

**Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (Amendment)
(England and Wales) Regulations 2002**



defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Inspection Report

Date Report completed: 13/02/2013

Name of applicant or current licence holder:

Name and address of zoo
Postcode

Telephone number (incl. national dialling code)

Fax number (incl. national dialling code)

Licence Number

Date of last inspection Type of last inspection

Timing of next inspection Type of next inspection

Type of inspection **Statutory composition of inspection team** *Please tick appropriate box*

Section 10:

Full renewal 2 Defra nominees, 1 LA vet. Option of up to 2 more from LA

Full periodical 2 Defra nominees, 1 LA vet. Option of up to 2 more from LA

Section 11:

Special Any number of competent LA authorised appointees.....

Section 12:

Informal One competent LA authorised appointee.....

Section 14(1)(b) dispensation:

Informal One competent LA authorised appointee.....

Section 14(2) dispensation:

Renewal application Defra nominee(s)

Periodical Defra nominee(s)

Please use Appendix 11A (form ZOO 3) for Licence inspections under Section 4(1A) and Significant change inspections under Sections 16(2B) or 16(3A) of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (as amended).

Names and designations of Inspectors	Name(s) of zoo representative(s)
MRCVS - DEFRA APPOINTED VET	(general manager)
Roy Pickard (Local Authority)	(curator)
(animal welfare officer)	(regional curator)
	(IZVG vet)

Copies: Original to local authority, 1st copy to applicant/operator, 2nd copy to Defra, 3rd copy to inspectors

Useful information available to applicants

Information about the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2002)

Where to find it – available from your local authority who are responsible for administering the Act or from Defra at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/gwd/index.htm> or 0117 372 8209.

Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice

Where to find it - available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/gwd/index.htm> or from your local authority who are responsible for administering the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (as amended). A limited number of hard copies are still available from Defra.

Government Circular Guidance 02/2003 on the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2002)

Where to find it – available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/gwd/zoo.htm#circular>

Alternatively hard copies can be obtained by contacting:

Tom Adams,
Defra,
1/16 Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Temple Quay,
Bristol BS1 6EB
Tel: 0117 372 8209
E-mail: zoos.branch@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Zoos Forum Handbook

Where to find it – hard copies of available chapters can be obtained from Tom Adams at the above address (while stocks last). Electronic versions can be downloaded from <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/gwd/zoosforum/index.htm>.

Preamble to inspectors' report

This is the world's oldest operating aquarium and remains a popular visitor attraction on the sea front. There has been a significant investment by the parent company, Merlin Entertainments Ltd, since the last full periodical zoo inspection. The aquarium was closed to the public for several months from October 2011 until May 2012 while extensive renovations took place. These include:

- renovations of the foyer and main arcade section, education room, public toilets, food prep area and several areas behind-the-scenes
- introduction of a behind-the-scenes tour of the research area and food preparation area
- the 'black box' area, which is a temporary exhibit area where the theme changes periodically and is currently being prepared for several octopus displays and due to open next week
- a glass-bottomed boat started operating after the last inspection and takes visitors a short distance over the ocean tank, with an educational presentation given by a member of staff

Findings at inspection

Marking Key

Score YES or NO or N/A (i.e. not applicable) as appropriate. YES scores may also be graded (if considered appropriate) in the 'YES' column as follows:
 1 = Excellent. 2 = Good. 3 = Adequate. 4 = Barely acceptable.

	YES & grade if used	NO	N/A	Notes
1. Provision of food and water				
Directive Condition 1A(c)(ii):				
1. Is each animal provided with a high standard of nutrition?	YES			
2. Is food and drink appropriate for the species/individual supplied?	YES			
3. Are supplies of food and water:				
(a) kept hygienically?	YES			
(b) prepared hygienically?	YES			
(c) supplied to the animal hygienically?	YES			
4. Has natural feeding behaviour been adequately considered to ensure that all animals have access to food and drink?	YES			
5. Are feeding methods safe for staff and animals?	YES			
6. Is feeding by visitors permitted?	select	✓		
(a) if YES, is it properly controlled?	select		✓	
2. Provision of suitable environment				
Directive Condition 1A(c)(i):				
1. Is each animal provided with an environment well adapted to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of the species to which it belongs?	YES			
2. Are the following environmental parameters appropriate:	YES			
(a) temperature?				
(b) ventilation?	YES			
(c) lighting?	YES			
(d) noise levels?	YES			
(e) any other environmental parameters?	YES			
3. Do animal enclosures have sufficient shelter?	YES			
4. Do animal enclosures provide sufficient space?	YES			
5. Are backup facilities for life support systems adequate?	YES			
6. Is the cleaning of the accommodation satisfactory?	YES			
7. Is the standard of maintenance adequate for:				
(a) the buildings?	YES			
(b) the fences?	select		✓	
8. Is all drainage effective and safe?	YES			

