

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

# **Inspection Report**

Date of inspection: 09/	/10/2019	Date report completed: 6/1	1/2019			
Name of applicant or current licence holder:						
Name and address of zoo:	Shepreth Wildlife Park Station Road Shepreth Herts	Station Road Shepreth				
		Postco	de: SG8 6PZ			
Tel no:	01763262226	Licence Number:				
Date of last formal inspection	: 21/09/2016	Type of last formal inspectior	n: Periodic			
Timing of next formal inspection	n: 10/10/2019-09/10/2020	Type of next formal inspectio	n: Periodic			
Type of inspection Stat	utory composition of	inspection team	Please tick appropriate box			
Section 10 Periodical: 2 D	Section 10 Periodical: 2 Defra/Welsh Government nominees; 1 LA vet; option of up to 2 more from LA					
Section 11 Special: Any	ction 11 Special: Any number of competent LA authorised appointees					
Section 14(1)(b) dispensation renewal under section 6(1A)(a) (where a direction has been made that section 10 shall not apply):						
Defra/Welsh Government nominee/s						
Section 14(2) dispensation	Periodical:					
		ominee/s				
For a licence inspection (Section 4(1A)(b)) and a significant change inspection (Section 9A(8)) please use the inspection form at Appendix 11A of the Standards.						

Name and designation of inspector(s)	Name of zoo representative(s)

When this form has been completed and signed the original must be sent to the local authority. If the zoo is owned by the local authority, the local authority must send a copy of the completed form to Defra where the zoo is situated in England or to the Welsh Government, where the zoo is situated in Wales.

# Preamble to inspectors' report

Information and guidance about the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (ZLA) is available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-biodiversity-and-ecosystems-at-home-and-abroad/supporting-pages/species-protection">https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-biodiversity-and-ecosystems-at-home-and-abroad/supporting-pages/species-protection</a> and <a href="https://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/zoos/?lang=en">https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-biodiversity-and-ecosystems-at-home-and-abroad/supporting-pages/species-protection</a> and <a href="https://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/zoos/?lang=en">https://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/zoos/?lang=en</a>

Preamble to inspectors' report\*, including any comments about the current dispensation status, if applicable.

Shepreth Wildlife Park is a small, family-owned, family-run, park. Despite the constraints of a small eight-acre site surrounded by housing, small businesses and a main railway line, it is well appointed, well-managed, maintained and well run.

There has been significant progress since the last inspection. The management structure is strong and effective, with well-documented and effective working practices. Shepreth Wildlife Park's achievements in respect of education and conservation far exceed that which would be expected for a zoo of their size and they are to be applauded for this.

The inspectors particularly applaud and commend the excellent work carried out by the Hedgehog Rescue Centre, which is now extremely busy and effective.

The inspection team thank the zoo management for a comprehensive pre-inspection audit and supporting documents.

\*this might include general background about the zoo (type of collection, size etc) and any relevant information or comments from the pre-inspection audit

# **Findings at inspection**

Guidance note: Where possible a Yes, No or Not Applicable (N/A) answer should be given. Where not all criteria are met for a particular question, comments and clarification should be made indicating where any deficits occur. If appropriate, means of correction or improvement should be included as Conditions or Recommendations under 'Additional conditions' or Additional space' towards the end of the form.

1. Provision of food and water	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification	
Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981: 1.1. Are animals provided with a high standard of nutrition?	Yes		
1.2. Is food and drink that is supplied appropriate for the species/individual?	Yes	See Condition 1.	
1.3. Are supplies of food and water: (a) kept hygienically?	No	See Recommendation 1. See Condition 2.	
(b) prepared hygienically?	Yes		
(c) supplied to the animal hygienically?	Yes		
1.4. Has natural feeding behaviour been adequately considered to ensure that all animals have access to food and drink?	Yes		
1.5. Are feeding methods safe for staff and animals?	Yes		
1.6. Is feeding by visitors permitted?	Yes		
(a) if 'yes', is it properly controlled?	Yes	See Recommendation 2.	
2. Provision of suitable environment			
Section 1A(c)(i) ZLA 1981: 2.1. Are the animals provided with an environment well adapted to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of the species to which they belong?	Yes		
<ul><li>2.2. Are the following environmental parameters appropriate:</li><li>(a) temperature?</li></ul>	Yes		
(b) ventilation?	Yes		
(c) lighting?	Yes	See Condition 3. See Recommendation 3.	
(d) noise levels?	Yes		
(e) any other environmental parameters?	Yes	See Condition 4.	

