

SEI AM1

ACTIVITY MODULE 1 – STABLES AND EQUESTRIAN CENTRES

Module Introduction

1. Purpose and Application

AM1 – Stables and Equestrian Centres establishes the requirements applicable to facilities where horses are accommodated, kept, cared for, handled or supported as part of the activities included within the certification scope. AM1 is intended to accommodate the diversity of modern equestrian facilities and disciplines. It may apply to permanent or temporary stabling arrangements and to facilities accommodating horses owned by the organisation, privately owned horses, livery, leased horses, visiting horses or horses present for training, competition, leisure or other equestrian activities. The Module applies based on the activities and responsibilities undertaken, rather than on horse ownership alone.

2. Scope of Responsibility

The organisation shall clearly establish the extent of its responsibility for the horses, facilities and services included within the certification scope. Where horse care is shared with or assigned to owners, riders, trainers, livery, contractors or other people, the respective responsibilities shall be clearly defined. This may include responsibility for feeding, watering, bedding, cleaning, turnout, exercise, veterinary and farriery arrangements, medication, monitoring and emergency response. The organisation remains responsible for the conditions and activities under its operational control, including the suitability and safety of facilities provided for horses and people. People using the facility shall be subject to appropriate rules of conduct regarding horse wellbeing, safety, biosecurity, and the responsible use of the premises.

3. Horse Wellbeing and Duty to Act

Horse wellbeing shall take precedence where a significant conflict arises between welfare and commercial, operational, sporting or scheduling considerations. The organisation is not expected to diagnose veterinary conditions or assume responsibilities legally belonging to a horse owner or veterinary professional. It shall, however, ensure that people with relevant responsibilities can recognise and escalate significant indications of illness, injury, pain, distress, exhaustion, neglect, or mistreatment. Where a significant horse-wellbeing concern is observed within activities or areas under the organisation's operational control, the organisation shall take reasonable and proportionate action within its authority. Notification of a horse owner or other responsible person shall not, by itself, close the matter where a significant welfare concern remains unresolved.

4. Facility and Operational Context

AM1 considers the stable or equestrian centre as an integrated operating environment.

Assessment therefore considers not only individual horse accommodation, but also the interaction between horse wellbeing, people, buildings, arenas, paddocks, pasture, water, energy, waste, manure and bedding, wastewater, air quality, chemicals and veterinary-related substances, biodiversity, land use, infrastructure, transport interfaces and the surrounding environment. Requirements shall be applied proportionately to the nature, scale, intensity, risks and operational characteristics of the facility.

5. Temporary and Visiting Horses

Where horses are accommodated temporarily, including visiting horses or horses present in connection with training, competitions, events or other short-term activities, the organisation shall ensure that relevant welfare, safety, biosecurity and emergency controls remain effective for the period during which those horses are within its operational control. Temporary use shall not, by itself, justify a lower level of protection where the same material horse-wellbeing, safety or environmental risk exists. Where another applicable Activity Module establishes more specific requirements for the activity concerned, those requirements shall be assessed together with AM1 without unnecessary duplication.

6. Assessment Hierarchy

The AM1 criteria follow the operational sequence of a responsible stable or equestrian centre:

*AUTHORISATION & FACILITY SUITABILITY → RESPONSIBILITY & CONTROL → HORSE ACCOMMODATION →
BASIC NEEDS & CARE → HEALTH & WELFARE → SAFETY & EMERGENCY RESPONSE → BIOSECURITY →
RESOURCE & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT → LAND & BIODIVERSITY → PEOPLE & COMPETENCE →
MONITORING & PERFORMANCE → IMPROVEMENT → COMMUNICATION*

The hierarchy is intentional. Suitable infrastructure and clearly allocated responsibility provide the foundation for horse care. Effective horse care and operational controls provide the foundation for measurable environmental, social and economic performance. Monitoring and review then provide the evidence necessary for corrective action and continual improvement.

Criterion AM1-1 – Legal Authority and Operational Approval of the Facility

The organisation shall demonstrate that all stable and equestrian-centre facilities and activities included within the certification scope are legally authorised and operated in accordance with applicable permits, registrations, licences, approvals, conditions and restrictions. Legal authority shall reflect the actual activities undertaken and the actual use of the facility, including permanent and temporary horse accommodation where applicable.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-1.1 The organisation shall identify and maintain all licences, permits, registrations, approvals or other authorisations required for the stable, equestrian centre, land, buildings, horse accommodation and activities included within the certification scope.

AM1-1.2 The actual use of the facility, land, buildings and infrastructure shall correspond with the activities authorised or permitted by the relevant competent authorities.

AM1-1.3 Conditions, restrictions, capacity limits, inspection requirements or other obligations attached to applicable authorisations shall be identified and incorporated into the organisation's operational controls.

AM1-1.4 Required inspections, renewals, registrations, notifications and other regulatory actions applicable to the facility and its activities shall be completed within the required periods and supported by objective evidence.

AM1-1.5 Material changes to the facility, activities, horse accommodation, operational capacity, land use or infrastructure shall be evaluated before implementation to determine whether new, additional or amended legal authorisation is required.

Indicators

- Current facility- and activity-specific permits, licences, registrations and approvals can be demonstrated.
- Actual facility uses and activities correspond with the authorised or permitted activities.
- Conditions, restrictions and capacity limitations attached to approvals are reflected in operational practice.
- Required inspections, renewals, registrations and notifications are current and traceable.
- Material changes demonstrate evaluation of applicable authorisation requirements before implementation.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes examining applicable licences, permits, registrations, planning or land-use approvals, operating authorisations, competent-authority correspondence, inspection and renewal records, conditions attached to approvals, and comparing these requirements with the facility's actual activities, infrastructure, and use.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where the organisation is legally authorised to operate and the activities are materially compliant, but isolated administrative, renewal, notification, or record-keeping deficiencies are identified that do not invalidate the organisation's authority to operate or create a significant legal, horse-welfare, safety, or environmental risk.

Major non-conformity: Arises where the stable, equestrian centre or a material activity operates without a mandatory legal authorisation; materially exceeds or breaches conditions or restrictions attached to an authorisation; continues an activity following suspension, withdrawal or prohibition by a competent authority; or cannot demonstrate the legal authority necessary to undertake a material activity included within the certification scope.

Criterion AM1-2 – Facility Scope, Capacity and Operational Characteristics

The organisation shall define the physical and operational characteristics of the stable or equestrian centre sufficiently to demonstrate that the facilities, infrastructure and resources provided are appropriate to the number of horses, activities and services included within the certification scope.

