Maintain and develop the performance of dogs



Overview

This unit is about maintaining the performance of dogs and developing them for their role in the organisation.

There are two elements

- 1 Maintain the performance of dogs
- 2 Maintain and develop the performance of dogs through training exercises

Target Group

This unit is appropriate to all staff working with dogs in the custodial environment.

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Performance criteria

Maintain the performance of dogs

You must be able to:

- P1 correctly prepare the dog for work
- P2 handle and control the dog in a way that maintains its performance and safety
- P3 give clear and meaningful commands to the dog at the appropriate time
- P4 monitor the dog's obedience by its response to commands and take the appropriate action if the dog does not respond correctly
- P5 use equipment correctly and effectively according to manufacturers' instructions and organisational procedures
- P6 encourage the dog to perform to the best of its ability and offer the appropriate reward and praise
- P7 provide the dog with rest from the training according to the needs of the dog
- P8 provide the dog with the necessary care to maintain its performance
- P9 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others during the work

Maintain and develop the performance of dogs through training exercises

You must be able to:

- P10 develop the dog's performance through approved training exercises
- P11 develop the dog appropriately for its role in the organisation
- P12 use equipment correctly and effectively according to manufacturers' instructions
- P13 use clear and meaningful commands during training exercises
- P14 monitor the dog's obedience by its response to commands and take the appropriate action if the dog does not respond correctly
- P15 encourage the dog to perform to the best of its ability and offer the appropriate reward and praise
- P16 maintain a relationship with the dog that encourages best performance
- P17 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others during the work

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to prepare the dog for work
- K2 how to handle and control a dog during operational duties
- K3 how to maintain the health, safety and welfare of the dog during operational duties and training exercises
- K4 the common commands to use during operational duties and training exercises
- K5 how to give commands to the dog clearly and meaningfully
- K6 the reasons why it is important to monitor the dog's obedience through its response to commands
- K7 the actions to take if the dog is not responding to commands in the required way
- K8 how to use dog handling equipment, including leads, collars and check chains
- K9 the types of training routines and exercises that are used to improve fitness, responsiveness and operational performance
- K10 how to develop the performance of dogs through training exercises
- K11 how to use training equipment effectively
- K12 the various roles of dogs in the organisation and how to train for different roles
- K13 the need for rest and reward and how to identify when these are necessary
- K14 the relationship that gets the best performance from the dog
- K15 how to maintain the health and safety of yourself and others during operational duties and training exercises
- K16 your responsibilities under health and safety, and animal welfare legislation

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