

# Cura

4th February 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Stables at The Lodge Bungalow, Office Street, Wheatley Hill, Durham, DH6 3QR

The stables at this address have been present for over 50 years and are of substandard construction. The stables have a low ceiling height and have inadequate drainage in the floors. The south side of the stables has a soil bank which is pressed against the back wall of the stables leading to significant dampness and flooding of the stables on a daily basis. Due to the lack of drainage and the fact that the stables are north facing the constant ingress of water from this soil bank causes significant dampness within these stables.

Damp and poor air circulation can lead to significant respiratory issues in horses. The constant moisture underfoot can also lead to problems with the hoof horn and if horses lie down regularly on the damp floors it can also cause skin problems.

The poor ventilation, low ceiling height and north facing aspect of the stables also compound this damp issue as they contribute to condensation formation on the underside of the roof which then drips onto the backs of the horses. This can lead to skin problems such as dermatitis, but also further adds to the concerns regarding the respiratory systems of the horses stabled here.

Due to the age of the stables, the substandard construction and their northerly aspect it would be advised that these stables should be replaced with new stables which are ideally south facing, with higher ceilings and have appropriate drainage systems in place.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Dr Nicola Endersby BVMS MRCVS