



Approved Criteria

Livery Centres





Approved Livery Centre Criteria Introduction

Welcome to the assessment criteria for becoming a BHS Approved Livery Centre

Whether you offer DIY, Part, Assisted, Full Livery or a combination of all, we're really pleased you're interested in our Approved Centre Scheme! The purpose of this document is to share with you information about the scheme and how it can benefit your business. In this we cover what it takes to join the scheme and explain the process from initial application through to becoming a member of a growing community of like-minded equestrian businesses. We'll also explain the support that is available to you through a regional dedicated business support manager throughout the process, their key focus being to help you with any questions you may have throughout your application and beyond. As we know, livery provision is currently unregulated, and we firmly believe that the quality of provision and standards of working practice in our centres underpin the quality standards assure horse owners that their horse's needs are being catered for. We therefore take enormous pride and are honoured to have many centres on our various membership schemes all of whom, based on their catchment area and business model, have very differing offers to not only retain but importantly, attract new clients.

How do I start

Let us know you're interested by contacting us at approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk or call us on 02476 840509 and your Business Support Manager will reach out to you and help guide you through the journey, from submitting an application through to helping you prepare for your initial inspection. What to expect at a Centre Assessment? At a time, convenient to you, an Approved Centre Inspector will visit whereby they'll observe the horses and ponies in your care and gain an overview of the general everyday working practice and activities. All of this helps them to understand how your Centre operates. Throughout the visit, informal discussions allow plenty of time for equal sharing of questions and understanding whilst reviewing the scheme criteria. This document explains the areas that are assessed during the inspectors visit with successful assessment being met through a combination of submitting essential documents, self declaring meeting requirements where applicable, and the practical observations and recommendations of the Centre Inspector on the day of your assessment. What's looked for in each assessment area is explained further on. What's looked for in each assessment area is explained further on. During your first year of membership, Centres can gain grading for becoming Approved. After your first year on the scheme, for Centres who wish to, there's option to progress for assessment in to the Highly Commended sections in the areas that specifically apply to you and your business.

What to expect at a Centre Assessment?

At a time convenient to you, an Approved Centre Inspector will visit whereby they'll observe the horses and ponies in your care and gain an overview of the general everyday working practice and activities. All of this helps them to understand how your Centre operates. Throughout the visit, informal discussions allow plenty of time for equal sharing of questions and understanding whilst reviewing the scheme criteria. This document explains the areas that are assessed during the inspectors visit with successful assessment being met through a combination of submitting essential documents, completion of a self declaration form and, if applicable, the practical observations and recommendations of the Centre Inspector on the day

What's looked for in each assessment area is explained further on, and after your first year of membership, for Centres who wish to, there's option to progress for assessment in to the Highly Commended sections in the areas that specifically apply to you and your business.

How we can help

How we can help Our. Whether you are in need of a risk assessment template, or advice on how to meet the Safeguarding requirements, you will have access to templates and data sheets. Our friendly team is always happy to help so if you aren't sure about any aspect, simply contact BHS Approved Centre Operations at approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk or call 02476 840509

Livery Centre - Horse Care






Overall Expectation:

The well-being of the horse is the most important reputational aspect for any successful equestrian establishment. Meeting the daily and routine health care, exercise and welfare needs of all horses and ponies should always be the highest priority. Centres will need to have sufficient knowledge and experienced staff to ensure acceptable horse care standards are maintained throughout all seasons. This will require Centres to accept responsibility that horses and ponies kept on any type of livery arrangement, will be overseen by personnel with the required knowledge and authority to ensure acceptable welfare standards are maintained for all horses and ponies kept at the Centre. Providing suitable shelter/accommodation and minimising risk of disease through an effective isolation procedure/facility and a preventative fire risk assessment being in place are some of the required measures involved in helping to keep horses and ponies safe. Centres are encouraged to proactively maintain as a minimum, plans for routine healthcare aspects, for example having a proactive approach in the management of preventative worm burden through to consideration of 'emergency' care plans for horses and ponies kept at the Centre.

