



## REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING

### UPDATES

Autumn 2018

## REGIONAL NEWS

### 1. HORSE FAIRS/ MARKETS

- **APPLEBY:** This was a busy Appleby with 210 more caravans compared to last year. This was a successful fair from a welfare point of view and the multi-agency working has gone from strength to strength over the last few years, meaning we were able to deal swiftly and effectively with any welfare issues encountered.

-198 welfare interventions were made. This included 14 warning notices, 3 ongoing possible prosecution cases and resulted in 11 equines being removed.

The response from the travellers on the whole was positive and many more were bringing their horses and ponies to us for treatment. Several years ago this would have been very unusual and highlights the work that has been done to improve working relationships with the travelling community. The WHW water bowzers were put to good use at Salt tip and Jubilee Bridge in the high temperatures this year thus exacerbating the problem of heat exhaustion and dehydration. The welfare team vets did a great job in educating the owners about the dangers of overworking.

Plans being discussed for next year's fair involve tackling the myth that watering horses causes colic; having a late shift team at Salt Tip and hopefully some additional vets to help with coverage at the Royal Oak. The educative focus will be on exhaustion, dehydration, transport and on equines being asked to carry too much weight (both being ridden and driven).

- **WICKHAM** - the one day traveller horse fair in Hampshire in May was quieter this year perhaps as a horse was seized last year. It is a fairly regular crowd of the travellers from the south who attend. Problems identified this year were transit offences, poor feet, whip use, over weight riders, injuries and heat stress due to weather and work. There is no water supply bar the river in the town. Plans for next year are to consider bringing a bowser, ensuring policing the fair remains until all horses gone from the flashing lane and asking for Trading standards to attend regarding all the transit issues.

**2. GREEN YARDS** – Work is underway to produce a map of the police forces and which have green yard policies and their points of contact. The next step is to potentially produce a pro forma 'green yard policy' that we can then try to use to encourage the missing forces to adopt one with NEWC

support and to help find them suitable transporters and green yards which can be used. The NEWC Partnership meeting in Dorset/Wilts/Somerset has 4 different Police forces attending to learn more about Green Yards and their use.

**3. BHS HEALTH CLINICS/LINK DAYS** – 871 horses have now attended 18 BHS health clinics around the country to date. This autumn saw clinics in Kent, West Yorkshire and our first in Scotland in Fife. The spring 2019 clinics are planned for Durham, North Wales, Hampshire and South Wales.

If you have an operational need in your area please let the BHS know as they will shortly be planning locations for autumn 2019. They have recruited an officer to run these events and other educational initiatives.

The new Equine ID Regs give a 2 year compliance window to get all horses microchipped. The next 2 years are a golden opportunity to promote and host link days. Ideally we would like to see one being run in every county at some point to give owners opportunities to comply. This will also help the public to see the welfare sector taking proactive steps to support the new legislation as expectations for action will be high.

## **NEWC UPDATE -**

**4. -FARRIER FOCUS** – Redwings has pioneered a new initiative through the NEWC Education committee working with the BFBA - The British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association who are a farrier's membership group. Their remit is to represent, and be the voice of, the professional farrier. They hold an annual event called Farrier Focus (a CPD and popular farriery / blacksmithing competition). This year they offered the charities, under the NEWC banner, to be in attendance and have a stand.

Farriers traditionally have not engaged with welfare charities about their welfare concerns so it was a great opportunity to talk to farriers about how we can support each other and for them to develop confidence to come to us when they have a concern or need information. To support this, a wallet card was designed and given out at the event to farriers and will also be distributed in the farrier focus magazine too. It provides farriers with the contact details of the NEWC member charities where they can report concerns confidentially or seek advice.

**5. -NEWC REHOMING WORKSHOP** - The Blue Cross had an incredibly successful year when it came to finding homes for their rehabilitated horses with a whopping 286 finding happy new homes in 2017!! With the numbers of horses requiring rescue not showing any signs of abating and what we believe will be a tough winter ahead for horses following the summer drought; rehoming the healthy horses we have has never been more important to help make space for those next in need.

In August the Blue Cross shared their expertise by hosting a workshop for NEWC which was well attended by member charities where much useful discussion, ideas and experiences were shared from lessons learned over the years. This will now become an annual event following the positive feedback received.

