

SFJ ZJ1 – SQA Unit Code F2AN 04

Monitor and maintain the health, well-being and safety of dogs



Overview

This unit is about looking after the health, well-being and safety of dogs that are used in the custodial context and being alert to potential hazards including sharp items, harmful substances, vehicles and dangerous areas.

There are two elements

- 1 Monitor and maintain the health and well-being of dogs
- 2 Monitor and maintain the safety of dogs

Target Group

This unit is appropriate to all staff working with dogs in the custodial environment.

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Performance criteria

Monitor and maintain the health and well-being of dogs

You must be able to:

- P1 monitor the dog's health and welfare at all times
- P2 recognise signs and symptoms of illness, injury and distress and take the appropriate action
- P3 administer prescribed treatments and medications to the dog following veterinary instructions
- P4 report changes in the dog's condition that might indicate side effects or adverse reactions to the treatment or medication promptly to the appropriate person
- P5 prepare and provide food and drink to the dog following nutritional and hygiene requirements
- P6 monitor the dog's intake of feed and water and take the appropriate action if there are any unexpected changes
- P7 bathe, clean and groom the dog at the required times using the correct techniques and equipment
- P8 dispose of the dog's bodily waste safely and correctly with due regard to the hygiene of yourself, others and the dog
- P9 complete all written records accurately and completely

Monitor and maintain the safety of dogs

You must be able to:

- P10 safely transport and regularly monitor the condition of the dog, according to legislation and organisational procedures
- P11 effectively monitor the area in which the dog is working for any potential hazards to the dog, yourself and others
- P12 identify any potential hazards to the dog and take the appropriate action
- P13 clean and maintain the dog's accommodation at home and at work safely, following approved routines
- P14 identify any concerns with the safety and security of the dog and take the appropriate action
- P15 control the movement of the dog confidently and safely, without distress to the dog
- P16 maintain dog handling equipment in good working order and use it in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and organisational procedures
- P17 complete all written records accurately and completely

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 cleaning routines for the dog and its accommodation and why these are important
- K2 safe and approved methods of collecting and disposing of the dog's bodily waste
- K3 how to monitor the dog's health and welfare during training, work, rest and recreation
- K4 the signs and symptoms of illness, injury and distress in dogs
- K5 what action to take (including first aid) when you identify signs and symptoms of illness, injury and distress
- K6 the location of first aid equipment for the dog
- K7 the common types of treatments and medication
- K8 how to administer treatments and medications to dogs
- K9 why it is necessary to monitor the behaviour of the dog after treatment/medication and report any unusual signs
- K10 the legal categories of different medications (e.g. prescription only, pharmacy medicine, general sales list, pharmacy merchants list and controlled drugs)
- K11 why treatments and medicines must always be administered following veterinary and manufacturer's instructions
- K12 how to handle and store treatments and medicines correctly
- K13 the importance of hygiene (including hand washing), and health and safety, during the preparation and serving of food to dogs
- K14 the different types of feed that are available, and how they should be prepared and stored
- K15 the general nutritional requirements of dogs
- K16 the importance of providing fresh water to dogs
- K17 the normal feeding behaviour of animals and signs of abnormalities
- K18 how to maintain the health, well-being and safety of dogs during transportation
- K19 potential hazards to the dog during training, work and recreational activities and how to deal with them
- K20 the need for the dog's accommodation to be safe and secure
- K21 the action to take if there are concerns about the safety and security of the dog's accommodation
- K22 how to maintain the health, well-being and safety of the dog during handling
- K23 the suitable grooming routines and why they are important
- K24 how to maintain dog-handling equipment in good working order
- K25 legal and organisational requirements in relation to the health, well-being and safety of dogs
- K26 the records required for monitoring and maintaining the health, well-

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