The assessment shall consider normal operations and material variations in horse numbers, occupancy, activities and seasonal use.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-2.1 The organisation shall define the physical and operational boundaries of the facility, including relevant horse accommodation, arenas, exercise areas, paddocks, grazing land, storage areas, service areas, utilities and supporting infrastructure.

AM1-2.2 The organisation shall maintain reliable information concerning the number, categories and identity of horses normally accommodated, managed or using the facility, including material variations in occupancy. Horses shall be identifiable and traceable in accordance with applicable identification, registration and record-keeping requirements

AM1-2.3 The organisation shall identify the principal activities and services undertaken at the facility and their relationship with other applicable Activity Modules.

AM1-2.4 Operational capacity shall be evaluated in relation to available horse accommodation, turnout, water, feed and bedding storage, manure management, staffing, infrastructure and other material operational constraints.

AM1-2.5 Material changes in horse numbers, activities, services, facility use or capacity shall be evaluated to determine whether existing infrastructure, resources and controls remain adequate.

Indicators

- Facility boundaries and principal operational areas are clearly identifiable.
- Horse numbers, categories and relevant occupancy variations are reliably known.
- Activities and services undertaken within the facility are clearly defined.
- Capacity is supported by appropriate infrastructure and operational resources.
- Material changes demonstrate an evaluation of their effect on facility capacity and responsible operation.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes examination of facility plans or equivalent information, horse identification and occupancy records, applicable identification or registration documentation, service descriptions, operational information, infrastructure capacity and direct observation of the facility.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where the facility and its activities are substantially defined and appropriately resourced, but isolated information concerning boundaries, horse numbers, capacity, or operational changes is incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where the certification boundary or horse population is materially misrepresented, or where material failure of required horse identification or traceability prevents reliable identification of horses under the organisation's operational control.

Criterion AM1-3 – Horse Care Responsibilities, Livery Arrangements and Third-Party Conduct

The organisation shall clearly define the allocation of responsibilities for horses accommodated, managed or using the facility, including horses owned by the organisation and horses owned, leased or controlled by third parties. Different service arrangements shall not create gaps in horse care, welfare oversight, safety, biosecurity, or emergency response.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-3.1 The organisation shall identify the horse-care and facility-use arrangements provided or permitted, including, where applicable, full care, partial care, self-care, box rental, temporary accommodation, visiting horses, day use or other arrangements.

AM1-3.2 Responsibilities for material horse-care activities shall be clearly allocated between the organisation and the relevant horse owner, keeper, lessee, rider, trainer or other responsible person, including, as applicable, feeding, drinking water, cleaning, bedding, turnout, exercise, health observation, veterinary care, farriery, medication, biosecurity and emergency response.

AM1-3.3 Horse owners, users and other relevant people shall be informed of and agree to comply with documented facility rules or a Code of Conduct establishing minimum requirements for horse wellbeing, responsible handling, veterinary attention, safety, biosecurity, environmental responsibility and use of shared facilities.

AM1-3.4 The organisation shall maintain appropriate authority to intervene, restrict an activity, require corrective action or escalate a concern where objective evidence indicates serious mistreatment, neglect, unsafe conduct, significant biosecurity risk or another material breach of mandatory facility requirements.

AM1-3.5 Horse-care responsibilities and facility rules shall be reviewed where incidents, complaints, welfare observations, veterinary concerns, changes in services or other evidence indicate that responsibilities or controls are unclear or ineffective.

Indicators

- Different care, livery, rental and facility-use arrangements are clearly identifiable.
- Material horse-care responsibilities are allocated and understood.
- Relevant users acknowledge applicable facility rules or Code of Conduct.
- Welfare, safety and conduct concerns have a defined escalation pathway.
- Operational experience results in a review of responsibilities where necessary.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes livery and box-rental arrangements, service agreements, Codes of Conduct, facility rules, horse-owner information, emergency arrangements, incident and complaint records, interviews and observation of actual practice.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where responsibilities and rules are substantially clear and effective, but isolated documentation, acknowledgement, communication or review deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material horse-care responsibilities are undefined or systematically unclear; no effective minimum welfare rules apply to third-party users; or serious mistreatment, neglect or significant welfare risk is knowingly permitted within areas under the organisation's operational control.

Criterion AM1-4 – Operational Risk and Impact Assessment

The organisation shall identify, evaluate, and control material risks and impacts arising from the operation of the stable or equestrian centre, taking into account horses, people, the environment, infrastructure, and the continuity of essential horse care.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-4.1 Material risks and impacts associated with normal operations shall be identified and evaluated.

AM1-4.2 Assessment shall consider abnormal conditions, seasonal variations, extreme weather, temporary activities, visiting horses, contractors, shared responsibilities and reasonably foreseeable emergencies.

AM1-4.3 Significant risks and impacts shall have proportionate preventive or mitigating controls, assigned responsibilities and appropriate monitoring arrangements.

AM1-4.4 Incidents, near misses, complaints, welfare observations, environmental events and monitoring results shall be used to evaluate the effectiveness of relevant controls.

AM1-4.5 Risk and impact assessments shall be reviewed following material changes or where evidence indicates that existing controls may no longer be adequate.

Indicators

- Material horse, human, environmental and operational risks are identifiable.
- Assessment reflects actual facility conditions and activities.
- Significant risks have defined controls and responsibilities.
- Operational evidence is used to evaluate effectiveness.
- Changes and incidents trigger appropriate review.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes risk and impact assessments, site observations, incidents, complaints, welfare information, environmental records, control measures and evidence of review.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where material risks are substantially controlled but individual assessments, reviews, responsibilities or monitoring evidence are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where a significant foreseeable risk remains knowingly uncontrolled or where failure of risk management creates a significant risk of harm to horses, people or the environment.

Criterion AM1-5 – Infrastructure, Equipment and Preventive Maintenance

Buildings, horse-accessible infrastructure, equipment and supporting systems shall be suitable for their intended use and maintained to protect horse wellbeing, people, environmental performance and continuity of operations.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-5.1 Stables, floors, walls, doors, gates, fencing, arenas, paddocks, access routes and other relevant infrastructure shall be appropriate for their intended use and maintained in serviceable condition.

AM1-5.2 Equipment and systems capable of materially affecting horse wellbeing, safety, or environmental performance shall be identified and subject to appropriate inspection and preventive maintenance.

AM1-5.3 Defects shall be prioritised according to risk, and effective temporary controls shall be implemented where immediate permanent correction is not reasonably possible.

