

Equine welfare

British Horse Council
11th December 2020
Roly Owers MRCVS



Covid-19 Equine Rescues Emergency Fund

- ✓ Fund for small rescues
- ✓ £140,000 raised – maximum grant £5,000
- 19 grants have been awarded to 16 organisations over 3 funding rounds – totalling £65k
- Final round application deadline 15 Jan – £75k remains in the fund
- <https://petplancharitabletrust.org.uk/covid-19-equine-emergency-fund/>



WorldHorseWelfare



Elise Pilkington
Charitable Trust



WorldHorseWelfare

www.worldhorsewelfare.org
Registered charity no. 206658 and SC038384



Covid-19 impact

- Met with Lord Goldsmith in September – subsequent meetings with Defra officials focusing on:
 - Resilience and capacity within the equine rescue sector
 - Proposals for supporting the equine rescue sector
- Sought support from MPs in lobbying HM Treasury for government support package
- Further evidence of sector impact provided through 2nd NEWC survey and Britain's Horse Problem (Equine Crisis) report



2nd NEWC Survey

- Survey ran from 10-30 Nov
- 31 organisations responded (NEWC and non-NEWC) – initial headlines:
 - Over 74% have seen a reduction in income of over 20%
 - 26% reported that they have stopped taking in animals
 - 58% taking in emergencies only or only taking in limited numbers
 - Only 10% of organisations reported that their intake is ‘normal’
 - 32% saw increase in calls from people wishing to hand over their animal
 - 35% saw increase in number of animals they are being asked to help



Britain's Horse Problem Report

- An updated (Equine Crisis) report is being published by 7 welfare organisations
 - Highlights the continued welfare challenges facing the equine sector
 - Recognises the steps that have been taken in recent years to address this, including around Equine ID
 - Sets out recommendations to break this cycle of suffering – including more responsible ownership – wider regulation (including licensing of certain equine premises) – more active enforcement



HorseWorld

BRANSRY
— HORSES —

The
British
Horse
Society



WorldHorseWelfare



WorldHorseWelfare

www.worldhorsewelfare.org
Registered charity no. 206658 and SC038384



Welfare during Transport

- Welcome consultations on welfare during transport:
 - England and Wales: 3 Dec – 28 Jan
 - Scotland: 4 Dec – 26 Feb
- Opportunity to:
 - Ban exports for slaughter
 - Improve welfare conditions for all equines being transported
- BHC will carefully consider proposals looking to ensure:
 - Unintended consequences are avoided
 - England, Wales and Scotland work closely together to ensure legislation is aligned – as far as possible – and introduced in a similar timescale

