

Overview

"This standard covers the key activities that are required to monitor and maintain health, safety and security when working with equines.

To maintain health, safety and security in the workplace you are required to take reasonable care of the health and safety of yourself and anyone involved in or affected by your work. You are also required to co-operate and work with others to help them comply with their duties under health and safety legislation.

You will need to be aware of the main risks to health, safety and security in your workplace and any control measures or safe systems of work in place and be able to follow the procedures in the event of an accident or emergency.

You will follow set health and safety procedures and be able to recognise unsafe work situations or hazards and take action to deal with these or bring them to the attention of the responsible person. You will also consider the effect of your actions on the environment and minimise environmental damage.

You need to be aware of your own limitations and confirm that you meet the relevant legal responsibilities for providing your duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and policies of the business

The responsible person can be anyone who has responsibility for the equine such as the owner, trainer, groom or hoof care practitioner.

This standard is for anyone who works with equines."

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. work professionally and ethically and within the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2. comply with the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice
3. carry out your work in accordance with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and policies of the business
4. select and wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
5. identify risks to health, safety or security in the workplace
6. monitor and maintain hygiene and biosecurity in accordance with the relevant legislation and business practice
7. seek guidance on measures to control unfamiliar risks arising from non-routine work situations
8. follow procedures and adopt a safe system of work when working alone or in a potentially threatening situation
9. use equipment and materials in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and any training you have undertaken
10. follow relevant procedures safely and without delay in an emergency
11. transport any equipment and materials safely and store them at an approved location when not in use
12. maintain the safety and security of equipment and machinery on site
13. use approved methods of moving, lifting and handling equipment
14. perform your work in a manner that minimises environmental damage
15. take action where incidents affect the health and safety of yourself and anyone else involved in the work
16. deal with waste in accordance with the relevant legislation and business practice
17. maintain communication with all those involved in, or affected by your work
18. confirm that records are completed, maintained and stored as required by the relevant legislation and business practice

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. your professional responsibilities and the need to maintain professional competence
2. your responsibilities under the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and the policies of your business
3. your responsibilities under current animal health and welfare legislation, other relevant animal regulations and codes of practice
4. the type of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
5. the importance of maintaining personal and workplace hygiene and biosecurity and the methods for achieving this
6. the health and safety risks when approaching, handling and working with equines
7. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of equipment and machinery when on site
8. the risks associated with lone working and the need for safe systems of work
9. the risks of personal injury or health problems associated with your work and how these can be minimised
10. the effects of adopting safe working practices on long-term personal health and career
11. the basic emergency first aid procedures and accident recording
12. why inadequate measures to control risks should be reported to the responsible person and that corrective action needs to be taken
13. the importance of following manufacturer's data sheets and organisational instructions on the use of hazardous substances and the risks of not doing so
14. the procedures for different types of emergencies relevant to your work with equines
15. how the procedures to take for specific emergencies may be affected by your location
16. different types of fire extinguishers and their use, relevant to the area you work in
17. how to handle, transport, store and dispose of different types of waste in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
18. how to transport and store equipment and materials safely, including gas where applicable
19. organisational requirements regarding the security of the workplace and the relationship between security and safety in the workplace
20. how and why accidents should be reported

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21. how disease can be transferred to other animals or humans
 22. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
 23. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them in accordance with relevant organisational codes of practice and legislation"

Glossary

"Equine: a horse or other member of the horse family including donkeys, mules, hinnies and asses.

Hazard: is anything that may cause harm; these can be hazards to physical health such as chemicals, electricity, working from ladders, an open drawer or to mental health – if, for example the common causes of work-related mental ill health e.g. demands, control and support for individuals are not properly managed in the workplace

Risk: is the chance, high or low, that somebody could be harmed by these and other hazards, together with an indication of how serious the harm could be

Risk Assessment: As part of managing the health and safety of your business, you must control the risks in your workplace. To do this you need to think about what might cause harm to people and decide whether you are taking reasonable steps to prevent that harm."

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