

**PR 830**

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## **Equine Barefoot Trimming – Development of National Occupation Standards for the UK**

Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the environmental and land-based industries, is holding an initial consultation meeting in February which looks to improve one core activity – National Occupational Standards (NOS).

Currently there are no National Occupational Standards for this area of work and their development was a key recommendation from Lantra's Paraprofessionals research report: titled 'An investigative study of Barefoot Trimmers and Equine Dental Technicians'.

Lantra's industry partnership manager for the equine industry and Professions Allied to Veterinary Science, Lisa Jarvis said:

“National Occupational Standards describe the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to do a particular task or job. One of the uses for these standards is using them as building blocks for qualifications, so ensuring that these are right and meet businesses' needs are vital to the industry's future and equine welfare.”

Lisa adds:

“If you want to play a part in developing these standards, then join Lantra on Wednesday 4 February, at an initial consultation meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to establish industry requirements for National Occupational Standards to ensure that they are fit for purpose.”

If you would like to participate in the initial NOS development meeting, please contact Lantra on 0845 707 8007 or email [connect@lantra.co.uk](mailto:connect@lantra.co.uk)

**ENDS**

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## **Notes to editors:**

### **The Barefoot Trimmers National Occupational Standards Consultation**

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The initial consultation meeting is being held on Wednesday 4 February.

National Occupational Standards (NOS) describe the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to do a particular task or job. In other words, they tell you what you must be able to do and what you must know and understand.

#### **NOS can be used to:**

- Describe good practice in particular areas of work
- Devise a statement of competence which defines the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to do the work
- Design and implement workforce management and quality control processes
- Offer a framework for training and development
- Form the basis of qualifications.

#### **Why would I want to use National Occupational Standards (NOS) in my business?**

- To identify the skills of my existing workforce
- To identify best practice
- To improve key business processes
- To develop training and recruitment plans to fill any gaps and shortages
- To develop job descriptions
- To identify training needs and set objectives in job appraisals.

### **About Lantra**

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- Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the environmental and land-based sector, is licensed by the UK government to drive forward the new skills, training and business development agenda for the sector.
- Lantra represents 17 industries and 1.5 million workers and volunteers in agricultural crops, agricultural livestock, animal care, animal technology, aquaculture, environmental conservation, equine, farriery, fencing, fisheries management, floristry, game and wildlife management, land-based engineering, landscape, production horticulture, trees and timber and veterinary nursing. For more information see [www.lantra.co.uk](http://www.lantra.co.uk)
- Lantra is part of the Skills for Business network comprising Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) which are independent UK wide organisations developed by groups of influential employers in sectors of economic significance. SSCs give responsibility to employers to provide leadership for strategic targeted action to meet their sector skills and business needs.