



**Reference Number:** 101004718064

**Response provided under:** Freedom of Information Act 2000

**Request & Response:**

**Request in bold:**

Response in plain text:

- **Which of the below legislation do you actively enforce, and which department/team is responsible for it?**

- **Animals Act 1971 (as amended by The Control of Horses Act 2015)** On complaint
- **Equine identification (England) Regulations 2018.** Yes
- **Animal Welfare Act 2006.** Yes
- **Animal Health Act 1981 and 2002.** Yes
- **Animal Welfare (Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, including 'hiring out horses.** On complaint
- **Welfare of Animals at Markets Order 1990.** Yes
- **Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 2006.** Yes

- **Do you have a dedicated resource for animal welfare and/or animal health legislation and, if you do, how many people does this include?**

We have a dedicated animal health team of Animal Health Officers that cover all Animal Welfare and disease control issues.

7 officers contribute to the work of the team and this is Equivalent to 5 FTEs as field officers plus an Animal Health Senior Officer

- **How many times were the pieces of legislation listed above enforced for equines, if not possible could this be given for all animals, (if possible, could this answer be given separately for each piece of legislation) in:**
  - o 2017
  - o 2018
  - o 2019 to-date

It is not possible to break down visit figures with any accuracy specifically to equines. Last year (2018/2019) the team carried out 320 visits to livestock premises, markets and other related premises. In addition, the team have dealt with 320 inspections this year (2019/2020 to date) relating mainly to animal welfare issues. 10 of these related to horses. All of these requests related to

Equine Identification issues and or misdescriptions of horses when compared to the passport details. Transport issues under WATO were also checked in 8 of the cases.

Inspections to all premises for Welfare and Animal Health (Not Equine specific)

Start Date	End Date	AW Inspections all types
1.1.2017	31.12.2017	341
1.1.2018	31.12.2108	346
1.1.2019	31.12.2019	320

Animal Health requests Not Equine Specific

Start Date	End Date	Requests for Assistance
1.1.2017	31.12.2017	497
1.1.2018	31.12.2108	483
1.1.2019	31.12.2019	320

- **If known, could you state the cost associated with enforcing this legislation for equines (or for all animals if not known). This could be either in total or, if possible, separately for each piece of legislation for the below dates. If this is not feasible would you be able to give an approximate total figure or state as an approximate percentage of your total budget?**
  - o 2017
  - o 2018
  - o 2019 to-date

We cannot give a cost of this as our officers are multi skilled so we cannot therefore break it down. On our Service Plan linked below is the budget for animal health work (Neighbourhoods & Public Protection - page 25):

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-strategy-and-business-plan/service-plans/>

- **In the event of a disease outbreak, what resources do you have to trace animals and control the spread of the disease? Are these resources equally available for all livestock and equine species?**

Trading Standards Animal Health have access to all Government livestock databases for Sheep, Cattle, Pigs and Equines. In addition,

any records held at a premise can also be requested, copied or seized if required using our legislation powers.

Where a disease is notified, DEFRA through regional and local Animal Plant and Health Agency centres co-ordinated local responses as part of national and local disease outbreak contingency plans. Local Authorities can draft in additional assistance through our Emergency Planning Team and shift resources to ensure a robust response by drafting in manpower, creating call centres and workspace.

Any response to a disease outbreak is dependent on the risk of the disease spreading and the impact of the disease over a wide range of factors. This would be assessed on a regular basis to provide an appropriate response. As such the risk and response assessment is not dependant on the species but is carried out on a case by case basis and based on the resource needed.

- **What training do those who are enforcing this legislation receive, including anything specific for equines?**

See below

- **How many years' experience, on average, do those who are enforcing the legislation listed above have with equine specific legislation or working with equines?**

There is no specific route to a formal qualification in Animal Health and it is based mainly on a mix of competence, courses and qualifications. Animal Health Inspectors are trained over a wide range of legislation including Animal Health and Welfare, feeding stuffs, transport and disease control. Officers' qualifications can be in the form of certificates of competency specific to Animal Health and Welfare or a more general framework of training courses, and some specific training relating to Animal Health. Officers will generally have had training in Equine legislation. An intense 5-day course covers all aspects of animal welfare and Health and includes all horse related legislation.

We try to be proactive in relation to changes in legislation such as the recent microchip and passport changes. We have worked with partner agencies on health checks, passporting and microchipping for horse owners during the summer of 2019. Another horse id event is planned for 2020

Every officer will have varying degrees of experience dealing with equine legislation. Some officers are horse owners, and the team investigate complaints as part of their duties as and when complaints are received. Equine issues are a small overall percentage of the remit of the Animal Health team

**Information provided by:** Neighbourhoods & Public Protection

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