**6. -NTU EQUINE CRISIS PROJECT** – Nottingham Trent University is funding a study into the equine crisis that we are experiencing in the UK. NTU Professor and NEWC Director Carol Hall has recruited Rachel Kay to contribute to the research into working towards a sustainable equine population by identification of the scale and geographical distribution of unwanted equines in England and Wales.

This project will involve consultation with key stakeholders within the equine welfare sector, assimilation of currently held data and collection of additional data. The overall aim of this study is to produce a comprehensive evaluation of the total number of unwanted equines and contributory factors.

## LEGISLATION

**7 -EQUINE ID:** From 1st October 2018 the new Equine Identification (England) Regulations 2018 come into effect making it a legal requirement for all horses in England to be identified, meaning that every equine will have to be microchipped and passported. The new Regulations also introduce civil sanctions for those who do not comply, such as fixed penalty notices. Owners will have until October 2020 to get any equine born before 30th June 2009 retrospectively microchipped, if it is not already chipped. Expectations of the public to see this legislation enforced will be high and the challenge of identifying the owner to issue a notice to remain. The local enforcement authority can determine the amount charged on a non-compliance notice up to a cap of £200. They can also issue a costs recovery notice for investigation costs; administration costs; and costs of obtaining expert advice, including legal advice.

A full version of the Equine ID Regulations can be read here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2018/761/contents/made>

The Scottish Equine ID Regs are expected by autumn 2018 and the Welsh version around the end of 2018 / start of 2019.

The Equine Register chip checker is now live and the 'digital stable', which will offer a range of options for owners including the ability to update the status of their equine (i.e. if it is on loan, not for sale or with another keeper), is expected imminently.

Horses that are out on loan are advised to keep a copy of the loan agreement in the passport to explain why the passport is not in their name.

**8 -WELSH EQUINE CODE OF PRACTICE:** The Welsh Code of Practice went before the Minister on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and was laid before the Assembly for 40 days. It is likely to be in force by the end of the year

The new English Codes of Practice for Equines came into force in April 2018.

**9. -SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT 2018-2019 PROGRAMME AND ANIMAL WELFARE:** The Scottish Government has recently announced plans to create an Animal Welfare Commission which will work closely with animal welfare organisations and other expert stakeholders across key issues including sentencing for animal cruelty and the licensing of animal sanctuaries and rehoming centres. Full details of proposals can be read here:

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/delivering-today-investing-tomorrow-governments-programme-scotland-2018-19/pages/9/>

**10. -EU ANIMAL HEALTH LAW - delegated acts on identification, registration and movements:**

Working group meetings are being held in September which Defra are attending having consulted with the equine welfare sector. The legislation is currently very much a work in progress but currently; ear tags for equines bred for slaughter, removal of the need for the silhouette on the passport and registration of all premises where equines are habitually kept are under discussion.

**11. ANIMAL SENTIENCE AND SENTENCING:** Animal Sentience and increasing maximum sentences for animal cruelty are now going to be brought forward separately as recommended by the EFRA Committee. There has been confirmation from the Government that it will legislate to increase sentences from a maximum of 6 months, to up to 5 years for serious animal welfare crimes, following strong support from the public and welfare organisations on the draft legislation. Work is continuing on the Sentience aspect.

**12 -CONTROLLING LIVE EXPORTS FOR SLAUGHTER AND IMPROVING TRANSPORT:** The UK Government is expected to report back by the beginning of 2019 on its proposals to fulfil their manifesto commitment to manage the live exports of animals following reports from its scientific advisors, the Farm Animal Welfare Committee, with input from Scotland's Rural College (SRUC).

**13 -THE ANIMAL WELFARE (LICENSING OF ACTIVITIES INVOLVING ANIMALS) REGS 2018:** The guidance on licensing of activities involving animals has now been finalised and published. This includes a new section of guidance notes on 'The Hiring out of Horses' and can be found here: <http://www.cfsg.org.uk/The%20Animal%20Welfare%20Licensing%20of%20Activities%20Involvi/j.%20Defra%20Guidance%20Notes%20for%20Hiring%20Out%20Horses.pdf>

It comes into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 and essentially requires any business –( defined as any operations that(a) makes any sale by, or otherwise carries on, the activity with a view to making a profit, or (b) earns any commission or fee from the activity) should be licensed. This includes; businesses which hire out horses for riding or for riding lessons which includes riding schools and those that hire out horses, trekking, loan horses, pony parties (but only where the ponies are ridden), hunter hirelings, polo/polocrosse instruction and pony hire, pony and donkey rides. The link above gives all the guidance conditions which must be met subject to inspection on licensing applications. It also offers the opportunity to be of a higher starred rating by meeting all of the required standards but also a minimum of 50% of the optional higher standards.