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 There are suitably experienced people with the knowledge and competence to ensure horse care and welfare needs are being met	✓	✓	✓	A1 We will need a list of staff working at the Centre that includes any equine qualifications and what their role is in the Centre. We have a staff list template to make this easier
A2 All horses should be microchipped and have a valid equine passport			✓	
A3 Evidenced by their appearance and condition, all horses to have a regular care programme that includes exercise/grooming/ time out of stable	✓		✓	
A4 There is a livery contract in place which clearly defines the horse owner and livery yard responsibilities regarding meeting routine healthcare and any exercise needs for the horse	✓		✓	A4 An agreement that details how healthcare, welfare and exercise needs are to be met, including planning for emergency situations to ensure welfare is maintained. Template available

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A5 Each horse to have constant access to clean water, appropriate shelter with their dietary needs being correctly met	✓		✓	A5 This would be assessed through observation during the inspection visit and discussing with you how you manage horses in your care
A6 Each horse is attended to regularly by a. a registered farrier to ensure feet are well maintained b. either a veterinarian or a qualified dentist to ensure teeth are maintained	✓		✓	
A7 There is a worm prevention plan in place	✓		✓	A7 This would be explaining to the inspector what preventative measures are taken to minimise the risk of worm burden for all horses
A8 An isolation area, either stabling or a separate, sheltered and separately supplied paddock	✓		✓	A8 This doesn't have to be completely separate, for some Centres, this might be a restricted area or paddock with natural shelter and water supply
A9 A written isolation / biosecurity plan is in place and adhered to that explains how a Centre minimises risk or spread of disease	✓		✓	A9 Whilst helping to provide isolation if needed, having a plan helps to protect all involved. We have Template available
A10 A written preventative fire risk assessment and evacuation procedure that explains what's being done to minimise risk of fire, your evacuation procedures and communication plans	✓	✓	✓	A10 A legal requirement for all businesses that should also capture recording of any practice fire drills. We have templates available. Further guidance can be found here https://www.bhs.org.uk/search/?query=fire+safety
A11 Stable yards and surrounding areas should be kept free from risk of excessive equipment/storage that could compromise entrance/exit routes	✓			A11 Stables, yard and surrounding areas should be safe, accessible and well maintained with minimal potential for hazards that can lead to avoidable incidents for both horses and humans

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A12 All accommodation, whether barn/crew/yard/shelter or individual stables must be well ventilated, safe in construction with height and size sufficient to allow comfort and movement for the horse, thus encouraging those permanently stabled to lie down	✓			A12 All accommodation should have secure fixtures and fittings, be free from hazards or leaks, doors at suitable height/width which open/close freely and light to allow for suitable inspection of a horses' health
A13 Stables, including those with rubber matting, should have sufficient clean bedding to ensure comfort and cleanliness for the horse	✓			A13 Rubber matting should be secure and cover the flooring area with no gaps between the edges. Bedding provided must be clean and positioned to encourage lying down and enabling the horse to stale. The bedding area should be large enough that should the horse need to roll, the entire body should be able to remain on the bedding. For example, only positioning bedding in a corner of a stable may restrict access to staling (urination) and limit 'soak-up' of urine. E.g. https://www.bhs.org.uk/horse-care-and-welfare/health-care-management/stable-management-and-bedding/bedding-types/
A14 The feed room and storage areas need to be dry, clean and tidy with vermin proof storage a. For horses in the care of the Centre, there should be a legible up to date feed chart b. Where provision of feed is the responsibility of the horse owner, the storage system for feed should remain individual to each horse	✓			A14 Although ideally a separate feed room or area, the main thing is that it shouldn't be accessible to horses should one escape and feel hungry!
A15 An equine first aid kit that only contains up to date items	✓		✓	A15 For example, if kept in a feed room for convenience, they should be in a lockable cupboard / draw and clearly labelled regarding which horse

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
<p>A16 For horses kept on a DIY or an Assisted Care system, an 'Emergency Care Plan' should be in place for each horse with provision for emergency Equine First Aid</p>				<p>A16 If not covered in livery agreements, then such plans help to inform for emergencies – below offers a template for use https://www.bhs.org.uk/our-work/welfare/our-campaigns/react</p>
<p>A17 Prescription Only Meds (POM's) should be a. kept in a restricted area or lockable provision with a nominated person responsible for administration b. For horses kept on a DIY or Assisted Care system, the Centre should be informed and agree a system for safe management and administration</p>				<p>A17 Ideally with a list of contents and someone nominated as being responsible for checking all are up to date</p>

Livery Centre - Client Experience



Overall Expectation:

Overall Expectation: All Centres are busy and those with a tidy appearance, professional outlook and good working practices all contribute to a positive experience for clients and their horses. Friendly and welcoming staff all serve to enhance the first and lasting impression.