Assessment of the Pre-Inspection Audit

Part	Assessment (tick one box)	Comments
A. Details of Institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
B. Animal records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
C. Animal husbandry and veterinary care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
D. Health and safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
E. Security	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
F. Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
G. Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
H. Staff training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
I. Research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	
J. Ethical considerations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	

	YES & grade if used	NO	N/A	Notes
3. Provision of animal health care				
Directive Condition 1A(c)(ii):				
1. Is each animal provided with a high standard of animal husbandry?	YES			
2. Do all animals on display to the public appear to be in good health?	YES			
3. Are observations of condition and health made and recorded?	YES			
4. Do all animals receive prompt and appropriate attention when problems are noted?	YES			
5. Are enclosures designed and operated in such a way that social interaction problems are avoided?	YES			
<i>On-site facilities</i>				
6. Are catch-up and restraint facilities adequate?	YES			
7. Is darting equipment satisfactory?	select		✓	
8. Are on-site veterinary facilities adequate?	YES			
<i>Veterinary care</i>				
Directive Condition 1A(c)(ii):				
9. Is each animal provided with a developed programme of preventative and curative veterinary care and nutrition?	YES			
10. Is a satisfactory programme of preventative and curative veterinary care established and maintained?	YES			
11. Is there a system for the regular review of clinical and pathological records?	YES			
12. Are appropriate veterinary records kept?	YES			
13. Are medicines correctly kept?	YES			
14. Are controlled drugs used and recorded satisfactorily?	YES			
15. Are appropriate antidotes available?	select		✓	
16. Are post mortem examination arrangements satisfactory?	YES			
<i>Isolation and containment</i>				
17. Is adequate reserve accommodation available for isolation of animals for:	YES			
(a) assessment?				
(b) treatment?	YES			
(c) recovery?	YES			
(d) quarantine (where required)?	YES			
<i>Sanitation and control of disease</i>				
Directive Condition 1A(e):				
18. Are satisfactory measures in place to prevent the intrusion of pests and vermin into the zoo premises?	YES			
19. Does it appear that general sanitation and pest control are effective?	YES			

	YES & grade if used	NO	N/A	Notes
4. Provision of an opportunity to express most normal behaviour 1. Does accommodation appear adequately to meet the biological and behavioural needs of the animals?	YES			
5. Provision of protection from fear and distress 1. Are the animals handled only by or under the supervision of appropriately experienced staff?	YES			
2. Is physical contact between animals and the public consistent with the animals' welfare?	YES			
3. Are interactions between the animals such that they are not excessively stressful?	YES			
6. Transportation and movement of live animals 1. Can the zoo demonstrate an awareness of the regulations covering transportation of animals and provide copies of certificates to show compliance when transportation has occurred?	YES			
2. Is transport and movement equipment in good order?	YES			
3. Are 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 readily available?	YES			
4. Do the catching and transportation techniques take account of the animal's temperament and escape behaviour in order to minimise injury, damage and distress?	YES			
5. Is adequate provision 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 Directive Condition 1A(a): 1. Is the zoo participating in at least one of the following:	YES			
(i) research from which conservation benefits accrue to species of wild animals?				
(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?	YES			
(v) where appropriate, the repopulation of an area with, or the reintroduction into the wild of, wild animals?	select	✓		

	YES & grade if used	NO	N/A	Notes
7. Conservation, Education and Research (cont.)				
Directive Condition 1A(b):				
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			
3. Where appropriate are animals managed (including accommodation) in a way consistent with the conservation needs of the species?	YES			
4. Are on-site education facilities commensurate with the collection?	YES			
(a) are they adequate for the purposes?	YES			
5. Are the conservation efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	YES			
6. Are the research efforts adequate for the resources of the collection?	YES			
7. Is captive breeding properly managed?	YES			
8. Public safety				
Directive Condition 1A(d):				
1. Are there satisfactory measures in place to prevent the escape of animals?	YES			
2. Are there satisfactory measures in place to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals?	YES			
3. Will the perimeter deter unauthorised entry and aid the confinement of zoo stock?	YES			
4. Do stand-off barriers appear adequate?	YES			
5. Are adequate warning signs provided?	YES			
6. Are prohibited areas appropriately signed?	YES			
7. Are exits clearly marked and accessible?	YES			
8. Does maintenance of buildings appear adequate?	YES			
9. Do public areas and walkways appear safe?	YES			
10. Are trees regularly inspected and appropriate remedial action taken?	select		✓	
11. Are the special safety requirements for walk-through or drive-through exhibits adequately met?	select		✓	
9. Records				
Directive Condition 1A(f):				
1. Are there up-to-date records of the zoo's collection, including records of:	YES			
(i) the numbers of different animals?				
(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			