2. Provision of suitable environment (contd.)	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
2.3. Are there satisfactory measures in place to safely confine the animals?	No	The inspectors commend the zoo on the excellent safe working practices and 'enclosure fencing' for the tiger exhibit. See Condition 5 and Recommendation 4.
2.4. Do animal enclosures have sufficient shelter and refuge areas?	Yes	
2.5. Do animal enclosures provide sufficient space?	Yes	
2.6. Are backup facilities for life support systems adequate?	Yes	
2.7. Is the cleaning of the accommodation satisfactory?	Yes	
2.8. Is the standard of maintenance adequate for: (a) the buildings?	Yes	
(b) the fences?	Yes	
2.9. Is all drainage effective and safe?	Yes	
3. Provision of animal health care		
Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981: 3.1. Are the animals provided with a high standard of animal husbandry?	No	See Condition 6.
3. 2. Do animals on display to the public appear in good health?	Yes	
3.3. Are observations of condition and health made and recorded?	Yes	
3.4. Do animals receive prompt and appropriate attention when problems are noted?	Yes	
3.5. Are enclosures designed and operated in such a way that social interaction problems are avoided?	Yes	
<b>On-site facilities</b> 3.6. Are catch-up and restraint facilities adequate?	Yes	
3.7. Is darting equipment satisfactory?	Yes	
3.8. Are on-site veterinary facilities adequate?	Yes	

3. Provision of animal health care (contd.)	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
Veterinary care Section 1A(c)(ii) ZLA 1981:		
3.9. Are the animals provided with a documented and maintained programme of preventative and curative veterinary care and nutrition?	Yes	
3.10. Is there a system for the regular review of clinical and pathological records?	Yes	
3.11. Are appropriate veterinary records kept?	Yes	
3.12. Are medicines kept and disposed of correctly?	Yes	
3.13. Are controlled drugs used and recorded satisfactorily?	N/A	
3.14. Are appropriate antidotes available?	N/A	
3.15. Are <i>post mortem</i> examination arrangements satisfactory?	Yes	
Isolation and containment 3.16. Is adequate reserve accommodation available for isolation of animals for: (a) assessment?	Yes	
(b) treatment?	Yes	
(c) recovery?	Yes	
(d) quarantine (where required)?	Yes	
Sanitation and control of disease Section 1A(e) ZLA 1981:		
3.17. Are satisfactory measures in place to prevent the intrusion of pests and vermin into the zoo premises?	Yes	
3.18. Does it appear that general sanitation and pest control are effective?	Yes	

4. Provision of an opportunity to express most normal behaviour	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
4.1. Do the accommodation and management regimes encourage normal behaviour patterns and minimise any abnormal behaviour, taking into account current enrichment and husbandry guidelines?	Yes	
4.2. Are animals of social species normally maintained in compatible social groups?	Yes	
5. Provision of protection from fear and distress		
5.1. Are the animals handled only by or under the supervision of appropriately experienced staff?	Yes	
5.2. Is physical contact between animals and the public consistent with the animals' welfare?	Yes	
5.3. Are interactions between the animals such that they are not excessively stressful?	Yes	
6. Transportation and movement of live animals		
6.1. Can the zoo demonstrate a knowledge of, and compliance with, the regulations covering transportation of animals, and provide copies of certificates to show compliance when transportation has occurred?	Yes	
<ul><li>6.2. Can the zoo demonstrate that:</li><li>i) transport and movement equipment is in good order?</li></ul>	Yes	
ii) facilities suitable for lifting, crating and transportation of all the types of animals kept within the zoo to destinations both inside and outside the zoo are readily available?	Yes	
iii) catching and transportation techniques take account of the animal's temperament and escape behaviour in order to minimise injury, damage and distress?	Yes	
iv) adequate provision is made for the animal's and the public's safety and well-being while the animal is being transported or kept away from the zoo?	Yes	

7. Conservation, education and research	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
Section 1A(a) ZLA 1981:		
7.1. Is the zoo participating in at least one of the following:		
(i) research from which conservation benefits accrue to species of wild animals?	Yes	
(ii) training in relevant conservation skills?	Yes	
(iii) the exchange of information relating to the conservation of species of wild animals?	Yes	
iv) where appropriate, breeding of wild animals in captivity?	No	
(v) where appropriate, the repopulation of an area with, or the reintroduction into the wild of, wild animals?	Yes	
Section 1A(b) ZLA 1981: 7.2. Is the zoo promoting public education and awareness in relation to the conservation of biodiversity, in particular by providing information about the species of wild animals kept in the zoo and their natural habitats?	Yes	The inspectors commend the zoo on their excellent achievements in this respect. See Condition 7.
7.3. Where appropriate are animals managed in a way consistent with the conservation needs of the species, (such as exchange between zoos, accommodation to encourage natural behaviour and breeding etc)?	Yes	
7.4. Are on-site education facilities adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	These are excellent in respect of the size of the zoo. See Condition 8.
7.5. Are the conservation efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	These are excellent in respect of the size of the zoo. The inspectors congratulate the zoo on the excellent, busy and apparently effective hedgehog rehabilitation facility.
7.6. Are the research efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	Yes	
7.7. Is captive breeding properly managed?	Yes	

