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**17 August 2021**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

This letter serves as confirmation of the current employment of:

**Employee**: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Employee** **Position**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Harness Racing New Zealand has confirmed with the Ministry for Primary Industries that the feeding, care and exercise of Standardbred horses is an essential service. This is consistent with the guidance under Alert Level 4 definition of an essential business:

***Primary industries, including food and beverage production and processing***

*Lead agency: Ministry for Primary Industries*

* *Any entity involved in the packaging, production and processing of food and beverage products, whether for domestic consumption or export*
* *Any entity involved in relevant support services, such as food safety and verification, inspection or associated laboratory services, food safety and biosecurity functions*
* *Any entity providing veterinary services*
* ***Any entity whose closure would jeopardise the maintenance of animal health or welfare standards (including the short-term survival of a species)***

The above named employee provides critical services to **[name of trainer, training centre]** and is required to travel to from their home to specified sites in the provision of these services.

Confirmation of this employee’s employment status may be obtained by contacting **[insert name of trainer, training centre manager etc]** on **[insert telephone number]**.