**Of note** - within the consultation on plans to introduce a ban on the commercial third-party sales of puppies and kittens in England the Government has slipped in two questions on licensing rescue/rehoming centres under the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018. This consultation closed on the 19th September:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/animal-health-and-welfare/third-party-sales/>

**14-WELSH CODE OF PRACTICE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE ESTABLISHMENTS** - The Animal Welfare Network Wales has submitted a proposed Code of Practice for Animal Welfare Establishments to the Welsh Government for review / approval. It is not yet known when this will be published.

**15-ANIMAL OFFENDERS REGISTER, WALES:** The RSPCA published its report on "Examining the case for an Animal Offender Register for Wales", which found that there is not sufficient evidence currently to support an animal offenders register but did make a number of recommendations to the Welsh Government to improve offending and animal welfare. The report can be found here: <http://politicalanimal.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/RSPCA-Cymru-Examining-the-case-for-an-Animal-Offender-Register-for-Wales-July-2018-1.pdf>

## **16. CONSULTATION ON REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF ANIMAL SANCTUARIES AND**

**REHOMING ACTIVITIES IN SCOTLAND:** The consultation closed on 04.03.18 on proposals for a modern system of registration and licensing of animal sanctuaries and rehoming activities, allowing for independent accreditation of applicants to reduce the burden on local authorities. This includes all rehoming activities in Scotland, including charities and agencies rehoming animals from abroad.

The consultation considers how thresholds for registration and licensing may be determined depending on the size of the undertaking and how this may work for larger organisations with multiple premises.

The JOINT BVA SCOTTISH BRANCH, BSAVA AND BVZS RESPONSE to the consultation can be read here:

[https://www.bva.co.uk/uploadedFiles/Content/News\\_campaigns\\_and\\_policies/Get\\_involved/Consultation\\_archive/BVA%20Scottish%20Branch%20-%20Regulating%20animal%20sanctuaries%20and%20rehoming%20centres%20FINAL.pdf](https://www.bva.co.uk/uploadedFiles/Content/News_campaigns_and_policies/Get_involved/Consultation_archive/BVA%20Scottish%20Branch%20-%20Regulating%20animal%20sanctuaries%20and%20rehoming%20centres%20FINAL.pdf)

To date of concern is the lack of detail provided in the consultation and that there was no accompanying impact assessment provided to help ensure the proposals are fit for purpose and enforceable. What will be interesting is if England and Wales follow suit!

**17-PACE UPDATE:** largely focused around the extension in the use of appropriate adults when interviewing but in there are new actions required of the police in identifying vulnerability which we should all be aware of when investigating welfare concerns. Full details can be read here, <http://www.appropriateadult.org.uk/index.php/about-us/news/204-pace-code-changes-2018>

## **DISEASE ALERTS/PREVENTION AWARENESS –**

The Animal Health trust presents a quarterly equine disease surveillance report on their website. To subscribe to receive alerts follow this link:

[http://www.aht.org.uk/cms-display/equine\\_disease\\_registration.html](http://www.aht.org.uk/cms-display/equine_disease_registration.html)

**18. West Nile Virus** has recently been detected in Owls in Southern Germany. It is transmitted by mosquitos and has a complicated life cycle that can involve migrating birds. It is a viral infection that is capable of causing illness in both horses and humans with potentially fatal consequences as the central nervous system is affected.

There have never been any cases of WNV in Britain and the risk remains low, it is not considered to be a greatly significant threat to our horse population.

However, there is still a chance that it could find its way to our shores. Outbreaks among horses can see up to 40% of the infected animals dying - so it is important that, if a case of WNV was to occur, it is identified and dealt with quickly to minimise its spread. For this reason it is helpful for all owners be fully aware of the signs of the virus and how to protect against it.