AM1-5.4 Maintenance activities, equipment and materials shall be managed to prevent avoidable risk to horses, people and the environment.

AM1-5.5 Maintenance information, recurring failures and infrastructure condition shall be periodically evaluated to identify preventive improvement and replacement priorities.

Indicators

- Horse-accessible infrastructure is appropriate and maintained.
- Significant equipment and systems are subject to planned control.
- Defects are prioritised according to risk.
- Maintenance activities protect horses, the facility, and users.
- Recurring failures inform maintenance and investment decisions.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes physical inspection, maintenance programmes, defect records, service information, equipment condition and corrective actions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where infrastructure is substantially suitable and safe, but isolated maintenance, inspection or record deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where known infrastructure or equipment defects create significant foreseeable risk to horses or people, or serious defects remain knowingly uncontrolled.

Criterion AM1-6 – Horse Accommodation and Living Environment

Horse accommodation shall provide conditions appropriate to the physical, behavioural and welfare needs of the horses accommodated and shall be maintained so that foreseeable risks of injury, distress and unhealthy living conditions are controlled.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-6.1 Accommodation shall provide sufficient usable space and appropriate configuration for the horses for which it is intended, considering relevant individual characteristics and management conditions.

AM1-6.2 Floors, walls, doors, fixtures, fittings and internal surfaces shall minimise foreseeable risks of injury, entrapment, slipping or other avoidable harm.

AM1-6.3 Accommodation shall provide appropriate ventilation, thermal conditions, lighting, drainage and protection from adverse weather.

AM1-6.4 Horses shall have suitable conditions for rest and normal behaviour consistent with their health, safety and individual management requirements.

AM1-6.5 Accommodation conditions shall be routinely evaluated, and recurring deficiencies or evidence of adverse welfare effects shall result in corrective action.

Indicators

- Accommodation is appropriate for the horses using it.
- Physical conditions minimise foreseeable injury.
- Ventilation, temperature, lighting and drainage are appropriate.
- Horses have suitable resting and behavioural conditions.

- Deficiencies result in timely corrective action.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes direct inspection, measurement where relevant, observation of horses, inspection routines, complaints, and evidence of corrective action.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where accommodation is substantially appropriate but isolated maintenance, environmental-condition, or monitoring deficiencies exist without significant welfare impact.

Major non-conformity: Arises where accommodation exposes horses to significant avoidable injury, distress, harmful environmental conditions or materially unsuitable living conditions.

Criterion AM1-7 – Drinking Water Provision, Quality and Security

Horses shall have reliable access to sufficient, suitable drinking water, and water provision shall be protected against foreseeable contamination, interruption and infrastructure failure.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-7.1 Horses shall have access to sufficient fresh drinking water appropriate to their needs and management conditions.

AM1-7.2 Water sources, troughs, drinkers and distribution systems shall be positioned, maintained and cleaned to support reliable access and appropriate hygiene.

AM1-7.3 Water quality shall be evaluated where source characteristics, contamination risks, incidents or other evidence create reasonable uncertainty concerning suitability.

AM1-7.4 Water provision shall be routinely monitored, with particular attention to extreme weather, freezing, drought, equipment failure, abnormal consumption or supply interruption.

AM1-7.5 Appropriate contingency arrangements shall exist for foreseeable interruption or contamination of horse drinking-water supplies.

Indicators

- Horses have reliable access to sufficient drinking water.
- Drinking-water infrastructure is clean and functional.
- Water-quality risks are appropriately evaluated.
- Abnormal consumption and supply problems are detected.
- Contingency arrangements are demonstrable.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes observation of horses and water points, infrastructure inspection, consumption information, cleaning and maintenance arrangements, water-quality evidence where applicable and contingency provisions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when adequate, suitable water is available, but isolated deficiencies in cleaning, monitoring, maintenance, or documentation exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where horses are knowingly deprived of sufficient, suitable drinking water, significant known contamination remains uncontrolled, or foreseeable critical supply failure lacks adequate contingency arrangements.

Criterion AM1-8 – Feed, Forage and Nutritional Management

Feed and forage shall be selected, stored, managed and provided in a manner that supports horse health and well-being and minimises avoidable contamination, deterioration and resource loss.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-8.1 Feed and forage provision shall be appropriate to relevant horse requirements, including workload, age, health, body condition and management circumstances.

AM1-8.2 Material feed and forage sources shall be sufficiently traceable to support quality, safety and regulatory requirements where applicable.

AM1-8.3 Storage shall protect feed and forage against moisture, contamination, pests, deterioration and other material quality risks.

AM1-8.4 Feeding arrangements shall minimise avoidable contamination, excessive wastage and inappropriate competition between horses.

AM1-8.5 Feed use, wastage, quality concerns and relevant horse-condition indicators shall be evaluated, and management practices adjusted where evidence indicates a need.

Indicators

- Feeding practices reflect horse requirements.
- Material feed sources can be identified.
- Storage protects feed and forage quality.
- Feeding arrangements control contamination and unnecessary waste.
- Horse condition and feeding influence management decisions.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes feed and forage storage, purchasing and traceability information, feeding practices, horse observations, relevant condition information and evidence of waste.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when nutritional management is substantially appropriate, but isolated deficiencies exist in storage, traceability, monitoring, or waste control.

Major non-conformity: Arises where horses receive materially inadequate or unsafe nutrition, known unsuitable or contaminated feed is provided, or systemic feeding failures create significant welfare risk.

Criterion AM1-9 – Movement, Turnout, Social Contact and Rest

Horse-management arrangements shall provide appropriate opportunities for movement, turnout, social interaction, and rest, taking into account individual horse needs, health, safety, and the nature of the facility.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-9.1 Appropriate arrangements for movement and turnout shall be established according to individual horse circumstances and facility conditions.

AM1-9.2 Horses shall have appropriate opportunities for social contact unless health, behavioural, veterinary or safety considerations justify restriction.

AM1-9.3 Turnout, paddock and exercise areas shall be managed to minimise significant injury, escape, conflict, overuse and environmental risks.

AM1-9.4 Horses shall have appropriate opportunities for rest and recovery relative to their workload, activities and individual condition.

AM1-9.5 Restrictions affecting movement, turnout, social contact or rest shall be reviewed where welfare observations or other evidence indicate that existing arrangements may be inadequate.

