



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

**Unit code:** DP1X 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to enable candidates to plan new facilities or the conversion of existing buildings for equine use, including legislation and sources of financial aid. Activities will be centred on visiting a variety of yards to evaluate the design, construction, health and safety and cost of facilities.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Explain the planning and building requirements and sources of financial aid relevant to equine facilities.
- 2 Describe the requirements of equine facilities.
- 3 Plan new equine facilities or the conversion of buildings and land for equine use.

**Credit points and level:** 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Access to this Unit will be at the discretion of the centre; however it would be useful if the candidate had some experience of working in a range of equine facilities. This may be evidenced by possession of an NC module or similar qualification or relevant experience.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication*, *Numeracy* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

**Context for delivery:** If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This Unit is in the Optional section of the HND in Equine Studies. It will normally be delivered as part of that Group Award. It is a free-standing Unit and may be used for the purposes of continuing professional development.

## **General information for centres (cont)**

This Unit provides a solid base on which further skills in planning and converting buildings for equine use can be developed. It will enable the candidate to understand the legislation involved when building or converting for equine use and the requirements necessary for equine facilities. The candidate will enhance their underpinning knowledge of stable facilities and should be able to relate this to a practical situation.

**Assessment:** This Unit is largely of a practical nature and all Outcomes should be assessed in one holistic assessment as a project. This could take the form of a case study which would enable the candidate to demonstrate their knowledge of requirements of equine facilities and the relevant legislation.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

**Unit code:** DP1X 35

The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Explain the planning and building requirements and sources of financial aid relevant to equine facilities

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Planning and building requirements relating to equine facilities
- ◆ Welfare requirements when housing horses
- ◆ Sourcing financial aid including sports council, lottery funding, private funding, bank loans and grants.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain current planning and building requirements
- ◆ describe ways of sourcing financial aid

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

All Outcomes should be assessed as one holistic assessment in the form of a case study.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

### **Outcome 2**

Describe the requirements of equine facilities

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The range of equine facilities
- ◆ Necessary facilities for intended use
- ◆ Accepted standards and dimensions

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the standards and dimensions accepted for welfare and health and safety
- ◆ describe a range of facilities needed for equine businesses
- ◆ describe additional facilities required for specialist yards

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

All Outcomes should be assessed in one holistic assessment in the form of a case study. Candidates should be given a series of practical tasks identifying the range of facilities available to equine businesses and their design features so that they may relate to this when completing their assessment.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

### **Outcome 3**

Plan new equine facilities or the conversion of buildings and land for equine use

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Suitability of site for range of equine businesses
- ◆ Physical attributes of land
- ◆ Suitability of existing buildings for conversion to specific use
- ◆ Design requirements for new facilities for intended use
- ◆ Current costs of construction and materials
- ◆ Health and Safety requirements

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Assess the suitability of the site in relation to intended use
- ◆ Assess existing buildings and land for the intended use
- ◆ Design new facilities for specified use
- ◆ Plan any necessary construction or conversion
- ◆ Estimate the cost of construction or conversion

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

All Outcomes could be assessed in one holistic assessment in the form of a case study. It is recommended that the candidates may be given a series of practical tasks assessing suitability of sites for new building or conversion so they may relate to this when completing their assessment.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** DP1X 35  
**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities  
**Superclass category:** TC  
**Original date of publication:** August 2004  
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### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

### **Guidance on the content and context for this Unit**

The aims of this Unit are to develop the candidate's skills and knowledge necessary to plan new facilities or the conversion of existing buildings for equine use, including planning legislation and sources of financial aid.

Lectures and tutorials should be supported by practical exercises and visits to a range of existing equine businesses and potential sites for equine development.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

**Outcome 1** introduces the candidate to the legislation necessary prior to building or developing equine facilities; this would also cover the sourcing of financial aid.

The different types of facilities would include: riding schools, private yards, stud, competition yards and livery yards.

**Outcome 2** identifies the range of facilities needed for a variety of equine businesses. Facilities could include: stables, stalls, tack and feed rooms, indoor and outdoor schools, barns, horse walker and fields.

The different types of facilities would include: riding schools, private yards, stud, competition yards and livery yards.

Candidates should recognise the features of stable design essential for the health and welfare of the horse.

**Outcome 3** provides the knowledge and skills to enable the candidate to assess sites for suitability, evaluate the potential and plan the construction or conversion of facilities suitable for an equine business.

The assessment of an existing site should consider: design, dimensions, materials, access, aspect, condition and soundness, drainage, services and safety.

Physical aspects of the land would cover: access, drainage, size, soil type, building quality, aspect, services and environmental impact.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

### ***Opportunities for developing Core Skills***

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication, Numeracy* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

### **Open learning**

This Unit is well suited for deliver by both open and distance learning where the candidate has appropriate workplace, home based or other facilities to carry out the practical assignments, and adequate supervision and support is available. This will require careful planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence. It may be necessary for an “on-line support” tutor to be involved. In situations where the student completes work away from the centre, regular contact with tutors will be necessary. This may take the form of visits by the tutor to the student or vice versa. It is at the discretion of the centre as to whether assessments take place at the centre, workplace or at home.

### **Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).



## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Equine Studies: Planning Equine Facilities

This Unit is designed to enable you to plan new facilities or the conversion of existing buildings for equine use.

It covers three main areas: planning and building regulations and sources of financial aid, the requirements for different yards and the suitability of the site in relation to intended use.

On completion of this Unit you should have gained the knowledge and skills necessary to identify a suitable site for an equine business, and be able to plan the building of new facilities or the conversion of existing buildings for equine use.

Candidates should recognise the importance of realistic costing, for construction and materials.

In order to complete the Unit you will be expected to achieve a satisfactory level of competence in the knowledge and skills relevant to each Outcome and demonstrate the ability to put these skills into practice.

Assessment may take the form of one holistic assessment covering all Outcomes, in the form of a case study.

In this assessment you will be able to plan the building or conversion of a stable yard.