WNV is a notifiable disease. This means that if you suspect a horse may have it, you must immediately notify the duty vet in your local Animal Health Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) office

**19. ATYPICAL MYOPATHY** - BEVA have issued a warning following the high winds in late September which they say has created the 'Perfect storm' heightening the risk of Atypical Myopathy. "Bare pastures and potential hay shortages, coupled with early transatlantic storms blowing seeds from laden sycamore trees, have created the 'perfect storm' to increase the risks of atypical myopathy for grazing horses, warns the British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA). Experts are advising horse owners to take steps now to minimise the risks of this fatal disease. "

Full article can be read here:

<https://www.beva.org.uk/Home/News-Archive/entryid/1017/perfect-storm-has-heightened-atypical-myopathy-risk-warns-beva>

**20. NEW STRANGLES VACCINE COMING TO THE MARKET:** There is hope that this new vaccine will be available for use by 2020. Scientists from the Animal Health Trust (AHT), the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, the Karolinska Institute and Intervacc AB, have developed **protein-based vaccine Strangvac**, to prevent equines contracting this highly contagious disease.

Trials have shown that this vaccine is successful in over 80% of cases; additionally none of the animals developed adverse reactions to the vaccination.

Current estimates show that there are around 600 outbreaks of the disease annually in the UK.

**21. WHW/WESTGATE LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP:** WHW have teamed up with Westgate Laboratories to offer the Field Officers the free use of their faecal worm egg count postal service as an educational tool at their disposal when investigating welfare concerns. Rehorners of WHW equines will also be given a discounted use of the Westgate postal service.

## SEASONAL VETERINARY NEWS

**22. HEAT STROKE** – following on from the heatwave we experienced this summer there was lots of interesting articles prompting healthy and not so debate on social media around cooling horses. Dr David Marlin, a scientist who has spent 25 years working on equine thermoregulation (*he has impressive credentials which include: advising the racing industry plus 4 different Olympics on prevention and management of heat-stroke and is the author of the FEI Guidelines for National Federations on the management of horses in thermally challenging conditions*) took the internet to task dispelling the myths and educating the masses. His viral internet post offered some sound advice for managing horses in heat.

An extract from the post on busting some myths read:

**Myth 1** - "You should never put cold water on a hot horse" **Explanation** - Ice-cold water (0-5°C) on hot horses does not cause shock, laminitis, kidney damage, muscle damage, tying-up or heart attacks!

**Myth 2** - "Water left on a horse will heat up and insulate and make the horse hotter." **Explanation** - Flawed physics! Water is a better conductor of heat than air. A wet horse will actually cool faster than a dry one, even if humidity is 100%.

**Myth 3** - "Scraping is essential." **Explanation** - Scraping just wastes time that could be better used putting more water on to cool by conduction.

**Myth 4** - "Concentrate on large veins, arteries inside the back legs, large muscle groups" **Explanation** – No, cooling by evaporation or conduction works by cooling the blood flowing through the small blood vessels in the skin. The more skin you cool, the quicker you cool the horse. Apply water all over.

The Donkey Sanctuary produced a helpful care in the heat fact sheet for donks which can be found here:

<https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/sites/uk/files/2018-07/care-of-donkeys-in-extreme-heat-20180731.pdf>

**23. EQUITAPE WITHDRAWAL FROM MARKET;** From October 2018 the wormer brand, Equitape, commonly used to treat tapeworm infection will be discontinued from sale in the UK. This wormer is the only licenced product for horses containing praziquantel as a single active ingredient. Going forward it will only be available in 'combination wormers' also containing ivermectin or moxidectin, the drugs most commonly used to treat small and large redworm (strongyles).

Its removal from the veterinary medicines available is a concern as wormer resistance is a growing problem and has the potential to become a major horse welfare threat. Losing the option of a praziquantel-only product means that any treatment option for tapeworm infection will now also impact redworms, whether required or not. Frequent drug exposure speeds the development of resistance and, over time, has potential to significantly decrease the effectiveness of the few chemicals that there are to treat life-threatening worm burdens in horses.

**Important note for donkeys:** As neither Praziquantel nor Moxidectin are licensed for use in donkeys the use of anthelmintic products containing these active ingredients should be discouraged unless prescribed by a vet in accordance with the veterinary Cascade. The only licensed treatment for tapeworm infections in donkeys remains a double dose of Pyrantel.

