

## Overview

This standard is about being able to assess harness horses for continued use in harness. This could be following an accident, incident, injury or illness. It includes being able to determine the behaviour and level of training of the horses, and evaluating their suitability for being re-trained to continue to work in harness.

The standard includes being able to assess harness horses for future use or training for use for insurance and legal/expert witness purposes.

It also includes assessing welfare case horses for suitability for training to harness.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

You will need to ensure the safety of yourself and others and the welfare of the horses, at all times.

## Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. clarify the reason for carrying out an assessment of the harness horse for its continued use in harness
2. devise methods of safely and humanely assessing the horse's current behaviour
3. assess the horse for its suitability for continued work in harness
4. evaluate the horse for insurance and legal/expert witness purposes
5. report on the suitability of the horse for rehabilitative training
6. assess hazards and control the risks to horses, yourself and others in connection with this activity

## Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. your role and responsibilities in assessing the harness horse for suitability for its continued use in harness
2. the importance of clarifying the reason why the horse needs to be assessed, and the circumstances of any accident or incident in which the horse was involved
3. the effect of horse behaviour and temperament on continued use in the harness
4. the criteria that will determine whether the horse is suitable for rehabilitative training
5. safe, humane and effective methods of determining the horse's behaviour and temperament
6. how to determine and meet evaluation targets
7. how to write a report on the suitability of the horse for rehabilitative training
8. how to prepare a report for insurance and legal/expert witness purposes
9. how to ensure the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horses, throughout the activity

Assess harness horses for continued use in harness

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