Indicators

- Movement and turnout arrangements are demonstrable.
- Appropriate social contact is provided, or restriction is justified.
- Turnout areas are appropriately managed.
- Rest and recovery reflect horse activity and condition.
- Welfare evidence results in reviews where appropriate.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes horse observations, turnout arrangements, schedules where relevant, paddock and exercise-area conditions and evidence supporting material restrictions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when arrangements are generally appropriate but isolated deficiencies in scheduling, monitoring, or review exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where horses are systematically subjected to materially inadequate movement, social or rest conditions without appropriate justification and significant avoidable welfare harm or risk results.

Criterion AM1-10 – Bedding, Stable Hygiene and Air Quality

Bedding, cleaning, ventilation and stable-management practices shall maintain hygienic living conditions and control material risks associated with moisture, dust, ammonia, mould, odour and airborne contaminants.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-10.1 Bedding shall be appropriate for its intended use and maintained in a condition that supports horse hygiene, comfort and health.

AM1-10.2 Cleaning and bedding-management practices shall control excessive moisture, manure accumulation and avoidable contamination.

AM1-10.3 Material sources of dust, ammonia, mould, particulate matter, odour and other relevant airborne contaminants shall be identified and controlled.

AM1-10.4 Ventilation and air-quality conditions shall be routinely evaluated and measured where appropriate when observation alone does not provide sufficient evidence.

AM1-10.5 Recurring hygiene, respiratory, odour, or air-quality concerns shall be investigated, and appropriate corrective or improvement actions implemented.

Indicators

- Bedding is appropriate and hygienically managed.
- Cleaning controls manure, urine and excessive moisture.
- Material airborne contaminants are controlled.
- Ventilation and air quality are evaluated.
- Recurring concerns lead to investigation and action.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes stable inspection, bedding and ventilation conditions, cleaning arrangements, complaints, respiratory concerns, horse observations and measurements where relevant.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where conditions are substantially acceptable but isolated hygiene, bedding, ventilation or monitoring deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where persistent or severe hygiene or air-quality conditions create significant foreseeable harm to horses or people and remain knowingly uncontrolled.

Criterion AM1-11 – Preventive Health, Veterinary Care and Farriery

The organisation shall maintain arrangements appropriate to its allocated responsibilities for preventive health, veterinary care, farriery and timely response to signs of horse illness, injury, pain or distress.

The organisation shall recognise the limits of non-veterinary competence and ensure that significant unresolved welfare concerns receive appropriate professional assessment.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-11.1 Preventive health and hoof-care arrangements shall be appropriate to the horses accommodated and to the responsibilities allocated to the organisation or horse owner.

AM1-11.2 Competent veterinary support shall be accessible, and horses showing significant illness, injury, pain, distress or abnormal condition shall receive appropriate attention without undue delay.

AM1-11.3 Where a horse is owned or managed by a third party, the person responsible shall be contacted as soon as reasonably practicable; however, delayed response, failure to respond or refusal to act shall not prevent appropriate veterinary escalation where objective evidence indicates significant unresolved welfare risk.

AM1-11.4 Livery, rental or other relevant horse-care arrangements shall establish how emergency veterinary assistance may be obtained where the owner or usual responsible person is unavailable or unable to respond appropriately.

AM1-11.5 Relevant health events, recurring injuries, veterinary concerns or abnormal trends shall be evaluated to determine whether management, workload, infrastructure, nutrition or other underlying factors require corrective action.

Indicators

- Preventive health and hoof-care responsibilities are clear.
- Veterinary support can be accessed when required.
- Significant welfare concerns result in appropriate escalation.
- Emergency arrangements address third-party horses.
- Recurring health concerns lead to a wider operational review.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes veterinary and farriery arrangements, relevant health and treatment records, horse-owner agreements, emergency procedures, horse observations and evidence of response to health concerns.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where appropriate care is substantially provided, but isolated deficiencies in records, scheduling, communication, or preventive management exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where necessary professional assessment or care is knowingly withheld or materially delayed despite significant welfare risk; where management knowingly leaves a horse in significant untreated pain or distress; or where ineffective emergency arrangements create significant avoidable suffering.

Criterion AM1-12 – Horse Welfare Oversight, Third-Party Conduct and Intervention

The organisation shall maintain effective oversight of horse welfare conditions and conduct within areas under its operational control and shall respond appropriately where the actions or omissions of any person create significant welfare concerns.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-12.1 Minimum acceptable horse-wellbeing and conduct requirements shall apply to employees, owners, riders, trainers, liverys, contractors, visitors and other people handling or responsible for horses within the facility.

AM1-12.2 Horse handling, including the use of whips, spurs, restraints and other handling or training aids, shall avoid unnecessary pain, fear, distress, injury, excessive force or punitive treatment. Use shall remain appropriate to the horse and activity.

AM1-12.3 Any person shall be able to raise a legitimate horse-wellbeing concern, and such concerns shall receive proportionate consideration irrespective of that person's experience, status or ownership of the horse.

AM1-12.4 Where objective evidence indicates significant mistreatment, neglect or welfare risk, the organisation shall intervene within its authority, require the activity to stop where necessary, escalate the matter and obtain competent or veterinary assistance where appropriate.

AM1-12.5 Serious or repeated breaches shall result in proportionate action, which may include restriction of activities or access, termination of facility-use arrangements or referral to the appropriate competent authority where required.

Indicators

- Welfare and conduct expectations apply to all relevant facility users.
- Observed horse handling is appropriate.
- Welfare concerns can be raised without unreasonable obstruction.
- Serious concerns result in intervention and escalation.
- Repeated or serious breaches have demonstrable consequences.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes Codes of Conduct, facility rules, observations, complaints, incident records, interviews, corrective actions and evidence of welfare intervention.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when welfare oversight is substantially effective, but isolated deficiencies in communication, documentation, or follow-up exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where serious mistreatment or neglect is knowingly tolerated; management fails to intervene despite objective evidence of significant avoidable harm; or people raising legitimate serious welfare concerns are knowingly pressured, obstructed or disregarded without appropriate assessment.

Criterion AM1-13 – Biosecurity and Infectious Disease Control

The organisation shall maintain biosecurity arrangements proportionate to the nature and scale of the facility and the movement of horses, people, equipment, and materials that could introduce or spread infectious diseases.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-13.1 Material infectious-disease and biosecurity risks relevant to the facility shall be identified.

AM1-13.2 Appropriate controls shall be established for horse arrivals and departures, visiting horses, people, shared equipment, hygiene and other material transmission pathways.

AM1-13.3 Suitable arrangements shall exist for isolation or separation of horses where disease status, symptoms, veterinary advice or applicable requirements make this necessary.