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**24. BRANSBY HORSES –** Lincolnshire based Bransby Horses are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of helping horses by expanding operations. They have just secured the purchase of the 800acre Grange Farm, Barlings at Langworth, Lincolnshire. The site is currently arable so it is a blank canvas for them to take stewardship of and create facilities to suit their operational needs.

**25. BHS RECRUITMENT–** following the successful recruitment of their first full time paid welfare officer in the South East in 2016, the BHS have recruited a second full time officer to cover the North West of England.

**26. MARE AND FOAL SANCTUARY MERGER –** the South West country charity who are NEWC members are taking over the running of Dartmoor based South West Equine Protection in a merger to combine their knowledge, resources and manpower to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome even more injured and unwanted horses.

## CAMPAIGNS

**27. STAMP OUT STRANGLES –** Redwings have launched the second part of their campaign to try and protect horses, owners, businesses from the UK's most common equine infectious disease - Strangles - by making isolation and screening an everyday reality on yards, and to raise hygiene standards among equestrian professionals. Yard owners and horse owners will be asked to make a pledge towards improved biosecurity practices that will allow business to be mapped on an interactive map showing places of higher standards of practice as well as giving all access to their Strangles Hub – a place of all the latest scientific news, research, support and statistics.

More information about their Stamp Out Strangles Campaign can be found here:

[www.redwings.org.uk/strangles](http://www.redwings.org.uk/strangles)

**28. THE EQUINE DISEASE COALITION** - was formed in 2011 to advance awareness and prevention of equine disease in Britain and comprises representatives from the AHT, BEVA, Cambridge University, Defra, Horse Trust, RSPCA and World Horse Welfare. This summer they conducted a survey to measure biosecurity practices amongst horse owners and keepers. The data showed horses kept at home are lowest risk of infectious disease with 4.5% reporting an infectious disease outbreak. The busier the location the higher the risk was found with shared facilities reporting 7%, livery yards reporting 12% and then riding schools being highest risk at 18% reported. The risk increases at all facilities with movements of their horse on and off the yard. 70% of disease outbreaks occurred on premises where there were more than 6 horses.

World Horse Welfare is in the planning stages of the next phase of the study, which with the assistance of the 'Behavioural Insights Team' (advisors to the EDC on how to develop projects that change human behaviour : more info here <https://www.behaviouralinsights.co.uk/>) and in collaboration with Redwings and The Horse Trust will look at how it can best influence human behaviour change to reduce the risk of infectious diseases in equines in the UK.

The full results of the survey will be shared in due course.

**29. END OF LIFE STUDY** – WHW and The Donkey Sanctuary have supported a 3 year research project into end of life matters with the initial results presented at the recent BEVA Congress. It looked at why owners do or do not feel able to make equine end-of-life decisions and the thought process undergone to arrive at these, but it also looked to determine what additional information and support is required to help owners in making these essential decisions.

The research found that only one in eight UK equines die suddenly; however, around two thirds of those who have not lost an equine did not have a plan in place. Interestingly, end-of-life decisions are not just for older animals, with the number of equines who die aged 7-10 years being similar to those aged 26-30 years. The key influence in owners' end-of-life decisions was their own assessment of quality of life, but many felt they needed more support in doing so, with around half of owners wanting more information on this, and so World Horse Welfare is developing a quality of life assessment tool which will provide support for owners in assessing their individual equine.

**30. CCTV In SLAUGHTERHOUSES**– The legislation came into effect in May 2018 and businesses will have 6 months to comply.

## **EDUCATION/ CPD OPPORTUNITES –**

**31. HORSE TRUST CPD** - The Horse Trust is offering the Level 3 Diploma in Equine Legislation, Welfare and Field Skills, a qualification that has been developed specifically for the equine welfare sector by The Horse Trust and Lantra Awards. The qualification is awarded by Lantra Awards and regulated by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual).



The Diploma has been developed specifically for:

- ❑ Employees or volunteers for organisations that investigate, or assist in the investigation, of alleged equine welfare compromise
- ❑ Individuals employed by organisations that enforce animal welfare legislation and/or other legislation affecting equids
- ❑ Individuals employed by or volunteering for organisations that board, care for and rehabilitate equids with compromised welfare, including equids that are the subject of prosecution.

