



Falkland Islands Government – Job Description

Job Title:	Veterinary Officer		
Department:	Natural Resources	Section:	Veterinary Services
Reports to:	Senior Veterinary Officer		
Grade:	Falkland Islands Government Grade - B	Job Code:	401VO2

Job Purpose

In conjunction with veterinary services staff (and other departmental staff members within the Department of Agriculture) provide a complete, professional clinical and public health veterinary service to the Falkland Islands.

This service is delivered by Veterinary Officers participating in a rota system that may include:

1. Full time duties in EU approved abattoir during 'high' (export) season (Jan-May) and part time duties in EU approved abattoir during 'low' season (May-Dec)
2. Clinical and out of hours duties, and
3. Other administration and public health services (e.g. regulation of fishing industry, import/export protocols, biosecurity services).

Main Accountabilities:

Clinical

1. Along with the SVO and other VO provide a diagnostic and clinical service for large and small animals (and occasional wildlife) so the health and welfare of animals in the Falkland Islands is maintained and protected.
2. Participate in an after-hours service for the clinic so Veterinary emergencies are dealt with promptly and professionally so the health and welfare of animals in the Falkland Islands is maintained and protected.
3. Be prepared to act as Senior Veterinary Officer during periods of illness or leave so the professional veterinary service to the Falkland Islands is maintained.
4. Investigate and deal with any complaints concerning animal welfare to protect the welfare of animals in the Falkland Islands.
5. Perform any other veterinary duties as required by the SVO to provide a complete and professional veterinary service to the Falkland Islands.

Public Health / Statutory / Policy Development

1. To ensure that production in all areas of the abattoir and factory vessels complies with the relevant national and EU legislation for the hygienic and safe production, processing and importation of frozen product into the EU from third countries.
2. To carry out ante-mortem health and welfare inspection of all animals intended for slaughter at Sand Bay Abattoir and to be in overall charge of post mortem inspection to ensure relevant legislation and standards are adhered to for the hygienic and humane transport and slaughter of animals and to ensure the carcasses are fit for human consumption.



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3. To ensure the collection of samples of red meat and fish for microbiological testing, residue monitoring programmes and any other samples for research; in accordance with the relevant SOPs to monitor and ensure the product is safe for human consumption. Review the results of such testing and ensure appropriate action is taken in the face of positive results.
4. To check and sign health certificates in accordance with the relevant SOP to ensure product is certified in accordance with the importing countries requirements.
5. To keep accurate and neat records of all inspections, audits and corrective actions so that the regulation of the meat and fish production systems are transparent and easily audited.
6. Perform Ship Sanitation Inspections in accordance with World Health Organisation guidelines to ensure the hygienic production, living and working environments of vessels and their crew.
7. Prepare, update and monitor import health protocols for live animals, semen, embryos and products of animal origin to protect the relatively disease free status of the Islands.
8. Prepare disease surveillance protocols as necessary and investigate disease outbreaks so instances of disease can be promptly assessed and dealt with to protect the relatively disease free status of the Islands.

The job description is not an exclusive or exhaustive definition of your duties. You shall undertake such additional or other duties as may reasonably be required by FIG commensurate with your role and grade.

Additional Information:

1. Regular work outside normal governmental working hours when making camp calls, attending emergency calls and when carrying out regulatory inspection duties.
2. Travel away from Stanley involving being away overnight may be required.



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Person Specification:	Veterinary Officer		
Criteria	Essential	Desirable	Assessment Method
Education and Training:			
Bachelor's Degree in Veterinary Medicine/Science	✓		A/I
Qualification as an Official Veterinarian (or equivalent qualification in Public Health duties)		✓	A/I
Any further Veterinary qualifications that would aid in a better delivery of a rounded veterinary service to the Falkland Islands		✓	A/I
Knowledge, Skills and Experience:	Essential	Desirable	Assessment Method
5 to 10 years post-degree experience, including good surgical competency	✓		A/I
The ability to practice clinically with limited professional backup	✓		A/I
Ability to work independently, plan own work programme and meet competing deadlines and commitments	✓		A/I
Excellent communication and relationship-building skills to establish networks, liaise with clients and communicate effectively with Food Business Operators	✓		A/I
Demonstrated capacity to solve problems, be adaptable and think creatively and innovatively to overcome issues	✓		A/I
Current driving license	✓		A
Fluency in the English Language	✓		A/I
Experience in orthopaedic surgery		✓	A/I
Experience in farm animal and equine veterinary work		✓	A/I
Knowledge of agricultural production systems		✓	A/I
Experience of working in Government veterinary services e.g. Defra or equivalent.		✓	A/I
Ability to live and work in a very small and isolated community		✓	A/I
A basic understanding of the Spanish Language		✓	A/I

Method of assessment: A - Application Form

I - Selection Interview

R – Reference