

Informal inspection – Paignton Zoo December 2018

Inspections Date	
Inspection Team	Karl Martin, Public Protections Officer, Torbay Council Carrie Cottell, Animal Licensing Officer, Torbay Council
Persons seen	Chris Pyne, Finance and HR manager, PZEP Adi Board, Facilities Manager, PZEP
Compliance with conditions	All outstanding conditions from the interim inspections complied with and confirmed at previous inspection.
Area examined and why	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On two separate occasion since the previous informal inspections a Cat 2 animal (Tur and a Lechwe) has escaped the confines of their enclosure and managed to jump the exterior perimeter fences. The authority in this time received a complaint from a MoP with photographic evidence of deteriorating sections of a perimeter fence adjacent to their rear gardens.</li> <li>2. A recent local television article explained a female Asiatic Lion has been euthanised due to TB. The article, KJM felt, mislead the public with regards to the risk of TB. Officers were aware TB was on site but alarmed to hear how a Lion might contract the disease given the likely vector is not present. As TB could be a public health issue it was felt necessary to ask the zoo further questions.</li> </ol>
Findings/Discussion	<p><b>Perimeter fence</b></p> <p>Adi described the plans/proposals/Tenders for fence upgrades.</p> <p>The tur enclosure is close to the first security fence and bolted over in fight flight mode (TB testing taking place). This fence is being heightened but also 'badger proofed' in accordance with either DEFRA guidance or DCC.</p> <p>Site clearance will begin in January and completed early spring. A small amount of tree clearance/pruning will take place to prevent damage.</p> <p>Officer viewed the tur enclosures and were shown how it and the lechwe had escaped and showed areas where the fences would be upgraded first.</p> <p>Officers were also shown plans for upgrades to enclosures around the site that were not currently badger proof.</p>