

Martin McGowan
Senior Environmental Health Officer
Health & Safety – Animal Health
North Tyneside Council
Quadrant
The Silverlink North
Cobalt Business Park
North Tyneside
NE27 0BY

25th November 2019

Dear Martin,

Re: Rubaduk Stable – Animal Exhibition Certificate

On the 20th November 2019, as per your direction, I carried out a limited examination of the working ponies at the above establishment. The stabling was of wooden construction with planks and boards and corrugated cement board roofing. There were some minor defects in the walling, but these were not hazardous. These stables are clean and well managed with feed and water supplied in buckets. All four stables were in a line and opened onto a flagged yard area which was tidy. There was no dedicated isolation stable but given the small number of animals and no public access I agreed that fitting the far-right end stable with a top door would be sufficient to provide isolation, as there was no direct contact between any of the stables.

There was a small paddock adjacent to the stables, one fence of line of which, was next to the back gardens of an adjacent terrace. The fencing was wooden and had been added to in parts to provide for previous damage. The water was supplied with buckets and good shelter was provided by some of the fencing. The muck was collected onto a trailer which was emptied as necessary, up to twice per week.

There was a trailer used for transporting the ponies to the event venues. It was clearly relatively old but seemed structurally sound and had recently been inspected, serviced and certified as roadworthy. I recommended that four slightly protruding screws be removed from one side partition.

Working Ponies

Patsy: 9-year-old Fell pony mare, 13.2hh, unshod, condition score 4.5. In good general health but I advised restricted diet to encourage weight loss.

Salty: 5-year-old Shetland pony gelding, 10hh, unshod, condition score 3.5. In good health.

Cookie: 9-year-old Shetland pony mare, 8hh, unshod, condition score 3.5. In good health but due for foot trimming all round.

All the ponies are undergoing a flu and tetanus vaccination program and I am informed by the owner that the animals are wormed twice yearly. I discussed the merits of worm egg count testing and strategic worming.

Although the years have clearly taken their toll on the stables and the paddock fencing, it is my opinion that these animals are well cared for and I am fully satisfied that they are capable to undertake the tasks required of them.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan C Wainwright MRCVS

Director

Bearl Equine Clinic Limited