

Policy Statement

Policy Title: Biosecurity for the Horse Care & Welfare department

Number: 03.24 V3

Functional Area: Horse Care & Welfare Advisers

Brief Description:	Guidance for biosecurity and hygiene practices when working at external venues with members of the general public or horses
Effective:	Mar 2024
Approved by:	Horse Care & Welfare
Responsible Department:	Horse Care & Welfare
Policy Contact:	dee.pollard@bhs.org.uk
Supersedes:	06.21 V2
Last Reviewed/Updated:	Mar 2024
Applies to:	Horse Care & Welfare Advisers

Reason for Policy: To provide guidance on biosecurity, health and hygiene for our Volunteer Horse Care & Welfare Advisers when attending welfare concerns and/or events.

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this policy is to ensure best biosecurity practices are adhered to in the prevention and spread of infectious diseases by Horse Care & Welfare Advisers when visiting welfare concerns. This policy aims to prevent the introduction of disease or disease contaminants to animals or humans and to prevent the disease spreading to horse or human by ensuring Horse Care & Welfare Advisers have a full understanding of biosecurity requirements.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

Disease prevention

- Horse Care & Welfare Advisers must ensure all clothing, including footwear, is clean when visiting welfare concerns and that footwear is cleaned after visiting concerns using the Safe4 disinfectant provided.
- Horse Care & Welfare Advisers must disinfect footwear before entering a horse-human contact situation. Footwear should be disinfected before returning to own horses with the Safe4 disinfectant provided.
- Horse Care & Welfare Advisers should use the Safe4 sanitiser provided before and after each visit.
- Horse Care & Welfare Advisers handling horses should ensure their hands are washed before and after handling horses.
- Horse Care & Welfare Advisers should disinfect vehicle tyres, using the Safe4 disinfectant provided, after entering an establishment with their vehicle.

- If a Horse Care & Welfare Adviser is in a situation where disease is suspected, overalls and disposable gloves should be worn. Alternatively, clothes should be fully laundered and dried before being in contact with other horses.
- If a Horse Care & Welfare Adviser suspect the horse may be carrying a disease, we advise they stay in their car and contact a member of the Horse Care & Welfare team for advice.

III. DEFINITIONS

IV. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, FORMS, GUIDELINES, AND OTHER RESOURCES

- A. Policy Statements and Other Policies
- B. Procedures
- C. Forms
- D. Guidelines
- E. Other Resources (i.e. training, secondary contact information)
- F. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

V. HISTORY