– They also offer short online courses aimed at veterinary surgeons which include applying the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to welfare cases; producing evidence for court; giving evidence in court as a professional witness; transportation of horses etc. Other online courses will focus on Equine Behaviour Modification Techniques for Veterinary Professionals and will develop skills in handling horses that are difficult to manage or treat.

The Horse Trust can also offer one day courses to interested parties covering welfare assessment, the Animal Welfare Act, handling unfamiliar horses using methods that are safe, effective and humane and stand up to public scrutiny. These courses can be adapted to your organisations specific needs.

The BARTA (British Animal Rescue and Trauma Care Association) partnership with The Horse Trust continues to grow. Through this partnership The Horse Trust has provided horse legislation, behaviour and handling training to 860 Highways England Traffic Officers. The Horse Trust is also hosting a number of BARTA Level 2 First Responder courses throughout the year – details available at [www.bartacic.org](http://www.bartacic.org)

For more information please e-mail [training@horsetrust.org.uk](mailto:training@horsetrust.org.uk).

**32. NFU** - To assist members with fly-grazing problems, the NFU has produced a Fly-grazing Farmer Information Pack. The pack contains information for farmers concerned about the problem, including useful tips on helping to prevent fly-grazing, guidance on what you can do if fly-grazing occurs on your land and signs for use on the farm. It also includes information on legislation which may be used when dealing with fly-grazing, which will be updated as necessary.

**The following items are included within the pack:**

- Fly-grazing prevention signs
- An overview of the options for dealing with fly-grazing
- Guides on:
  - An introduction to fly-grazing
  - How to react to a fly-grazing incident
  - Fly-grazing and the Law
  - Template notices
  - Business Guide 011: Interference with Goods
- An information leaflet on GRC Bailiffs, the NFU's appointed equine bailiffs.

In addition, the NFU's Legal Assistance Scheme has agreed to offer a fixed rate of support at the early stages of the bailiff assisted removal process, as well as for the other removal methods set out in the pack to NFU members that are also LAS subscribers.

Further details here: <https://www.nfuonline.com/membership/your-nfu-services/nfu-fly-grazing-service/>

**33. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY** - Marie Rowland is undertaking a PhD (funded by the Horse Trust) on traveller and gypsy welfare in the UK. Marie was also key in setting up a horse project in Shannon, which involved working with the local council and traveller communities to set up a grazing area with much success.

Part of this study comprises investigating stakeholders' knowledge, views and perceptions of Traveller/Gypsy horse care, management and welfare. This information will be collected via the following online survey if anyone wishes to take part:

<https://edinburgh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/travellergypsy-horse-welfare-2>

**34. NEWC EQUICULTURE SEMINAR**– Oct 19<sup>th</sup> at Bransby horses – Jane Myers presenting her Equicentral system which is a method of sustainable horse and land management developed for the needs of 21st century domesticated horse, their owner and the land on which they live. Her approach to pasture management has the added benefit of saving time, effort and money to the horse owner. More information about this new way of approaching the pasture management problems can be found here: <https://www.equiculture.net/p/theequicentralsystem>

**35. THE DONKEY SANCTUARY** – are revising and renewing their owner resources and the information / training they provide to various groups – including charity welfare partners and enforcement professionals on donkey care. They have developed a survey to identify areas of need and also to determine preferred formats and methods for learning. As this survey has a unique target audience it will not be available directly from the website so please use the link below to complete:

<https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/what-we-do/for-professionals/welfare-resources-survey>

There is similar survey for veterinary staff and other professional practitioners such as farrier, EDTs, nutritionists which can be found on the main website. The link is posted below:

<https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/what-we-do/for-professionals/professionals-survey>

Clinical Companion for the Donkey: This year has already seen the launch of the 'Clinical Companion for the Donkey' which is available for purchase online through The Donkey Sanctuary online shop but is also available for download via the website. Info flyer attached to the meeting notes.

<https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/for-professionals/clinical-companion-of-the-donkey>

<https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/shop/professionals-and-owners>

**36. -NEWC AGM** – 6th November at Gonsal Farm: speakers include the new team brought in to make decisions on all things equine at the RSPCA; Loni Loftus who is their Head Of Equine, Francesca Compostella their equine vet and Mark Kennedy their new equine scientific adviser. We also have Stuart Everett from Equine Register coming to speak about the CED and Equine Id in the wake of the new Regulations being passed.