AM1-13.4 Suspected or confirmed infectious disease shall trigger appropriate veterinary, operational, communication and regulatory actions.

AM1-13.5 Biosecurity controls shall be reviewed following relevant disease events, incidents or significant changes in horse movements or risk.

Indicators

- Relevant disease risks and transmission routes are understood.
- Practical biosecurity controls are implemented.
- Appropriate isolation or separation arrangements are available.
- Disease concerns trigger a timely response.
- Events and changing risks result in a review.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes biosecurity arrangements, horse movement information, isolation facilities, hygiene practices, veterinary evidence, incident information and interviews.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when biosecurity is substantially effective, but isolated control, documentation, or review deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where known significant infectious-disease risks are materially uncontrolled, required isolation or reporting is knowingly disregarded, or systemic failure creates significant foreseeable transmission risk.

Criterion AM1-14 – Horse Arrival, Loading, Unloading and Departure

Where horses arrive at or depart from the facility, loading, unloading and associated movement shall be managed to protect horse wellbeing and human safety and to minimise avoidable stress, injury, escape, congestion and biosecurity risk. These requirements apply to the facility interface with horse transport. Where the organisation itself undertakes horse transport as a material, routine or separately certified activity, AM7 – Transport & Logistics shall additionally apply according to the defined certification scope.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-14.1 Loading and unloading areas shall be appropriate for their intended use, considering surfaces, space, access, lighting, vehicle movement and interaction with people and other horses.

AM1-14.2 Horse and vehicle movements shall be managed to minimise unsafe congestion, conflicting traffic and unnecessary waiting or exposure.

AM1-14.3 Persons controlling or assisting loading and unloading shall have competence appropriate to their role and shall use responsible horse-handling methods.

AM1-14.4 Horses showing significant injury, distress, illness or inability to load or unload safely shall not be subjected to inappropriate force, and appropriate assistance shall be obtained where necessary.

AM1-14.5 Relevant incidents, injuries, escapes, near misses or recurring loading and unloading difficulties shall be evaluated and used to improve arrangements. Where the organisation routinely or materially transports horses beyond the facility interface, the applicability of AM7 – Transport & Logistics shall be determined.

Indicators

- Loading and unloading areas are suitable and safely managed.
- Horse and vehicle flows are appropriately controlled.
- Horse handling is competent and proportionate.
- Distressed or injured horses receive an appropriate response.
- Incidents and recurring difficulties result in improvement.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes loading and unloading areas, horse and vehicle movement arrangements, personnel competence, handling practices, incident and near-miss records and operational observations. Where the organisation itself routinely or materially transports horses, verification shall confirm that the applicability of AM7 – Transport & Logistics has been appropriately determined.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when arrangements are substantially appropriate but isolated deficiencies exist in traffic, supervision, infrastructure, or documentation.

Major non-conformity: Arises where loading or unloading practices expose horses or people to significant foreseeable harm, abusive handling is knowingly permitted, or known serious transport-interface risks remain uncontrolled.

Criterion AM1-15 – Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Horse Care

The organisation shall maintain practical emergency arrangements proportionate to foreseeable risks affecting horses, people, facilities and operations. Emergency response shall prioritise immediate safety and horse wellbeing, establish clear responsibilities and, where a significant incident becomes publicly relevant, support subsequent factual and appropriately verified communication in accordance with CML-18.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-15.1 Foreseeable emergency scenarios shall be identified, including, where relevant, fire, extreme weather, utility failure, flooding, escape, serious injury or illness, contamination and infrastructure failure.

AM1-15.2 Emergency arrangements shall define responsibilities, communication, horse handling or evacuation (where relevant), access for emergency services, and escalation routes.

AM1-15.3 Continuity arrangements shall address essential horse needs, including drinking water, feed, shelter and necessary veterinary support.

AM1-15.4 Emergency equipment, access routes, contact information and other critical arrangements shall be maintained and periodically checked.

AM1-15.5 Significant emergencies and incidents shall be recorded and reviewed to determine causes, response effectiveness and necessary corrective or preventive action. Where an incident is publicly witnessed, becomes publicly known or is reasonably likely to generate material concern regarding horse or human wellbeing, subsequent external communication shall be managed in accordance with CML-18 using factual and appropriately verified information while respecting privacy, consent and confidentiality.

Indicators

- Relevant emergency scenarios are identified.
- Responsibilities and escalation arrangements are clear.
- Essential horse-care continuity is addressed.
- Emergency equipment and information are maintained.
- Significant incidents result in review, corrective action and verified communication where publicly relevant.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes emergency procedures, identified scenarios, responsible-person arrangements, emergency resources, training or exercises, incident and near-miss records, corrective actions and evidence of review. Where significant publicly relevant incidents have occurred, verification shall additionally include authorised communications, supporting veterinary or other competent verification where relevant, subsequent updates and evidence that appropriate privacy and confidentiality were maintained.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where emergency arrangements remain substantially effective but isolated deficiencies exist in documentation, review, communication evidence or follow-up without creating significant horse-wellbeing or human-safety risk or materially misleading public information.

Major non-conformity: Arises where foreseeable significant emergencies are not adequately addressed, emergency arrangements materially fail to protect horses or people, significant incidents are knowingly left without appropriate response, or deliberately false, materially misleading or knowingly unsupported information concerning a significant incident is communicated.

Criterion AM1-16 – Energy Use and Operational Efficiency

Energy consumption associated with the facility shall be measured and managed to improve operational efficiency while maintaining appropriate horse well-being, safety, and environmental conditions.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-16.1 Material energy sources and significant energy-consuming activities shall be identified.

AM1-16.2 Energy consumption shall be measured or reliably determined over consistent reporting periods.

AM1-16.3 Significant energy uses, abnormal consumption and avoidable losses shall be evaluated to identify operational, maintenance and efficiency opportunities.

AM1-16.4 Energy-efficiency measures shall consider potential consequences for ventilation, lighting, water provision, thermal conditions, horse wellbeing and safety.

AM1-16.5 Energy performance shall be periodically reviewed against an appropriate baseline and relevant operational indicators, and implemented actions evaluated for effectiveness.

Indicators

- Material energy sources and uses are identified.
- Reliable quantitative energy data are available.
- Abnormal consumption is investigated.
- Efficiency actions protect horse wellbeing and safety.
- Baselines and trends support performance evaluation.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes bills, meter data, equipment information, baseline calculations, operational controls, performance trends and improvement actions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where energy is substantially managed, but individual measurement, analysis, baseline or review elements are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material energy consumption is systematically unmanaged, performance data are materially unreliable, or energy-management decisions knowingly create significant horse-wellbeing or safety risks.

