## Develop and implement a horse care policy



#### **Overview**

This standard is for those who are responsible for policy making decisions and the management of horses.

It involves developing and implementing a horse care and stable management policy for working or breeding horses in order to optimise their health and condition. It also involves managing the horses under stress, including being able to recognise when a horse needs specialist help, communicating with the specialist, evaluating the effectiveness of the specialist input and the progress of the horse.

- Care
- Nutrition
- · Sickness and stress.

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P9

P10

# Performance criteria

You must be able to:	P1	Formulate a policy based on an evaluation of horse welfare, the business plan and staff resources
	P2	Ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy conform to legislative requirements and best current practice
	P3	Communicate and make the policy available to the relevant personnel
	P4	Evaluate the policy against stated aims and objectives at agreed intervals
	P5	Act on the decisions resulting from evaluation promptly
	P6	Supervise the effective implementation of the policy
	P7	Organise suitable accommodation, environment and daily care for the horse
	P8	Monitor the health and well-being of the horse and evaluate against horse care policy

Identify the need for specialist input and take appropriate action

Ensure that the actions prescribed by the specialist are carried out by

- P12 Instigate appropriate action in response to any health and welfare issues
- P13 Communicate effectively at all times with staff.

relevant personnel

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# Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1	How to evaluate horse welfare against the business plan and staff
	resources to formulate a policy
K2	How to monitor and evaluate policy against aims and objectives
K3	Internal parasites, design of worming programmes
K4	The requirements for foot and shoeing, remedial shoeing
K5	Vaccination programmes and their inclusion in the policy
K6	Types of stabling, housing and bedding and their effect on horse health and well-being
K7	The physiology and psychology of horses
K8	Effective stable management routines
K9	Welfare, legislation, insurance and passport regulations
K10	Management of staff and personnel
K11	Care of older horses, retired horses and horses at the end of their working life
K12	How to assess the condition, health and well-being of the horse
K13	Factors which determine when specialist input is needed
K14	The relationship between different specialists and professional groups,
	the role of alternative therapies, the physiotherapist and the nutritionist
K15	The definition of stress and the recognition and understanding of
	factors contributing to stress in horses
K16	Methods of treatment for different categories of ailment, including metabolic, trauma, disease and lameness
K17	Implications of not administering treatment correctly and the

importance of monitoring response to treatment.

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