	YES & grade if used	NO	N/A	Notes
9. Records (cont.)				
2. Are daily diaries maintained?	YES			
(a) do they contain appropriate information?	YES			
3. Are animal stock records clear and up-to-date?	YES			
4. Are annual inventories maintained and submitted to the Local Authority?	YES			
5. Are animal source and destination records kept?	YES			
6. Are archived records secure?	YES			
10. Miscellaneous				
1. Do staff numbers and training of staff appear adequate?	YES			
2. Is the management structure adequate for the proper care and well-being of the animals and the safety of the visiting public and zoo staff?	YES			
3. Are effective risk assessments carried out where appropriate?	YES			
4. Has an ethical review process been established?	YES			
5. Are public toilet facilities adequate and serviced?	YES			
6. Are parking facilities adequate?	select		✓	
7. Is a First Aid Policy in effect and is it adequate?	YES			
11. Associated legislation				
1. Is electrical equipment routinely serviced?	YES			
2. Have fire precautions been agreed and implemented?	YES			
3. Is refuse disposed of correctly?	YES			
4. Are the required needs of disabled visitors met?	YES			
5. Is an accident reporting and recording system in use?	YES			
12. Compliance check				
1. Is the current licence or a copy on public display at each public entrance?	YES			
2. Is adequate Public Liability Insurance current?	YES			
3. Have existing licence conditions been met?	YES			
4. On summary inspection, does the zoo appear to be in compliance with CITES legislation?	select			

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 – see overleaf); and
- any general remarks which the inspecting team may wish to record.

Since the last zoo inspection in 2010, there has been a considerable financial investment and redevelopment throughout the aquarium. The Grade 2 listed status of the building has significantly restricted some aspects of the renovation but despite this, the end result is visually impressive and in keeping with the Victorian architecture. Renovated areas are of a high standard and the overall appearance of displays and signage has been improved significantly with the introduction of LED screens next to the displays. These present concise information and interesting facts including the conservation status of animals. The fund-raising has generated a significant amount of money that has gone to several conservation projects across the world. The level of conservation information presented to visitors is very good, with several charities and projects being promoted well. The staff and management are positive and enthusiastic about future redevelopment of the rest of the site.

The current licence has a Section 14(2) dispensation under the Zoo Licensing Act. Annex C of the Guide to the Act's Provisions (2012) states that this is suitable for 'small collections' where the number of hazardous and/or conservation-sensitive species does not normally exceed 50 specimens. Following discussions at the zoo inspector seminar in Bristol on 26 November 2012 and the reduction in number of hazardous species now kept at the aquarium since the re-opening, I consider that the 14(2) dispensation is currently adequate.

Since the last full periodical zoo inspection on 4 March 2010, annual informal inspections by the Brighton & Hove Council Environmental Health Manager were carried out on 11 March 2011 and 19 December 2012.

'Close encounter' activities only relate to a touch pool. This is permanently manned by a member of staff and well controlled with good stock numbers, rotation records, hand washing facilities and appropriate signage. Risk assessments have been carried out and were inspected.

There have been no escapes of non-native species since the last full periodical zoo inspection.

Inspecting team's recommendation to the local authority _____

Having inspected
(name of zoo)

SeaLife Centre Brighton

on

13/02/2013

the inspecting team make the following recommendation:

Please tick appropriate box

- it is recommended that a licence be refused
- it is recommended that the above collection be licensed in accordance with the Act subject to the Directive Conditions
- it is recommended that the above collection be licensed in accordance with the Act subject to the Directive Conditions and the following Additional Conditions.....
- it is recommended that the following alterations be made to the above collection's licence conditions

Additional conditions (if appropriate)

Inspector(s) signature(s)	Date signed
	14/02/2013

The Data Protection Act 1998

This form is intended for use by local authorities in England for administering the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2002. Completed forms held by public authorities are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and

the Data Protection Act 1998. Copies of forms may be supplied to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for the purpose of providing information on the administration of the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2002.