

Incident information

- Identify and communicate the presence of animals, and any associated hazards, to emergency responders and the public
- Attempt to identify the owner of the animal
- Liaise with the owner of the animal, or the person with temporary responsibility for the animal, to gather information about it
- Liaise with the owner of the animal, or the person with temporary responsibility for the animal, to identify an appropriate destination for the released or evacuated animal
- Identify and communicate the best access points, rendezvous points (RVPs) and strategic holding areas (SHAs), based on the incident information received

Resource information

- Identify the need for specialist resources and request their attendance or assistance
- Ensure the specialist resources are deployed appropriately and understand their role
- Be aware of directories maintained by other organisations, for example a list of veterinary surgeons registered with the British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) or with the British Animal Rescue and Trauma Care Association (BARTA)
- Consider using the assistance of the owner of the animal
- Request veterinary or other specialist advice about containment
- Request a veterinary surgeon if chemical restraint is required
- Select the appropriate resources and equipment to break through building elements to create space
- Select the appropriate resources and equipment to gain access to the vehicle to create space

- Assess the available equipment for its suitability prior to use
- Assess the available resuscitation equipment for suitability prior to use
- **Further resource information**
 - Request appropriate specialist resources for rescues from unstable surfaces and landslides
 - Request the attendance of personnel with the required skill levels
 - Request technical rescue teams to attend incidents involving confined space or work at height
 - Consider requesting structural advice, assessment and monitoring from appropriate agencies

Risk information

• **Animals**

- Avoid, contain or control animals if necessary
- Minimise the stress response of animals
- Identify and maintain a safe egress route when dealing with an animal
- Consider using appropriate methods or equipment to physically control or restrain the animal
- Liaise with the veterinary surgeon about the level and duration of chemical restraint that is required and to identify a suitable and safe anaesthesia recovery area
- Monitor the welfare of an animal that has been contained
- Seek specialist advice about antidotes, antivenom or specialist treatment

• **Restricted access and egress**

- Identify and maintain a safe egress route when dealing with an animal
- Ensure emergency responders and others attending the incident are all made aware of the safe egress route
- Consider contingency arrangements if personnel may become isolated in areas where animals present a risk
- Determine an appropriate route to be used

• **Unguarded edges and unstable ground**

- Use any work equipment or safety device provided in accordance with training and instructions
- Ensure that caution is exercised when using tools to extricate an animal submerged in water, ice or unstable ground
- Consider the use of on-site equipment and vehicles to access sites with unstable ground
- Identify safe access and egress routes and areas for the site and any specific working areas
- Select the most appropriate work at height equipment for the activities and hazards identified
- Consider the use of specialist equipment for rescues from mud, ice and unstable surfaces

• **Biological hazards**

- Comply with hygiene arrangements and do not eat, drink, smoke or vape
- Declare to the service or incident commander any allergies that could give rise to anaphylactic shock
- Ensure personnel cover open wounds, cuts and grazes with a waterproof dressing prior

to operational activity

- Identify potential sources of biological contamination (e.g. waste from sanitary conveniences)
- Identify whether the incident should be reclassified as a hazardous materials response
- Consider handing responsibility for the incident to another agency (e.g. police or an environmental agency)
- Ensure any personnel providing immediate first aid to the animal are wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

• **Heavy and bulky objects**

- Use the appropriate manual manipulation techniques or mechanical techniques to extricate the animal
- Request additional or specialist resources to assist with manual handling tasks
- Consider using machinery or other equipment to assist with manual handling
- Consider the task, individual capabilities, load and environment (TILE) when carrying out risk assessments for manual handling
- Ensure personnel adopt the provided safe system of manual handling

• **Working at height**

- Monitor personnel for signs of stress, anxiety, vertigo or dizziness while working at height
- Secure any unattended fall prevention systems to ensure they cannot be interfered with
- Use only personnel trained in the equipment and systems to advise or supervise work at height operations
- Ensure that work at height operating systems include an appropriate degree of redundancy
- Ensure that items taken and used at height are secured to reduce the risk of objects falling

• Enclosed spaces

- Establish a recovery system for personnel deployed into confined space environments and ensure it is in place at all times
- Evaluate a range of options that avoid committing personnel to work in a confined space
- Commit personnel to work in a confined space only following a full risk assessment

• Unstable or collapsed structures

- Identify the age, design and condition of the structure
- Assess and continuously monitor the structure for signs of collapse
- Ensure that competent personnel assess and monitor the suitability of the structure for working in the hazard area
- Ensure that minimum number of personnel work in the hazard area

• Vehicles

- Obtain permission from the registered keeper of the vehicle, or the police, prior to commencing operational activity
- Use the appropriate manual manipulation techniques or mechanical techniques to extricate the animal

• Fire

- Consider the location, size, severity and speed of fire development when planning interventions
- Consider a strong and speedy initial attack where a window of opportunity exists
- Evacuate animals along appropriate routes to holding areas away from the incident

- Restrict the access of persons to premises or a place if they reasonably believe an emergency to have occurred
- Not allow a sick or injured animal to be transported if it is unable to move independently without pain or walk unassisted, or if it has a severe open wound; in this situation the animal must be placed into the care of a veterinary surgeon, who may authorise its transportation

Why?

