


Risk assessment for : Coulsdon Home Hardware Ltd











Risk assessment name	Animals Within the Service Users Home and/or Grounds	Assessment type	 General
Assessor name	Simon Harris	Affected site(s)	Signature Homes Ltd (CR5 2RA)
Assessment date	17/02/2020	Review period	Annually
Approved by	Simon Harris	Review date	17/02/2021
Approved date	17/02/2020	Reference	ANIMAL-001

Description





This Risk Assessment is to review to risk of animals within the home.

Hazard	Who could be harmed and how?	Existing controls	Risk rating (L x S)
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 <p>Aggressive Animal Behaviour Animal displays aggressive behaviour to staff - e.g barking, growling</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Staff may be fearful / scared. May be unable to provide the relevant level of care / service.</p>	 <p>Aggressive Pet with be separated from Staff during the visit</p> <p>Service users will be asked to separate aggressive pets from staff for the duration of the visit as per agreement at assessment stage.</p>  <p>Reporting Procedures Followed</p> <p>This includes any instances where aggression is directed to a member of staff, or where agreed separation controls have been breached.</p>	 <p>Pre-placement Assessments</p> <p>The pre-placement assessment will determine if any of the pets present have shown any aggressive behaviour in the past. Information to be communicated to staff attending service user's address.</p>	<p>2 x 4</p>  <p>8</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Allergic Reactions Contact or proximity to animals resulting in allergic reaction - either diagnosed or un-diagnosed</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Sneezing. Runny or stuffy nose. Facial pain (from nasal congestion) Coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath and wheezing. Watery, red or itchy eyes. Skin rash or hives.</p>	 <p>Pre-placement Assessments</p> <p>Where a pet is present at a service users home - care will be taken to match the care staff to an environment where pets are present.</p>	 <p>Staff Report Allergies</p> <p>All staff are encouraged to report any allergies to their line manager. This can be managed with health screening questionnaires that ask for allergy information and that are reviewed regularly.</p>	<p>2 x 3</p>  <p>6</p> <p>Medium</p>




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 <p>Animal Bites Penetration of skin through animal bites</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Damage to skin/tissue leading to potential infection if untreated.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p>Appropriate First Aid kit available</p> <p>All staff to be equipped with First Aid kit to be kept in their vehicle and checked for supplies regularly.</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;">  <p>Pet with be separated from Staff during the visit</p> <p>Service users will be asked to separate pets identified as posing a risk of biting from staff for the duration of the visit as per agreement at assessment stage.</p> </div> </div> <p>Pre-placement Assessments</p> <p>The pre-placement assessment will determine if any of the pets present have shown any aggressive behaviour or have bitten anyone in the past.</p> <p>Reporting Procedures Followed</p> <p>This includes any instances where aggression is directed to a member of staff, or where agreed separation controls have been breached. All injuries to staff are subject to accident reporting procedure.</p>	<p>2 x 4</p>  <p>8</p> <p>Medium</p>

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 <p>Animal Scratches Penetration of skin due to animal scratch</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Damage to skin/tissue leading to potential infection if untreated.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Accident Reporting Procedure in place Accident procedure contained in your employee handbook. Ensure to report all accidents immediately.</p>  <p>Pets within the care at home environment are not handled by staff Service Users to be instructed that they are responsible for pet handling during the visit.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Appropriate First Aid kit available All staff to be equipped with First Aid kit to be kept in their vehicle and checked for supplies regularly.</p> </div> </div>	<p>2 x 2</p>  <p>4</p> <p>Medium</p>
 <p>Communicable Diseases/Zoonoses Risk of infection from contact/exposure to biological substances and/or animals</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Symptoms vary dependent on disease/health of affected person. Includes flu-like symptoms, headaches, fevers and rashes.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Disposable Gloves Provided Suitable gloves to be provided to be used where required (eg where animal waste is present)</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Good hygiene practices to be utilised at all times Where staff pet or stroke a pet - good hygiene practices must be followed.</p> </div> </div>	<p>2 x 4</p>  <p>8</p> <p>Medium</p>

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 <p>Slips & Trips Animals may present trip hazard if not controlled. Slips may occur if waste matter is present on ground surfaces.</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>How? Injury such as sprains, bruising, cuts, fractures or head injuries.</p>	 <p>Pets separated from care provision being undertaken</p> <p>Pets can be skittish - it is therefore important that pets are kept separate from staff providing care to the Service User</p>	<p>2 x 4</p>  <p>8</p> <p>Medium</p>

Further control measures

None required

Operating procedures

The following example procedure outlines how pre-placement assessments can address the risks associated with pets in Service User's homes and how this can be managed following the assessment.