Visual demonstration that a Centre is making commitment to the safety and enjoyment of their clients when spending time with their supports a genuine ethos of good customer care, and in turn contributes to a positive experience for all.

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 Centres should be clean and tidy, creating a good impression through making sure there are no hazards or unnecessary clutter or rubbish that looks unsightly	✓			A1 Elderly premises are fine as long as they are well maintained and fit for purpose. Keeping all areas clean and tidy.
A2 Friendly staff with the confidence to acknowledge and welcome clients / visitors	✓			A2 For example, do they offer a 'hello' and enquire if help is needed?
A3 There are clean toilets with handwashing facilities	✓			A3 Are regular checks in place to ensure such amenities remain accessible and fit for purpose?
A4 All client communications are compliant with data protection requirements			✓	A4 Do you have a privacy policy or data protection policy that explains how you manage client data or is help needed? Guidance and a Template available
A5 There is a support system in place for livery clients and their horses, with a clear system for all communications	✓		✓	A5 Is help available and do clients know who to approach?
A6 Where used, the Centre website and any social media platforms, such as Facebook, are accurate and up to date	✓		✓	A6 Check to see when your last update was done. Does it accurately represent you with up-to-date prices and event details

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A7 All riders should wear hats that meet current British safety standards. Poster display recommended			✓	A7 You can access information here https://www.bhs.org.uk/go-riding/riding-out-hacking/what-to-wear/hats-and-helmets/
A8 The yard, stables and surrounding areas should be fitted with adequate lighting for clients to be able to carry out routine horse care activities safely and easily in all seasons.	✓		✓	A8 For example, is lighting sufficient to allow for reduced daylight in winter months and are systems in place when conditions are freezing
A9 Clearly visible, legible Fire Procedures are in place	✓		✓	A9 For example, what to do in the event of a fire, emergency signage and meeting points etc.
A10 Fire drills are undertaken on a regular basis, as a minimum, every year	✓		✓	A10 It's a legal requirement for any business to undertake and record the date of when fire drills are undertaken - https://www.bhs.org.uk/search/?query=fire+safety .

Livery Centre - Hacking and Riding Out



Overall Expectation:

We recognise that not centres have access to plentiful safe hacking routes with access to safe and enjoyable off-road hacking being considered a premium and a high priority for many riders. After initial approval, where a Centre can offer direct access (with minimal roadwork) to quality hacking routes then the allocated grade for this area will be considered for higher standards providing the below initial criteria for approval can be met.

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 There is a system for recording client estimated route/return time for when unaccompanied riders are hacking off site	✓		✓	A1 The purpose for this is to forewarn should a rider not return when expected, e.g. an easily accessible wipe board
A2 There is a code of conduct (guidance) for clients that promotes safe practice when riding out	✓		✓	A2 For example, recommending use of PPE, Hi-viz to increase visibility, mobile phone, emergency contact, use of What3Words or similar – a template is available if required
A3 Where centres provide riding out routes on-site (out of the arena situation), such routes are supported with suitability guidance for riders	✓		✓	A3 Information would include approximate duration/variety in terrain and accessibility

Livery Centre - Grassland and Turnout



Overall Expectation:

Access to turnout or grazing on well-maintained grassland is often considered a premium at many equestrian centres. Such restrictions may exist due to the location and accessibility to suitable land or seasonal influences such as inclement weather and effectiveness of soil drainage. Safe and secure turnout or grassland with access to water and shelter and an effective management programme forms the basis of assessment for BHS Approval. This assessment also includes seasonal grazing, alternative grazing such as a track system, and turn out that may be off site from the Centre. Turnout areas can include use of all-weather surfaced areas that have been provided to allow for situations when access to grassland is restricted. Utilising their knowledge upon individual horses when determining either herd/group or individual turnout situations, Centres should manage an appropriate schedule or rota system for access to their grassland and turnout

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 All boundary and divisional fencing should be safe, in a good state of repair and well maintained	✓		✓	A1 Fencing materials can be found as an appendix at the end of the criteria
A2 Grazing/turnout areas should be safe and easily accessible with secure field gates allowing easy access/egress	✓		✓	A2 For example, do gates easily open/close and is there provision of a 'walk through' if needed
A3 There is safe access to a continual supply of clean water	✓		✓	A3 For example, ground conditions don't prohibit safe access for horses or people
A4 Where water supply is reliant upon natural sources, such as springs or streams, there should be checks and alternative supply arrangements in place for a. pollution risk b. low water levels c. ease of access d. ensuring horses cannot wander/escape fields	✓		✓	
A5 The grazing/turnout area is well maintained with a system for the management of droppings	✓		✓	A5 For example, dropping removal or harrowing with rest periods for grazing areas

