

Embercombe Risk Assessment

Farm Animals

Description of main hazards and hazardous events:

Contact with animals resulting in the transmission of disease or organisms that can cause illness or serious diarrhoea. Including, zoonoses, orf (skin lesions), Q fever (flu-like symptoms) and E.coli 0157 (serious diarrhoea or worse). Contact with animals causing allergy and irritation to the skin. Animals may behave violently for a variety of reasons. This could be due to fear caused by unfamiliarity. Animals with young may attack people as a form of defence causing crushing injury or laceration to the skin. Animals may bite causing laceration to the skin and subsequent infection. There may be greater risks at certain times during the year such as during breeding season. When animals such as the Dartmoor ponies are used there is a risk people may lose control. This could result in crushing injury, laceration, bruising or even broken bones. These injuries may result from the animal itself or it could be from implements attached to the animal or loads carried upon a trailer pulled by the animal. The risk is especially high if people stand between the animal and implements.

Persons exposed: Employees Volunteers Clients / Public
Contractors Vulnerable groups

Existing controls:

Hands and arms should be washed with suitable soap after contact with animals. Particular care should be taken after undertaking specific operations with animals such as lambing, administering medicines or foot care. Good animal husbandry is practised to keep disease in check. People working with the animals need a good understanding of animal behaviour. Interactions between visitors and animals need to be risk assessed in terms of time of year and nature of the people involved. Children should be well supervised around animals. If children are working with or visiting young animals it may be necessary to separate the mother first. People working with the animals need to be introduced to the safe working practices. The Dartmoor ponies should be used by people who have proven they can control the animals. People should not stand in the risk zone between animal and implement.

Are there any further controls recommended?

The trailers used with the ponies should have a parking break. An additional hand sanitiser should be provided by the animal enclosure.

Summary of Safety Advice

Always wash hands after contact with animals.
Visiting groups should be well supervised and suitable for the animal.
Ponies should be only be used by competent people.

Other risk assessments you should read; [General Site](#)

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Job title: Site Manager

Signed:



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