8. Public safety	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
Section 1A(d) ZLA 1981: 8.1. Are there satisfactory measures in place to prevent the escape of animals?	No	It is noted that the prairie dogs are free-ranging within several exhibits; the inspectors were informed that this is as zoo management intends. See Recommendation 4 and Condition 5.
8.2. Are there satisfactory measures in place to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals?	No	See Condition 9.
8.3. Are escape drills carried out four times a year, recorded and regularly reviewed (at least two drills should include the escape of a Category 1 animal where present)?	Yes	
8.4. Will the perimeter deter unauthorised entry and aid the confinement of zoo stock?	Yes	
8.5. Do stand-off barriers appear adequate?	Yes	
8.6. Are adequate warning signs provided?	Yes	
8.7. Are prohibited areas appropriately signed?	Yes	
8.8. Are exits clearly marked and accessible?	Yes	
8.9. Do public areas, walkways and buildings appear safe?	No	See Condition 10.
8.10. Are trees regularly inspected and appropriate remedial action taken?	Yes	See also Recommendation 4.
8.11. Have appropriate risk assessments for direct contact by the public with animals been carried out?	Yes	
8.12. Are the special safety requirements for walk-through or drive-through exhibits adequately met?	Yes	

9. Records	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
Section 1A(f) ZLA 1981:		
9.1. Are there up-to-date records of the zoo's collection, including records of:		
(i) the numbers of different animals?	Yes	
(ii) acquisitions, births, deaths, disposals and escapes of animals?	Yes	
(iii) the causes of any such deaths?	Yes	
(iv) the health of the animals?	Yes	See Condition 11.
9.2. Are daily diaries maintained, and do they contain appropriate information?	Yes	
9.3. Are animal stock records clear and up-to-date?	Yes	See Condition 11.
9.4. Are annual stock records completed in the correct format and submitted to the local authority?	Yes	
9.5. Are animal source and destination records kept?	Yes	
9.6. Are archived records secure?	Yes	
10. Miscellaneous		
10.1. Do staff numbers and training of staff appear adequate?	Yes	
10.2. Is the management structure and organisation of staff adequate to ensure compliance with the Standards at all times?	Yes	Very good and effective management; well done.
10.3. Are effective risk assessments carried out where appropriate?	Yes	
10.4. Has an ethical review process been established and implemented?	Yes	Good and effective process, well-documented.
10.5. Are public toilet facilities adequate and serviced?	Yes	The inspectors applaud the conservation posters located in these locations.
10.6. Are parking facilities adequate?	Yes	
10.7. Is a First Aid policy and accident reporting and recording system in place?	Yes	

11. Associated legislation	Marking Yes No N/A	Comments/clarification
11.1. Is electrical equipment routinely serviced?	Yes	
11.2. Have fire precautions been agreed and implemented?	Yes	
11.3. Is refuse and clinical waste disposed of correctly?	Yes	
11.4. Are the required needs of disabled visitors met?	Yes	
12. Compliance check including licence conditions		
12.1. Is the current licence or a copy on public display at each public entrance?	No	See Condition 12.
12.2. Is adequate Public Liability Insurance current?	Yes	
12.3. Have any Additional licence conditions been met?	N/A	

### Additional space

The following space is provided for:

- additional notes and comments on the answers to the earlier questions
- recommendations (other than in respect of grant or refusal of a licence and any specific conditions recommended for a licence) including those based on comments already made to earlier questions
- any general remarks which the inspecting team may wish to record

#### Recommendations

1. Food and water containers: after being washed in warm soapy water, these should be submersed in a safe disinfectant, at the correct concentration, with the correct contact time, prior to air-drying, in order to ensure that potentially pathogenic organisms are not passed from animal to animal.(Completed)

2. The inspectors advise that, when food for fish is sold to visitors, they (the visitors) should be monitored to ensure that the fish food is not fed to other zoo animals. If this is found to be happening, the inspectors advise that the fish food is either sold closer to the exhibit containing fish, or that it is not fed at all.(Completed)

3. It is recommended that natural daylight is provided for the dwarf caiman, in an attempt to meet its required UV (ultraviolet) requirements.