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A6 An effective plan for ongoing maintenance of fields with systems in place to promote pasture quality, such as removal of weeds, poisonous plants or dangerous objects	✓		✓	A6 For example, the risk of over-grazing or a 'horse-sick' appearance to fields is minimal. For information upon poisonous plants https://www.bhs.org.uk/horse-care-and-welfare/health-care-management/pasture-management/poisonous-plants/
A7 Paddocks/turnout area to be relevant to requirement e.g. allowing safe stocking ratios for either grazing or turnout	✓		✓	A7 At your inspection, you'll be able to explain how you manage your grazing and turnout system
A8 Horses should have access to natural shelter appropriate to any seasonal conditions whether extreme heat or rain	✓		✓	A8 Access to shelter should consider factors such as duration of turnout and companionship
A9 Individual horse needs are considered when determining suitability of herd/stocking/ ratios/available acreage and access to grazing, e.g. provision for those at risk of laminitis/obesity and appropriate herd groupings	✓		✓	

Livery Centre - Facilities



Overall Expectation:

This assessment area reviews the facilities that a Centre provides for livery clients to use with their horse(s). Each Centre will differ according to their own business activities, client base, available space and catchment area. Alongside being clean and tidy and well maintained, any facilities provided should enhance the experience for clients and their horse. All facilities should be constructed and utilised with safety and practicality being of the foremost importance

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 Where a Centre has arena (s) they should be positioned in a secure area to minimise risk of straying should a horse become loose	✓			A1 - A3 Not all livery yards require an arena, for example those situated with direct access for hacking
A2 Any riding arena or area to be relevant in size and type to the yard activities	✓		✓	
A3 Arena(s) should have: a. A gateway/entrance wide enough for safe entry and exit of horses, that allows vehicle access for both maintenance and in case of emergency b. a level arena surface, with equipment in place to ensure regular maintenance of the surface occurs c. working drainage to support the surface and enable use throughout the year d. a surface free from excessive dust or an effective watering system to minimise dust	✓		✓	
A4 Where fenced in, the perimeter fencing on an outdoor arena should be safely constructed	✓		✓	A4 Smooth surfaced materials, such as wooden rails or arena walls at height compatible to use, as a guide minimum 4ft 6/1.4m

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A5 Where a covered arena is fitted with kicking boards, these should have a smooth surface, be free from sharp edges/holes	✓		✓	A5 Ideally there should be no protrusions inside or into an arena, any unavoidable (non-removable) protrusions should be padded to minimise risk of injury
A6 Any spectator viewing areas with a glass frontage should feature safety glass in their construction	✓		✓	
A7 If any arena mirrors are in place, they should be safely positioned and fitted in accordance to the manufacturers advice.			✓	
A8 Any arena equipment, such as jump wings, poles etc when not in use are safely stored	✓		✓	A8 This would be an agreed location, adhered to by all to minimise risk from clutter etc and to enable full use of arena by other users
A9 If a Centre provides equipment for client use, it must be safe and well maintained for example: mounting blocks and arena equipment	✓		✓	A9 This would be relevant to the Centre, but where jumps are used with back rails on jump stands, then safety cups should be provided for use
A10 Where relevant to the livery arrangement, safe storage is available for meeting DIY or an assisted livery provision, for example: a. mucking out tools, grooming kit etc b. feed, forage and bedding	✓		✓	A10 Areas should be dry, well lit to enable all year usage and space available (for individual horses) clarified in induction/livery agreement
A11 There is safe provision for storage of required rugs			✓	A11 As minimum, there should be room for storage of rugs in daily (seasonal) use for each individual horse that does not obstruct stable ventilation or view and allows for airing/drying of rugs

Livery Centre - Safeguarding



Overall Expectation:

A key benefit of BHS Approved Centres is their understanding and support for applying best practice principles for Safeguarding in equestrianism. Not only does this offer assurance and protection for Proprietors, their employees and clients alike, it also promotes an inclusive approach through promotion of safety and well-being of all groups at a BHS Approved Centre.

All BHS Approved Centres which have children attending their Centre are required to comply with the BHS Safeguarding policy as a pre-requisite for such Centres to join the scheme. This involves nominating a Centre Safeguarding Officer (CSO) who is the person within the Centre who has competence, currency and authority to ensure adherence to the Safeguarding policy.

