology
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<b>Keywords</b>	animal; nutrition; diet; feeding plans
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