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**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**ZOO LICENSING ACT 1981**  
**LICENCE TO OPERATE A ZOO**

**Part 1**

**Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council** being a local authority responsible for licensing zoos under the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (as amended)

**HEREBY LICENSE**

**Licence number:** 25/00827/ZOO  
**Name of licence applicant:** Mr Adam Hemsley  
**Office held:** Director of Zoological Operations  
**To operate the premises known as:** Hemsley Conservation Centre ("the Zoo")  
**Address:** Crabtree Close, Fairseat, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 7JL

Situated within (or the major part of which is within) the area of the said authority, subject to the conditions attached to this licence.

This licence is issued in accordance with the Act for a period of **six years** from 19th August 2025 until 18th August 2031.

**Issued:** 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

**Name:** Anthony Garnett, Head of Service Licensing, Community Safety and Customer Services

**On behalf of** Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ.

## Schedule 1

### Licence conditions (required by section 1A of the Act):

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.

1. Accommodating and keeping the animals in a manner which meets the standards set out in the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice including provide each animal with an environment well adapted to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of the species to which it belongs and provide a high standard of animal husbandry with a developed programme of preventative and curative veterinary care and nutrition.
2. Preventing the escape of animals and putting in place measures to be taken in the event of any escape or unauthorised release of animals.
3. Preventing the intrusion of pests and vermin into the premises of the Zoo.
4. Keeping up-to-date records of the Zoo's collection of animals, including records of the numbers of different animals; acquisitions, births, deaths, disposals and escapes of animals; the causes of any such deaths; and the health of the animals.
5. The licensee/operator of the Zoo must ensure that the Zoo is participating in at least one of the following:
  - Research from which conservation benefits accrue to species of wild animals.
  - Training in relevant conservation skills.
  - The exchange of information relating to the conservation of species of wild animals.
  - Where appropriate, breeding of wild animals in captivity.
  - Where appropriate, the repopulation of an area with, or the reintroduction into the wild of, wild animals.
6. The Zoo must keep information to show how it has complied with this condition and supply it to the local authority on request.



## **Schedule 2**

Additional conditions to ensure the proper conduct of the Zoo in all other respects, during the period of the licence.

### **Display of the licence**

1. The current zoo licence or a copy of it, including the conditions, must be displayed at the public entrance of the zoo.

### **Insurance**

2. Within one month of the date of the licence and then within one month of the date of renewal of the policy, a copy of the Zoo's current public liability insurance policy, and of subsequent renewals thereof, to be sent to the licensing authority.

### **Hazardous Animals**

3. The licensing authority must be notified in writing, at least one month in advance, of the proposed addition of any animal listed in category 1 of the Hazardous Animal Categorisation (see Appendix 12 of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice), which is from a taxonomic family of which Category 1 species have not previously been kept in the Zoo

### **Temporary Removal of Animals from the Zoo**

4. The licensee must notify the licensing authority before the temporary removal from the Zoo (other than for veterinary attention or inter-zoo movements) of any animal listed in category 1 of the Hazardous Animal Categorisation of Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice. Such notification should be given as early as possible and, in any case, no later than 12 hours before the removal, unless the Zoo operator and licensing authority mutually agree a shorter period. The notification should include details of the destination, the method of transportation of the animal, the arrangements for its well-being and the arrangements for the safety of the public whilst it is away from the Zoo.

### **Escapes**

5. In the event of any non-domestic animal escaping from the confines of the Zoo, notification shall be made to the licensing authority as soon as possible, and, in any case, not later than 24 hours following the escape.

## Stock Records

6. An annual stocklist of all animals must be kept and a copy must be forwarded to the local authority no later than 1 April of the year following that to which it relates. The stocklist should be in a multi-column format similar, for example, to Section 9.5 of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice, or to those that are produced by ZIMS and cover the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.

## Schedule 3

In accordance with section 3.7 (and 3.9) of the SSSMZP and Section 1(A) C of the ZLA, the zoo licence holder must develop, in consultation with the collection Veterinary Surgeon, an updated documented programme of preventative and curative veterinary care.

