

Title	Respond to and manage routine problems of canine behaviour		
Level	5	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: assess the situation and identify the canine behaviour problem; select and implement a strategy to manage, control or modify the canine behaviour problem; and assess the results of the canine behaviour modification or behaviour management strategy.
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 5222, <i>Recognise and interpret problems of behaviour in companion animals</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

- For credit, evidence must be in accordance with the statutory and industry requirements contained in the following documents.
 Relevant and current National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards, available at <http://www.maf.govt.nz>, under animal welfare.
 Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available from NZVA, PO Box 11-212, Manners Street, Wellington (<http://www.vets.org.nz>).
 Animal Welfare Act 1999, Dog Control Act 1996, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- Procedures relating to the Association of Pet Behaviour Consultants can be obtained from:
 The Honorary Secretary
 Association of Pet Behaviour Consultants in the UK
 257 Royal College St,
 London, NW1,
 ENGLAND.
- The owner is a person who is the owner in terms of the Dog Control Act 1996, a handler is the person in charge of the dog and may not necessarily be the owner, a trainer is the person who endeavours to teach or train the dog, and an instructor is a person who teaches the owner, handler, or trainer.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Assess the situation and identify the canine behaviour problem.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Situation is assessed in terms of the ability of the owner or handler, stage of training of the dog, and the training environment.
- 1.2 Behaviour problems are identified by observation and analysis including testing and review of records, and development of case history.

Range behaviours include but are not limited to – antisocial, undesirable.

Outcome 2

Select and implement a strategy to manage, control, or modify the canine behaviour problem.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Behaviour of a nature likely to endanger other animals or people is recognised, the dog is removed from the training environment, and the owner is referred to a specialist able to deal with the problem.

Range behaviours include but are not limited to inter or intraspecies – fighting, predatory aggression, dominance, aggression involving offensive threat, undesirable and unsolicited prey hunting, territoriality, aggression where the dog has a history of more than threat display;
specialists include – animal behaviourist, veterinarian.

- 2.2 Behaviour problems are controlled or modified in accordance with application of appropriate behaviour modification techniques, equipment, and methods, in consultation with the owner and/or handler, and in accordance with Pet Behaviour Consultants in the UK procedures, NAWAC Codes of Animal Welfare, and the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Range equipment used includes – collar, leash, halti;
behaviour problems include but are not limited to – lack of housetraining, jumping on people, boisterousness, chewing (people, objects), digging, attention seeking, mild separation anxiety;
nuisances – inappropriate sexual behaviour, hyperactivity (unnecessarily or irrelevant exaggerated reactions), barking;
behaviour modification techniques include – habituation, classical and operant conditioning (positive and negative reinforcement, successive approximation, extinction), systematic desensitisation, counterconditioning.

- 2.3 Signs of stress are recognised, and measures are implemented to prevent stress from reaching levels where it will interfere with the dog's learning process.

Range causes and signs of stress – physical, mental, behavioural.

Outcome 3

Assess the results of the canine behaviour modification or behaviour management strategy.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Results of behaviour modification or management strategy are in accordance with pre-set strategy.
- 3.2 Where results are not in accordance with behaviour modification or management strategy, strategy is modified to reflect current situation and achieve objectives.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	30 June 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	2	16 November 1998	31 December 2022
Revision	3	7 June 2000	31 December 2022
Revision	4	16 October 2001	31 December 2022
Revision	5	12 February 2003	31 December 2022
Rollover and Revision	6	25 June 2007	31 December 2022
Review	7	22 October 2020	31 December 2022

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0228
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.