Centres who do not have any children attending their premises would need to submit our supplied self-declaration to this effect.

The BHS Approved Centre Business Support Team can help to advise and support Centres through provision of all relevant guidance and information that they may need

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
<p>A1 The Centre Proprietor, or a delegated person, is responsible for ensuring that all required Criminal Record checks have taken place on staff and volunteers.</p> <p>a. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland checks are legally required on all individuals who work or volunteer in 'regulated activity'</p> <p>b. In Scotland they are required on all individuals who are in 'regulated work'</p> <p>c. In Ireland Checks are required when working with children and vulnerable adults. The process in Ireland is called Garda Vetting</p>		✓	✓	<p>A1 For further information please visit our website at https://www.bhs.org.uk/our-charity/corporate-information/working-with-the-law/criminal-record-checks</p>
<p>A2 Subject to business size and type there should be at least one trained staff member appointed as the Centre Safeguarding Officer (CSO) responsible for child and adult welfare. Their contact details must be displayed at a central point that is accessible to all staff and clients. Centres to inform BHS Office should the nominated CSO change.</p>		✓	✓	

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A3 The Centre Safeguarding Officer (CSO) must have attended either a BHS Safeguarding for Equestrians Workshop, or equivalent BEF Member Body Safeguarding Workshop or UK Coaching Safeguarding Workshop and have this updated every three years*		✓	✓	A3 Here is the link to provide you with further information upon how to access courses throughout the UK and Ireland https://www.bhs.org.uk/careers-recreational-awards/continuing-professional-development/safeguarding-courses/ *Accredited prior learning is considered - please contact safeguarding@bhs.org.uk for further information
A4 The Centre should implement a Centre Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed regularly and shared with staff and volunteers.			✓	A4 For Centres that do not have their own, a template BHS Safeguarding Policy is available for Centres to use
A4 The Centre should implement a Centre Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed regularly and shared with staff and volunteers.		✓	✓	A5 Where no Under 18's attend the Centre, we can supply a Centre Safeguarding Declaration form
A6 The Centre must agree to report any safeguarding concerns to the necessary organisations as detailed in the BHS reporting booklet and threshold document			✓	A6 Follow the below link to access https://www.bhs.org.uk/about-us/how-we-operate/our-policies/safeguarding/

Livery Centre - Working Practice



Overall Expectation:

This assessment area requires Centres to have been operational for a minimum of 12 months and to be registered as either a Sole Trader, Partnership, Ltd Company, Charity, or Community Interest Company (CIC). Compliance with legislative requirements to operate a business and applying best practice principles within any equestrian setting, offer assurance and protection for proprietors, their employees and clients alike.

Centres will need to meet a combination of legislative requirements with requests for documentary evidence of policies (statements) where needed. Where shortfall in any policy requirements may exist, such as for a new Centre applying for approval, then BHS guidance and templates can be provided through the Approved Centres Business Support team.

A registered business with a clear management and communications structure for all involved will not only enhance further opportunities for the business, but importantly provide assurance to their livery clients that they and their horses needs are of paramount importance. Centres will differ in the livery provision on offer, from 'do-it-yourself' (DIY) through to a traditional full livery service that, depending upon Centre size, may or not require employment of staff

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A1 Centres will need to have a. Current Commercial Public Liability b. Employers Insurance	✓	✓		A1 Employer insurance should include coverage for use of any volunteers. Many insurance companies will consider premium discounts for Centres that are BHS Approved. A minimum coverage of £5 million is recommended along with inclusion of Care Custody and Control.
A2 Centres will need to have and implement the following policies / plans: a. Health and Safety b. Safeguarding policy (Centre based or BHS) c. An emergency plan that includes coverage for the evacuation for staff, volunteers, clients and horses	✓		✓	A2 Where a Centre may not have such policies, BHS templates can be provided for Centres to adapt for their use
A3 Centres will need to have a. Human First Aid kit(s) available at all times b. An accident reporting procedure, including how and when to report to RIDDOR	✓		✓	A3 Coverage for FA needs to include reporting of accidents, be relevant to the size of a Centre. Accident reporting should include any visiting coaches that clients may use the facilities

