

Bishopton Equine – Safe system of work

1. Minimising workplace congestion

Risk: Team members risk of covid-19 transmission increased due to number of potential contacts

Measures in place to control the risk:

At Mill Farm site:

- Anyone who can work from home is now doing so
- No Equine admin staff currently on site.
- Public access to building significantly limited
- Building access, working areas and sanitary facilities divided by working team
- Staff meetings are now web based.

On visits:

- Only visits being performed are as determined by BEVA, RCVS and BVA guidance
- Risk based approach being taken to ascertain if visit is necessary.
- Client interactions to be limited to one client/handler present at each visit if possible.
- Consultations on yard should be held outside where possible or within large well-ventilated open spaces.

2. Maintenance of social distancing

Risk: Team members risk of covid-19 transmission increased due to working in close proximity to colleagues.

Team members risk of covid-19 transmission increased due to potential contact with coronavirus positive members of the public (clients).

Objective is to maintain 2m social distancing wherever possible.

Measures in place to control the risk between staff:

At Mill Farm site:

- Equine team members encouraged to work from home. Team members encouraged to visit the surgery only for essential reasons (restock, clean kit, drop lab samples off).
- Equine team members are not permitted to enter the green or black zones. Access to the white zone is only permitted to drop samples into the lab. Only one person in the lab at once.

When this cannot be maintained efforts must be made to:

- further increase the frequency of hand washing and surface cleaning
- keep the activity time involved as short as possible
- use back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible
- Use a face covering or mask.

On visits:

- Only one vet/vet nurse to attend per visit unless risk assessment justifies an additional team member to support safe working e.g. radiography

When this cannot be maintained (see below) efforts must be made to:

- further increasing the frequency of hand washing and surface cleaning
- wear gloves
- keep the activity time involved as short as possible
- use back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible
- reduced the number of people each person has contact with by using 'fixed teams or partnering' (so each person works with only a few others).
- Working teams in place to reduce potential contact between different team members.
- use a face covering or mask.

Measures in place to control the risk between staff and clients:

At Mill Farm site:

- Clients not permitted to enter the building at any site.

On yards or in clinical setting at Mill Farm site:

- Admin team to determine if clients (and staff/family members present on the yard) are symptom free before visit is booked. Information passed to attending vet/vet nurse.
- Admin team to determine if clients (and staff/family members present on the yard) are classified as high risk before visit is booked. Information passed to attending vet/vet nurse.
- If a client is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 or is high risk, ensure that they are not present during the visit and communicate digitally.
- Client interactions to be limited to one handler present at each visit if possible.
- Consultations on yards should be held outside where possible or within large well-ventilated open spaces.

When this cannot be maintained efforts must be made to:

- further increase the frequency of hand washing and surface cleaning
- keep the activity time involved as short as possible
- use back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible
- Request assistance from a second vet (or member of the team) rather than use assistance from the client.
- Both parties to use a face covering or mask.
- Where the client is required to help and social distancing cannot be maintained request they also wear a face covering/mask and gloves.

3. Handwashing, cleaning and hygiene

Risk: Transmission of coronavirus from workplace surfaces.

On Mill Farm site:

- Rigorous personal and surface hygiene protocols in place
- Effective disinfectant and sanitiser provided in all workspaces utilised by equine team on site.

On Yard:

- All team members to wear gloves or thoroughly disinfect hands prior to leaving car each time whilst on yards
- All team members to carry effective disinfectant and sanitiser in their cars (available from dispensary).
- Team members to disinfect equipment where relevant between yards and before returned to communal stores.
- Team members to hand sanitise hands before and after each visit to yard.
- Team members to sanitise steering wheel, gearstick and handbrake between visits.

4. Deliveries and collections

Risk: Mutual risk of viral transmission between team members and clients whilst collecting and delivering goods.

On Mill Farm site

-Clients encouraged to pre-order and collect from BVG dispensaries (see Dispensary SSOW)

On yard

-When deemed necessary deliveries and collections direct to yards can take place but hygiene measures (point 3) applicable.

-If symptomatic or high-risk individuals present on yard, delivery directly on to the yard is prohibited. In this situation contact with the client should be made over the telephone and deliveries should be left at the road end/perimeter of the yard or a designated safe drop area.

5. Team management

Risk: of increase virus transmission through mixing groups of team members

-Rota out of hours (OOH) in line with staff availability.

-Team members encouraged to work from home.

-Team members advised against entering the premises. Only access to the white zone permitted.