Criterion AM1-17 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Performance

The organisation shall identify, quantify and progressively manage material greenhouse gas emissions associated with the operation of the stable or equestrian centre using reliable and reproducible information.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-17.1 Material direct and indirect greenhouse gas emission sources associated with activities under the organisation's operational control shall be identified.

AM1-17.2 Relevant activity data shall be obtained from reliable and traceable sources.

AM1-17.3 Emissions shall be calculated and reported in tonnes CO₂e using a recognised and consistently applied methodology, with boundaries, emission factors, assumptions and material exclusions identifiable.

AM1-17.4 Greenhouse gas performance shall be periodically compared with an appropriate baseline and meaningful operational indicators.

AM1-17.5 Material emission sources and adverse trends shall be evaluated to identify reasonable reduction opportunities, and implemented measures shall be reviewed for effectiveness.

Indicators

- Material emission sources are identified.
- Supporting activity data are traceable.
- Calculations are reproducible.
- Baseline and relevant intensity information are available.
- Reduction actions and resulting performance are evaluated.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes energy and fuel information, relevant activity data, calculations, emission factors, boundaries, baselines and reduction actions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where emissions are substantially quantified but individual data, assumptions, calculations or review evidence are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material sources are systematically excluded without justification, reported emissions are materially unreliable or deliberately misleading, or no credible basis exists for evaluating material greenhouse gas performance.

Criterion AM1-18 – Water Use and Resource Efficiency

Water shall be measured and managed responsibly to improve resource efficiency while maintaining the availability of drinking water for horses, hygiene, biosecurity, and other essential operational requirements.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-18.1 Material water sources and significant water-consuming activities shall be identified.

AM1-18.2 Water consumption shall be measured or reliably determined over consistent reporting periods.

AM1-18.3 Significant uses, abnormal consumption, leaks and avoidable losses shall be investigated, and corrective or efficiency measures implemented where appropriate.

AM1-18.4 Water-efficiency measures shall not compromise horse drinking-water availability, hygiene, biosecurity, fire protection or other essential requirements.

AM1-18.5 Water performance shall be evaluated against an appropriate baseline and relevant operational indicators, and improvement actions reviewed for effectiveness.

Indicators

- Water sources and significant uses are identified.
- Reliable quantitative consumption information is available.
- Leaks and abnormal consumption are investigated.
- Efficiency measures protect essential requirements.
- Baselines and trends support performance evaluation.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes bills, meter information, abstraction records (where applicable), leak information, operational practices, baselines, and efficiency measures.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where water is substantially controlled, but individual measurement, analysis, leak management, or review deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where significant water losses remain knowingly uncontrolled, unlawful abstraction or use occurs, or efficiency measures materially compromise horse wellbeing or essential hygiene.

Criterion AM1-19 – Wastewater, Drainage and Water Pollution Prevention

Wastewater, drainage and potentially contaminated runoff shall be managed to prevent material pollution of soil, groundwater, surface water and the surrounding environment.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-19.1 Material wastewater, drainage and potentially contaminated runoff sources and their management or discharge routes shall be identified.

AM1-19.2 Drainage and wastewater systems shall be appropriate to the nature and volume of flows generated and applicable requirements.

AM1-19.3 Manure, urine, sediment, detergents, disinfectants, veterinary-related substances, fuels, oils and other pollutants shall be prevented from entering inappropriate drainage or water systems.

AM1-19.4 Relevant drainage, wastewater and pollution-control infrastructure shall be inspected and maintained, and defects or abnormal discharges corrected.

AM1-19.5 Significant incidents, recurring problems and abnormal discharges shall be investigated and preventive improvements implemented where necessary.

Indicators

- Wastewater and drainage sources and destinations are understood.
- Systems are appropriate to facility needs.
- Potential pollutants are controlled.
- Infrastructure is inspected and maintained.
- Incidents and recurring problems result in corrective action.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes site inspection, drainage information, discharge arrangements, maintenance records, pollution controls, applicable permits and incident information.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when wastewater is substantially controlled, but isolated deficiencies in inspection, maintenance, documentation, or preventive control exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where contaminated wastewater is knowingly discharged in a manner capable of causing significant harm, mandatory controls are materially absent, or recurring significant pollution remains knowingly uncontrolled.

Criterion AM1-20 – Manure, Bedding and Organic Resource Management

Manure, used bedding, and other significant organic materials shall be managed to protect horse hygiene, air, water, soil and surrounding communities while supporting beneficial use and resource efficiency where appropriate.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-20.1 Manure and used bedding generation, collection, storage, handling and destination shall be identified and controlled.

AM1-20.2 Storage arrangements shall minimise material risks associated with runoff, leaching, odour, pests, fire, contamination and unsafe accumulation.

AM1-20.3 Quantities shall be measured or reliably estimated at appropriate intervals to support operational management and benchmarking.

AM1-20.4 Beneficial reuse, composting, land application, recovery or other resource-efficient options shall be evaluated where legally and environmentally appropriate.

AM1-20.5 Manure-management performance, complaints, incidents, quantities and recovery or disposal arrangements shall be periodically reviewed and improved where necessary.

Indicators

- Manure and bedding flows and destinations are known.
- Storage appropriately controls material, environmental, and hygiene risks.
- Quantitative generation information is available.
- Beneficial use and recovery are considered where appropriate.
- Performance and complaints influence improvement.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes storage inspection, quantities or estimates, collection or disposal information, land-application arrangements, complaints and environmental controls.

Minor non-conformity: Arises when manure is substantially controlled, but isolated deficiencies exist in storage, measurement, documentation, or review.

Major non-conformity: Arises where manure management creates significant uncontrolled pollution, a serious horse-hygiene or safety risk, unlawful disposal or a persistent significant nuisance that remains knowingly uncorrected.

Criterion AM1-21 – Solid Waste and Circular Resource Management

Solid waste shall be managed according to a hierarchy that prioritises prevention, reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery before disposal where appropriate.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-21.1 Material solid-waste streams generated by facility operations shall be identified.

AM1-21.2 Waste shall be appropriately segregated, stored and transferred according to its characteristics and applicable requirements.

AM1-21.3 Quantities of material waste streams shall be measured or reliably estimated where reasonably practicable.

