

ZOO LICENSING – IMPLEMENTATION OF REVISED LICENCE STANDARD CONDITIONS - ZOO LICENSING ACT 1981

Report By: Head Of Environmental Health And Trading Standards

Wards Affected:

County-wide

Purpose

- 1 To consider implementing standard conditions to be attached to a Zoo Licence within Herefordshire.

Legislation

- 2 Power of local Authorities to attach conditions to site Licences.

Zoo Licensing Act 1981

Section .1A The following are conservation measures to be implemented in zoos in accordance with this Act:-

- (a) Participating in at least one of the following:-
 - (i) research from which conservation benefits accrue to species of wild animals;
 - (ii) training in relevant conservation skills;
 - (iii) the exchange of information relating to the conservation of species of wild animals;
 - (iv) where appropriate, breeding of wild animals in captivity; and
 - (v) where appropriate, the repopulation of an area with, or the reintroduction into the wild of, wild animals;
- (b) 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;
- (c) accommodating their animals under conditions which aim to satisfy the biological and conservation requirements of the species to which they belong, including:-
 - (i) providing each animal with an environment well adapted to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of the species to which it belongs; and
 - (ii) providing a high standard of animal husbandry with a developed programme of preventative and curative veterinary care and nutrition;
- (d) preventing the escape of animals and putting in place measures to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals;
- (e) preventing the intrusion of pests and vermin into the zoo premises; and

Further information on the subject of this report is available from Suzanne Laughland, Acting Licensing Manager on (01432) 261675

- (f) keeping up-to-date records of the zoo's collection, including records of:-
 - (i) the numbers of different animals;
 - (ii) acquisitions, births, deaths, disposals and escapes of animals;
 - (iii) the causes of any such deaths; and
 - (iv) the health of the animals

- 2 A licence under this Act shall be granted subject to conditions requiring the conservation measures referred to in Section 1A to be implemented at the zoo.

- 3 Any licence under this Act may be granted subject to such other conditions as the local Authority think necessary or desirable for ensuring the proper conduct of the zoo during the period of the licence, including conditions relating to the following:-
 - (a) - removed
 - (b) - removed
 - (c) insurance against liability for damage caused by animals.

- 4 In deciding what conditions to attach to a licence, a local Authority shall have regard to any standards specified by the Secretary of State under Section 9 and sent by him to the Authority.

- 5 The Secretary of State may, after consulting the Authority, direct them to attach one or more conditions to a licence, and the Authority shall give effect to such a direction.

- 5A But he may not direct the Authority to attach such a condition which is inconsistent with the implementation at the zoo of the conservation measures referred to in section 1A.

- 6 The Authority shall not attach to a licence any condition inconsistent with one they are so directed to attach.

- 7 The Authority shall not attach to a licence a condition which relates only or primarily to the health, safety or welfare of persons working in the zoo.

Consultation

- 3 A notice has appeared in the Herefordshire Times and Ross Gazette, a copy of the conditions are available for viewing at the Licensing Unit. (On publishing this report no response had been received)

- 4 To applicants of a zoo licence and premises which may fall under the definition of a zoo. (On publishing this report no response had been received)

- 5 Consultation has been made with several bodies including:-
 - DEFRA
 - National Federation of Zoological Gardens
 - RSPCA
 - Captive Animal Protection Society
 - The Butterfly Conservation Society
 - West Mercia Police
 - Hereford and Worcester Fire Brigade

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- 6** The conditions are based off the Secretary of States Standards of Modern Zoo Practice.
- 7** DEFRA, on behalf of the Secretary of State, have appointed a Zoo Inspector to undertake the appropriate pre-application inspection.
- 8** This Authority has not previously licensed a zoo therefore no previous conditions have been necessary.

Conditions

- 9** Listed in appendix 1 to this report

Options

It is for the Regulatory Committee to decide

- (a) to adopt the Licence Conditions
- (b) or reach some other conclusion