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A4 There is a clear process for the review and assessment of incident/accident statistics with recorded outcomes	✓		✓	A4 An initial review of any incident/accidents should be done automatically. The assessment involving how a centre records and communicates, for example lines of communication and responsibility for reporting accidents or changes to minimise repetition
A5 Siting of the muck heap, storage and removal should not contaminate waterways	✓		✓	A5 Environmental legislation may differ within each Nation, regarding construction and siting, for some areas this may need to be on a concrete base
<p>A6 The Centre should:</p> <p>a Adhere to all legal requirements for employment of staff, such as supply of job descriptions / employment contracts and meet minimum / living wage obligations for all employed staff</p> <p>b. Supply contracts for trainees / work-based apprentices</p> <p>c. Have an induction procedure for staff, including a staff handbook</p> <p>d. Ensure that any staff rest area / room is warm, clean and tidy</p>	✓		✓	A6 Support in this area is available through scheme membership through Law Assure contact your Business Support Manager for further guidance if needed and we can help get this in place
A7 There should be CPD and on-going training available for all staff and as appropriate, volunteers			✓	A7 Providing effective CPD for staff or volunteers assures clients that their horses are being cared for by competent people with current training, as well as having staff and volunteers feel valued.
A8 For Centres offering residential accommodation for staff / students all accommodation should meet LA requirements			✓	A8 If in doubt, then check with your LA regarding and additional licensing requirements, for example, food hygiene certification or HMO (Houses of Multiple Occupancy)

Criteria for BHS Approval Approved	Inspection Visit	Submit Online	Self Declaration	Preparation Notes
A9 A written complaints procedure is either on display or on the Centre website	✓		✓	A9 Should a client be dissatisfied, is there a clear process to follow, for example, who should they raise it with etc. Templates are available if needed
A10 We would advise that centres also have the following policies or procedures in place <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data protection / Privacy policy 2. Use of Social Media policy 	✓		✓	A10 For any centre wishing to be considered as Highly Commended in this area at a later stage, these policies will need to be in place and submitted to approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk We have templates available
A11 We would advise that centres also have the following additional written risk assessments in place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSHH (control of substances hazardous to health) risk assessment • Manual handling and horse care duties (including non routine) • Staff use of equipment, e.g. clippers, solarium, horse walker, arena leveller etc • Areas of the business that are accessed by staff / clients, for example stable yard, arena and reception / office areas • Facilities provided by the Centre for client use, such as the arena, show jumps and XC fences are risk assessed for suitability of use 			✓	A11 For any centre wishing to be considered as Highly Commended in this area at a later stage, these will need to be in place and submitted to approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk we have templates and guidance available

Livery Centre - Grassland and Turnout Appendix

Acceptable Types of Fencing Materials

Wooden post and rails

- a. Minimum 2 rails at height suitable to deter and minimise escape risk

Hedging

- a. Non-poisonous variety that is sufficiently established in growth to ensure all year security. Addition of other fencing to support security as required

Stock fencing

- a. If as divisional fences, it is recommended that off-set electric fencing should be used.
- b. If as boundary fence alongside hedging

Horse Safe netting

- a. Must be constructed the correct way up (smaller holes lower down) with additional supplementary fencing, such as top rail provision to enhance security and visibility

Plain wire

- a. If used as a divisional fence visibility for the horse(s) must be maintained, for example use of ribbon/visibility strips
- b. If used as an electrified divisional fence then single strand (with ribbon/visibility strips)

Barbed wire

- a. There should be evidence of mixed grazing e.g. cattle and or sheep, or the grazing land should be grazed by livestock at other times of the year which necessitates the need for such fencing
- b. Where there is no mixed grazing e.g. horses only, the barbed wire should ideally be removed or an inner fence should be used to prevent horse access
- c. Barbed wire should not be used in any field divisional arrangement.
- d. Only be permitted in a boundary fence in conjunction with stock netting closely bordered by a hedge that provides sufficient boundary to the field or an inner fence should be used to prevent horse access
- e. Both fencing and hedge should be in good repair with no loose wire.

Electric fencing

- a. Supplied from the main electricity supply. Wooden posts providing permanency to the structure. Minimum two strands (either tape or cord or flexi construction) and differentiated in height.
- b. Temporary (battery/solar supply) electric tape/rope (with plastic posts) Recommended for use in divisional sectioning of fields, not sole boundary fencing.

Iron railings

- a. For example, situated in parkland settings where there would be a minimum of 2 horizontal rails with no upright protrusions, such as flat top parkland railings, and set at differentiated heights to deter and minimise risk of escape.

Stone Walls

- a. Well maintained at sufficient height and reinforced with safe fencing as needed