AM1-21.4 Opportunities to prevent waste, reduce material consumption, reuse products and improve recycling or recovery shall be periodically evaluated.

AM1-21.5 Waste performance and disposal arrangements shall be reviewed using quantitative and qualitative evidence, and deficiencies shall result in improvement action.

Indicators

- Material waste streams are identified.
- Appropriate segregation and storage are implemented.
- Quantitative waste information is available.
- Prevention, reuse and recycling opportunities are evaluated.
- Performance trends inform improvement.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes waste areas, contractor information, transfer documentation, quantities, segregation arrangements, and evidence of improvement.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where waste is substantially controlled but individual segregation, measurement, documentation or improvement elements are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material waste is unlawfully disposed of, hazardous waste is seriously mismanaged, or systemic waste practices create significant environmental or safety risk.

Criterion AM1-22 – Chemicals, Fuels, Veterinary Products and Environmentally Harmful Substances

Potentially harmful substances shall be selected, stored, used and disposed of in a manner that protects horses, people and the environment.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-22.1 Chemicals, fuels, oils, detergents, disinfectants, pesticides, fertilisers, veterinary-related products and other materially harmful substances shall be identified.

AM1-22.2 Relevant substances shall be appropriately labelled, stored, secured and segregated according to their characteristics and risks.

AM1-22.3 Persons using potentially harmful substances shall have appropriate information and competence for safe and responsible use.

AM1-22.4 Spill prevention, containment, emergency response and appropriate disposal arrangements shall be maintained.

AM1-22.5 Use of materially harmful substances shall be periodically reviewed to identify opportunities for elimination, substitution or reduction where this does not compromise horse health, biosecurity, safety or legal requirements.

Indicators

- Relevant harmful substances are identified.
- Storage and segregation correspond with risks.
- Users demonstrate appropriate competence.
- Spill and disposal controls are available.
- Substitution and reduction opportunities are evaluated.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes inventories, storage inspection, product information, purchasing, use practices, spill controls, disposal information and interviews.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where substances are substantially controlled but isolated inventory, labelling, storage, competence or review deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where harmful substances are materially uncontrolled, unlawful disposal occurs, or storage or use creates significant foreseeable risk to horses, people or the environment.

Criterion AM1-23 – Land, Soil, Ecosystems and Biodiversity Stewardship

Land used or controlled by the facility shall be managed to minimise degradation, protect environmental quality, and support ecosystems and biodiversity, proportionate to the facility's location, activities, and ecological context.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-23.1 Material land, soil, habitat, watercourse and biodiversity features potentially affected by facility operations shall be identified.

AM1-23.2 Grazing, turnout, vehicle movement, manure application, drainage and other land-use activities shall be managed to minimise erosion, compaction, contamination, overuse and avoidable habitat damage.

AM1-23.3 Sensitive habitats, protected features, water courses and other environmentally significant areas shall be appropriately protected.

AM1-23.4 Opportunities to maintain, restore or enhance biodiversity and ecological value shall be identified and implemented where reasonably practicable.

AM1-23.5 Land and ecological conditions shall be periodically evaluated, and evidence of material degradation or adverse impact shall result in corrective or restorative action.

Indicators

- Material land and biodiversity features are understood.
- Operational practices control erosion, compaction and contamination.
- Sensitive features receive appropriate protection.
- Practical biodiversity enhancement is considered or implemented.
- Degradation results in corrective action.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes site inspection, land-management information, maps where relevant, grazing and manure practices, protected-area information and improvement actions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where land and ecological impacts are substantially controlled, but individual identification, monitoring or enhancement measures are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where activities knowingly cause significant unlawful or avoidable damage to protected habitats, watercourses, soil or other environmentally sensitive features.

Criterion AM1-24 – Responsible Horse Handling, People Safety and Facility Conduct

Activities undertaken within the facility shall protect both horse wellbeing and human safety through responsible horse handling, appropriate supervision, safe working practices and enforceable standards of conduct.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-24.1 Material risks associated with horse handling and stable activities shall have appropriate operational controls.

AM1-24.2 Persons who handle horses shall use methods appropriate to the horse, activity and their level of competence and shall avoid unnecessary fear, pain, distress, injury or excessive force.

AM1-24.3 Responsibilities, supervision and access restrictions shall be appropriate to the risks associated with relevant activities and facility areas.

AM1-24.4 Appropriate protective equipment and safe working arrangements shall be established according to the activity, foreseeable risk and applicable requirements.

AM1-24.5 Incidents, near misses, unsafe practices and horse-handling concerns shall be evaluated and used to improve operational controls.

Indicators

- Material horse-handling and stable work risks are controlled.
- Observed horse handling is responsible and appropriate.
- Supervision corresponds with operational risks.
- Protective arrangements are proportionate to foreseeable risks.
- Incidents and observations result in review and improvement.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes operational observation, risk controls, safety arrangements, incident information, interviews and horse-handling practices.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where operations are substantially safe and responsible, but isolated procedural, supervision, equipment or record deficiencies exist.

Major non-conformity: Arises where systemic unsafe practices or inappropriate horse handling create significant foreseeable risk or avoidable harm, or where serious concerns are knowingly ignored.

Criterion AM1-25 – Competence, Education, Training and Awareness

People whose activities can materially influence horse wellbeing, safety, environmental performance or stable operations shall have competence and awareness appropriate to their responsibilities.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-25.1 Role-specific competence and awareness needs shall be identified according to responsibility, activity and risk.

AM1-25.2 Relevant persons shall receive appropriate instruction, training or supervised practical experience before independently undertaking material-risk activities.

AM1-25.3 Relevant persons shall understand their responsibility and authority to recognise, report and escalate significant horse-wellbeing, safety, environmental or operational concerns.

AM1-25.4 Training and competence effectiveness shall be evaluated through observation, questioning, performance results, incidents or other appropriate evidence rather than attendance records alone.

AM1-25.5 Identified competence gaps, operational changes, recurring incidents, or performance deficiencies shall result in appropriate refresher training, instruction, supervision or other improvement action.

Indicators

- Role-specific competence requirements are defined.
- Appropriate training or supervised experience is demonstrated.
- Relevant people understand escalation responsibilities.
- Training effectiveness is evaluated.
- Identified gaps result in corrective development.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes competence information, training records, interviews, operational observation, incidents and performance evidence.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where competence is generally effective but individual training, awareness or effectiveness-evaluation evidence is incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where systemic competence failure creates significant risk to horses, people or the environment, or material-risk activities are repeatedly undertaken without appropriate competence or supervision.