4. It is recommended that the operators approach the owners of the tall trees outside the perimeter fence adjacent to the lynx enclosure, seeking permission to lop the trees. It is feared that, in the event of storm damage, fallen trees could threaten the integrity of the perimeter fence as well as some of the enclosures.

Conditions

1. In accordance with 8.2.11 of the SSSMZP (2012), comprehensive diet sheets must be provided for all animals. These must state percentages of different fruits and vegetables, rather than simply 'some of a range of stated items'. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

2. In accordance with 1.3.d of the SSSMZP (2012), food hygiene must be assured. The door to the fresh fruit and vegetable chilled storage room must be kept closed (except whilst actually in use), in order to prevent ingress of vermin. (Immediate)(Completed)

3. In accordance with 8.2.5 of the SSSMZP (2012), the UV output (at animal basking height) must be measured and recorded at least monthly. Each animal's required 'Ferguson zone' must be stated, and the UV level (typically anything less than the required level) at which the bulb shall be adjusted or changed must be stated. (The discarded bulb may then be passed down to an animal with a lower UV requirement). (1 (one) month)(Completed)

4. In accordance with 2.9 of the SSSMZP (2012), water quality checks must be conducted on a weekly basis and compared and contrasted with acceptable published values. Trigger points must be stated at which action is required and an explanation given of what that action should be. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

5. In accordance with 8.6 of the SSSMZP (2012), entries to all bird aviaries must be via double doors in order to minimise the risk of escape. (3 (three) months)

6. In accordance with Appendix 8, 8.1.2, SSSMZP (2012), invertebrates (including those kept as live food) must be provided with the same high level of animal husbandry as all other animals in the collection. (Immediate)(Completed)

7. In accordance with 7.11 of the SSSMZP 2012, the signage for all exhibits must include the conservation status of the animals in the enclosure. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

8. In accordance with 7.15 of the SSSMZP (2012), the educational output must be monitored, recorded and reviewed, and any improvements or refinements made in the provision of education must be recorded. (3 (three) months)(Completed)

9. In compliance with The Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019, the collection's 'Escape Policy' must specify a shoot-to-kill policy (subject to public safety), in the event that any of the zoo's 'invasive alien species' escape from the zoo perimeter. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

continued on page 12

### Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority

Having	inspected (name of zoo)	Shepreth Wildlife Park				
on:	09/10/2019					
the ins	the inspecting team make the following recommendation: Please tick appropriate b					
• it is	recommended that a licence	be refused				
		e collection be licensed in accordance with the ZL sures in section 1A				
sub (N.I	<ul> <li>it is recommended that the above collection be licensed in accordance with the ZLA 1981 subject to the conservation measures in section 1A and the following Additional Conditions (N.B Additional Conditions must be clearly worded so as to be enforceable and a timescale applied for compliance)</li> </ul>					
		ving alterations be made to the above collection's				

#### Additional Conditions (if appropriate)

Conditions continued from page 11

10. In accordance with 9.3 of the SSSMZP (2012), information must be transferred from the daily diaries to ZIMS within 1 (one) week of any incident. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

11. In accordance with 8.15, of the SSSMZP (2012), the entrance ramps to the rabbit enclosure, adjacent to the railway line, must be re-positioned, so that they no longer create a trip hazard. (1 (one) month)(Completed)

12. In accordance with 12.1 of the SSSMZP (2012), the current zoo (ZLA) licence must be on display at the front entrance or reception desk. (Immediate)(Completed)

Inspector(s) signature(s)	Date signed

## The Data Protection Act 1998 – Fair Processing Notice

The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

The local authority in England (or in Wales as the case may be) is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete this zoo inspection form. The information that you provide may be used by the local authority in its consideration of issuing or amending a zoo licence in accordance with the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (ZLA). The local authority may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) or the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). However, local authorities will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor act in contravention of their obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

Where the zoo, to which this inspection report applies, is owned by the local authority, the local authority must send a copy of the completed form to Defra (in accordance with section 13(2) of the ZLA) where the zoo is situated in England, or to the Welsh Government where the zoo is situated in Wales. Defra or the Welsh Government (as the case may be) may use the information contained in the form to ensure that local authorities are carrying out their duties correctly in accordance with the ZLA.

Defra and the Welsh Government are also subject to the EIRs and the FOIA and so may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request. However, as above, Defra and the Welsh Government will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor act in contravention of their obligations under the DPA.