Initial Identification

1. When initial assessments are being undertaken, potential service users (where possible) should be asked if they have a pet at home or live in an environment where animals might be present i.e. on a farm. In the event that this information is not gathered in advance, the member of staff with first contact will contact their Line Manager and agree contingency to allow service to continue safely until full risk assessment can be completed.

2. The assessor should then discuss further with the potential service user whether or not there may be risk to staff associated with the particular animal living

inside or within the grounds of that particular home.

3. Any potential risks identified should be addressed at this assessment stage i.e.

a) Assessor discussing the risk in detail with the potential service user and/or families/carers.

b) Agreeing a solution to reduce the risk with the potential service user and/or family/carer. This should normally include an agreement that when a risk is identified with an animal, that the animal be removed or restrained while staff are present in the service users home or outside the home.

c) Potential service users and/or family/carer should be advised that refusal or reluctance to address the identified risk may impact on service delivery.

4. If necessary advice regarding completion of risk assessments and the identification of the level of risk should be sought at this stage from management.

5. Any potential risks and subsequent management plans drawn up as a result of having animals on or near the home environment, should be recorded in the assessment and communicated to the relevant staff.

6. Any potential risk situations should be reviewed at regular intervals for example, at a review.

Identification of Risk Following Commencement of a Service

1. Any risk situation concerning animals, identified after the service commences, should be dealt with immediately i.e. if a member of staff feels threatened by the presence of an animal or sustains an injury as a result of contact with an animal.

2. The member of staff should report the incident to their manager and an Incident Report be completed.

3. The member of staff should be offered any assistance required in order that they seek medical advice, should the situation necessitate it.

4. The local authority should be made aware of the situation and asked to negotiate with the service user in order to reduce the identified risk.

5. If it is felt a user specific risk assessment is required, this should be actioned in the usual way.

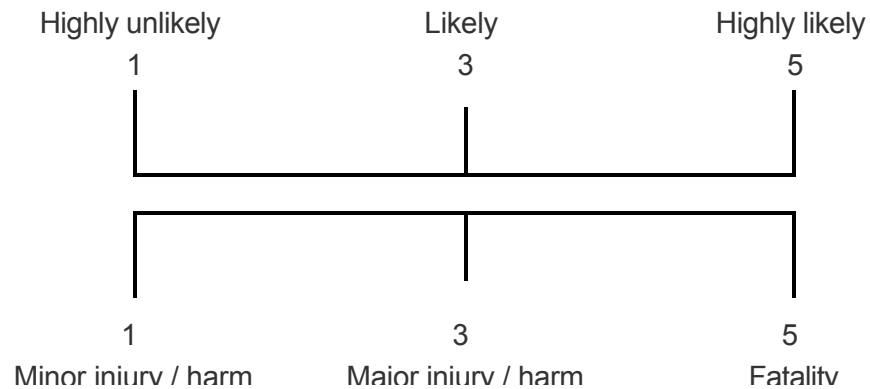
6. Advice on the situation can be sought from your Line Manager.

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7. Service Users should be advised that any animals inside or outside of the home involved in an incident should be restrained and kept away from the vicinity of staff.
8. In the event of a Near Miss or a member of staff sustains an injury, the incident reporting Policy and Procedure must be adhered to, an incident report form must be completed and action plan developed in consultation with the service user to prevent any further incidents.
9. It will be incumbent on service users to ensure that steps to protect staff from the animal are undertaken and Staff should underline this with them and offer practical assistance.
10. Adaptations to the service user Care Plan or professional records should be made to include the risk from the animal and include the action taken to address the risk and thus ensure a safe working environment for staff.
11. Any actions agreed should be reviewed by the Line Manager and communicated to all relevant staff providing care in that home. In both cases, all discussion re concerns about animals should be recorded and discussed with the relevant manager as necessary.

Risk rating explanation

Risk ratings are calculated by considering the likelihood of an event occurring along with the severity of the potential consequence should an accident occur. After considering existing control measures, values are assigned to the likelihood and severity from the scales below and these figures multiplied to established the risk rating.



	5	10	15	20	25
5	5	10	15	20	25
4	4	8	12	16	20
3	3	6	9	12	15
2	2	4	6	8	10
1	1	2	3	4	5
	Severity				

Probability

What do your risk ratings mean?

- Risk is categorised as LOW: Look to reduce risk if practicable
- Risk has been categorised as MEDIUM: Begin to plan your action to reduce the risk immediately
- Risk has been categorised as HIGH: Immediate action required to reduce the risk

Assessor's signature: Simon Harris

Approved by signature: Simon Harris