Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0. |

| ACMNEW3X3 | Walk and exercise dogs |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to manage dog walking and exercise activities for clients or the workplace.  This unit applies to individuals working in the companion animal industry sector where dog walking and exercise services are provided, and may include boarding/day care facilities, welfare organisations and animal shelters. They work independently and take responsibility for the quality of their own work, including carrying out assigned tasks, selecting products and techniques and working to required timeframes.  All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace. Local animal management regulations relating to dogs in the community vary according to jurisdiction and should be checked by users of this unit.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | General Animal Care (GEN) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Establish dog walking and exercise requirements | 1.1 Identify local animal management regulations applicable to dogs in the community  1.2 Assess hazards to self and dog/s, relating to walking and exercise activities, and determine measures to minimise risks  1.3 Identify workplace procedures for responding to emergencies or incidents  1.4 Establish or implement a workplace system for identifying each dog and keeping records |
| 2. Organise arrangements and collect dog/s | 2.1 Identify client and/or workplace and animal exercise requirements  2.2 Obtain information on dog including medical conditions, health/vaccination status and behavioural concerns  2.3 Assess basic health, emotional state and physical capability of the dog to undertake exercise, and advise client or workplace of any issues  2.4 Confirm arrangements for services, schedule, and location  2.5 Organise equipment and supplies including waste bags, water supply, restraints and enrichment objects  2.6 Assess dog compatibility if activity involves more than one dog  2.7 Collect dog/s and handle and secure in a safe and humane manner  2.8 Use management and training techniques to ensure dog has positive welfare outcomes at all times |
| 3. Walk and exercise dog/s on lead | 3.1 Establish suitable walking route for on lead activities  3.2 Reinforce training relating to walking on lead including use of lead, positioning dog, speed and direction, visual and verbal cues  3.3 Monitor interactions with other dogs and people and reinforce calm, socially healthy responses towards other dogs and unfamiliar people at all times |
| 4. Finalise walk or exercise activity | 4.1 Return dog according to agreed arrangements  4.2 Handle and dispose of dog waste according to local and environmental regulations  4.3 Clean, sanitise and store equipment and transport, where used, according to workplace requirements  4.4 Maintain log of activities and records according to workplace requirements  4.5 Organise payment information according to workplace procedures as required |

| Foundation Skills  This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Reading | * Interpret animal management regulations relating to dogs in the community |
| Writing | * Use industry terminology when completing records |
| Oral communication | * Determine requirements through open-ended questioning, active listening, paraphrasing and summarising |
| Numeracy | * Estimate and calculate weight, distance, slope, area, ratio, time, temperature and speed |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMNEW3X3 Walk and exercise dogs | Not applicable | Unit created to address an emerging skill required by industry | Newly created unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet:  https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMNEW3X3 Walk and exercise dogs |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has:   * walked at least three individual dogs on lead according to individual dog requirements and environmental conditions.   In doing the above, the individual must have:   * obtained client/carer information and dog history for each dog * assessed each dog's suitability for walking, including basic health, emotional state and physical capability of the dog to undertake exercise, and advise client or workplace of any issues * positively reinforced appropriate behaviour for each dog * handled each animal in a safe, low stress manner using appropriate equipment * maintained a workplace log and records. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:   * key requirements of local animal management regulations relating to dogs in the community * insurance requirements relating to dog walking activities * methods for identifying dogs * methods for obtaining background information including medical conditions, health/vaccination status and behavioural issues * basic animal anatomy and physiology relevant to dog exercise and restraint * safe, low stress and proactive dog handling and restraint techniques * behavioural characteristics of dogs, including: * canine communication with people and other dogs * signs of distress and increased arousal * humane behaviour management techniques, including positive reinforcement * hazards and risks relevant to walking activities, including: * cars/traffic * other dogs, people, wildlife * toxic substances pesticides and poisons * personal injuries - bites, scratches * workplace policies, procedures and requirements, including: * safety and emergency procedures * hygiene and infection control * waste disposal * animal welfare and humane handling * safe use of disinfectants and cleaning agents * requirements of relevant record keeping system. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * live dogs for walking and exercising specified in the performance evidence * equipment for walking and exercising dogs * specifications: * local government animal management regulations relating to dogs in the community.   Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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