Expectations?

Benefit vs Risk?

Objectives

- Maintain the safety of all personnel, other responders and the public
- Save life and reduce harm
- Minimise the stress response of animals
- **Further objectives**
 - Promote community recovery and restore normal operations
 - Implement an appropriate protection plan when an identified nature conservation site is at risk
 - Secure the scene to ensure evidence is preserved for internal and external investigations

Tactical priorities

- Liaise with a veterinary surgeon to ensure sufficient control of the animal is in place prior to moving or lifting, such as chemical restraint
- Obtain permission (and indemnity, if appropriate) from the owner of the building, or the police, prior to commencing operational activity
- Obtain permission from the registered keeper of the vehicle, or the police, prior to commencing operational activity

- Ensure emergency responders understand the importance of minimising the stress response of the animal
- Be aware that the animal may attempt to return to other familiar animals on its release
- Have a contingency plan that can be implemented if the animal manoeuvres itself, resulting in the initial moving or lifting plan being unachievable
- Determine an appropriate destination for the released or evacuated animal, using local knowledge or information gathered in scene surveys
- Consider the impact that euthanising the animal will have on the incident; this will need to take into account the location and method for euthanising the animal
- Be aware of the capabilities and limitations of the organisations in attendance, for carrying out animal evacuation

Operational tactics

- Consider using appropriate methods or equipment to physically control or restrain the animal
- Use appropriate places or equipment to contain the animal
- Determine the most appropriate technique for moving or lifting the animal
- Select the most appropriate equipment and ensure it is used effectively and safely
- Ensure that the animal's limbs are free from obstruction before lifting; a quick release mechanism should be used
- Use the appropriate manual manipulation techniques or mechanical techniques to extricate the animal
- Consider using appropriate specialist equipment for rescuing an animal from water, ice or unstable ground

- Check the animal for entanglement or unexpected limb positions prior to extrication
- Consider the best course of action; manipulate the animal away from the cause of entanglement or remove the cause of entanglement
- Ensure equipment is used effectively and safely
- Ensure personnel do not become entangled
- Determine an appropriate route to be used
- Identify a secure holding area
- Consider providing immediate first aid for the animal, in the absence of veterinary assistance
- Consider appropriately restraining the animal prior to providing first aid
- Consider appropriately restraining the animal prior to providing CPR or oxygen

Communication

- Attempt to liaise with the owner of the animals before commencing evacuation
- Brief personnel involved on the animal-related hazards and/or the animal rescue or evacuation techniques to be used
- Liaise with the veterinary surgeon about the level and duration of chemical restraint that is required and to identify a suitable and safe anaesthesia recovery area
- Communicate the location and method for euthanising the animal to emergency responders
- Brief personnel on the animal-related hazards or animal evacuation techniques

Control

- Consider information provided by the owner of the animal, or the person with temporary

responsibility for the animal, when determining the size of the cordon

- Ensure fire and rescue service personnel wear appropriate PPE
- Control the use of lights and minimise noise in the vicinity of the animal
- Keep movements of emergency responders, equipment and vehicles to a minimum in the vicinity of the animal
- Ensure personnel do not touch or handle animals unless unavoidable
- Consider using appropriate equipment to screen the animal from the view of the public or media
- Consider extending cordons to a sufficient distance to prevent photography or filming of this activity
- Ensure emergency responders understand the importance of minimising the stress response of the animal
- Ensure equipment is used effectively and safely
- Ensure that emergency responders are made aware of the presence of veterinary drugs and administering equipment, such as needles and syringes, used for chemical restraint
- **Further control information**
 - Consider requesting that on-site machinery movements are restricted or prohibited

Incident closure and handover

- Liaise with the veterinary surgeon about the level and duration of chemical restraint that is required and to identify a suitable and safe anaesthesia recovery area
- Place the animal into the care of an appropriate person or organisation at the earliest opportunity
- Monitor the welfare of an animal that has been contained

- Seek permission of the landowner before releasing or evacuating an animal onto private land
- Consider decontamination of PPE

Additional information

- Liaise with the veterinary surgeon about the level and duration of chemical restraint that is required and to identify a suitable and safe anaesthesia recovery area
- Place the animal into the care of an appropriate person or organisation at the earliest opportunity
- Monitor the welfare of an animal that has been contained
- Seek permission of the landowner before releasing or evacuating an animal onto private land
- Consider decontamination of PPE