Criterion AM1-26 – Economic Responsibility, Resource Productivity and Operational Resilience

The organisation shall understand and manage material operational costs and resource dependencies so that economic decisions support responsible long-term operation without compromising horse wellbeing, legal compliance, safety or environmental protection.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-26.1 Material operating costs and resource dependencies associated with horse care, feed, bedding, water, energy, waste, manure, staffing, maintenance and other significant facility activities shall be identified.

AM1-26.2 Material consumption and cost trends shall be periodically evaluated to identify abnormal performance, avoidable losses and resource-productivity opportunities.

AM1-26.3 Significant cost-reduction and efficiency measures shall be evaluated for potential consequences for horse wellbeing, people and environmental performance before implementation.

AM1-26.4 Appropriate resources shall be maintained for essential horse care, competent personnel, preventive maintenance, legal obligations and significant environmental and safety controls.

AM1-26.5 Material economic risks and improvement opportunities shall inform operational planning, investment priorities and continual improvement.

Indicators

- Significant operating costs and resource dependencies are understood.
- Consumption and cost trends are evaluated.
- Efficiency decisions consider wider consequences.
- Essential horse-care and operational functions remain appropriately resourced.
- Economic information informs improvement and investment.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes relevant cost and consumption information, operational planning, resource-efficiency measures, maintenance decisions and management interviews. Assessment shall not require unnecessary disclosure of commercially sensitive information.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where economic management is generally effective but individual trend, dependency, cost-control or planning evidence is incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where resource or financial decisions knowingly compromise essential horse care, legal compliance, safety or material environmental controls, or systemic resource failure threatens the responsible continuation of the activity.

Criterion AM1-27 – Performance Measurement and Benchmarking

The organisation shall measure and evaluate material stable and equestrian-centre performance using reliable quantitative and qualitative information that supports benchmarking, management review, and continual improvement.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-27.1 Material performance indicators arising from applicable AM1 requirements shall be identified and consistently measured or reliably determined.

AM1-27.2 Relevant indicators shall include appropriate operational denominators or contextual information where necessary to enable meaningful comparison, including horse numbers, occupancy or other relevant activity measures.

AM1-27.3 Performance data shall be traceable to reliable source information and compatible with applicable benchmarking reporting requirements. Material estimates, conversions, normalisation methods and assumptions shall be identifiable and reproducible where applicable.

AM1-27.4 Baselines, trends, significant deviations and abnormal results shall be periodically evaluated.

AM1-27.5 Performance findings shall be used to establish priorities, support decisions and evaluate whether implemented actions achieve intended outcomes.

Indicators

- Material AM1 performance indicators are defined.
- Quantitative information and appropriate contextual denominators are available.
- Data is traceable and suitable for benchmarking reporting.
- Baselines and trends are evaluated.
- Performance information demonstrably influences decisions.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes source data, calculations, performance information, baselines, trend analysis and evidence of resulting management decisions.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where material performance is substantially measured, but individual indicators, denominators, traceability, baselines or analysis are incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material performance data are systematically absent or unreliable, significant data are knowingly misrepresented, or the organisation cannot demonstrate a credible basis for evaluating material operational performance.

Criterion AM1-28 – Corrective Action and Continual Improvement

The organisation shall use operational evidence to correct deficiencies, address underlying causes, and progressively improve horse wellbeing and the environmental, social, and economic performance associated with the facility.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-28.1 Deficiencies identified through inspections, monitoring, benchmarking, incidents, complaints, welfare observations, veterinary concerns or assessments shall be recorded and evaluated according to significance.

AM1-28.2 Immediate correction shall be undertaken where necessary to control existing risk or restore acceptable conditions.

AM1-28.3 Significant or recurring deficiencies shall be investigated to determine underlying causes and appropriate corrective actions.

AM1-28.4 Corrective and improvement actions shall have appropriate responsibilities, priorities and target dates and shall be monitored to completion.

AM1-28.5 Effectiveness shall be evaluated after implementation, and unsuccessful or recurring actions shall result in further review and improvement.

Indicators

- Deficiencies are identified and prioritised.
- Immediate risks are appropriately controlled.
- Significant or recurring problems demonstrate cause analysis.
- Actions have responsibilities and completion controls.
- Effectiveness is evaluated after implementation.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes inspections, incidents, complaints, welfare and veterinary concerns, benchmarking results, corrective-action records, cause analysis and effectiveness reviews.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where corrective action is substantially effective, but individual analysis, responsibility, timing or effectiveness evidence is incomplete.

Major non-conformity: Arises where significant or recurring deficiencies remain knowingly unresolved, corrective-action processes are systemically ineffective, or failure to act creates significant risk to horses, people or the environment.

Criterion AM1-29 – Communication, Transparency and Responsible Claims

Information communicated concerning the stable or equestrian centre, its horse-management practices, services and sustainability performance shall accurately reflect demonstrated operational practice and shall be supported by appropriate evidence.

Compliance Requirements

AM1-29.1 Material information provided to horse owners, clients, riders, visitors and other relevant users concerning facilities, services, responsibilities and horse-management practices shall be accurate and current.

AM1-29.2 Relevant facility rules, horse-wellbeing expectations, safety requirements, biosecurity provisions, environmental practices and user responsibilities shall be communicated in a form appropriate to the intended audience.

AM1-29.3 Material sustainability, environmental, horse-wellbeing or performance claims relating to AM1 activities shall be supported by objective evidence.

AM1-29.4 Quantitative performance claims shall be consistent with verified performance information and applicable benchmarking data.

AM1-29.5 Relevant feedback and complaints concerning facility practices, horse wellbeing or communicated claims shall be evaluated, and inaccurate or unsupported information shall be corrected without undue delay.

Indicators

- Material user information accurately reflects actual operations.
- Facility rules and responsibilities are effectively communicated.
- Material claims are traceable to objective evidence.
- Quantitative claims correspond with underlying performance data.
- Feedback and inaccuracies result in review and correction.

Verification and Non-Conformity Conditions

Verification includes websites, social media, client and horse-owner information, service descriptions, signage, agreements (where relevant), performance claims, benchmarking information, complaints, and supporting evidence.

Minor non-conformity: Arises where communication is substantially accurate but isolated information is outdated, incomplete or insufficiently supported without materially misleading stakeholders.

Major non-conformity: Arises where material horse-wellbeing, environmental or sustainability claims are false or knowingly unsupported, quantitative performance is materially misrepresented, or public communication materially contradicts actual operational practice.