

Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses

Draft guidance for operators (for consultation)

March 2012

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This document/publication is also available on our website at:
www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2012/03/01/circus-animals-1203/

Any enquiries regarding this document/publication should be sent to us at:
circusanimalwelfare@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Overview

Intended audience:	Managers / operators of travelling circuses that include wild animals and others with an interest
National coverage:	England
Purpose:	To provide guidance to support the Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012
Legal status:	Guidance on regulations
Contacts:	circusanimalwelfare@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Code of Practice on Guidance

This document follows the Government [Code of Practice on Guidance on Regulation](#). If you believe this guidance breaches the Code for any reason, or if you would like to provide any other feedback about this guidance, or have any ideas about how we might improve it, please contact us at circusanimalwelfare@defra.gsi.gov.uk. The guidance is next due for review in [DATE TO BE INSERTED IN POST-CONSULTATION VERSION] alongside the regulations.

Revision History

Revision No.	Revision date	Purpose of revision	Revised by
1.0	10 February 2012	Final version for consultation	Circus Animal Welfare Team, Defra

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Introduction

About this guidance

These guidance notes have been produced by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to provide informal advice to operators of those travelling circuses that use wild animal acts on to how to comply with the legal requirements of the proposed 'Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses Regulations 2012' (the 'Regulations'). This guidance also provides informal advice on specific species when fulfilling the requirements of the regulations.

This guidance explains who must hold a licence before they may use wild animals in travelling circuses and the minimum conditions that they must uphold under a licence.

Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that animal welfare is maintained. Under the Regulations, it is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that conditions are met by the travelling circus and everyone in it.

This guidance follows the Government Code of Practice on Guidance on Regulation (www.berr.gov.uk) and is compliant with the eight golden rules of good guidance. If you feel this guidance breaches the Code for any reason, please contact us (details below).

Circus operators, or anyone else with specific queries, may wish to seek the advice of Defra's Circus licensing team at circusanimalwelfare@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Intended audience

These guidance notes are intended for operators of travelling circuses that require a licence due to the presence in that circus of a 'wild animal'. The guidance notes will be of interest to anyone who wishes to understand the requirements of a licence.

Regional coverage

This guidance is applicable to England only.

Legal status

This guidance is intended:

- (i) to accompany the Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012;
- (ii) to explain how to meet the requirements of the regulations (licence); and
- (iii) to explain what may be required for specific species of wild animals.

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If you are a travelling circus with wild animals that operates in England you must hold a licence under the Regulations.

It is a criminal offence to operate a travelling circus with wild animals without the necessary licence.

Do I need a licence?

If you operate or manage a travelling circus in England that uses wild animals then you will require a licence from Defra.

A licence will be required for any travelling circus that travels through England from or to another country whether or not a public performance in England is planned.

How do I apply for a licence?

[The post-consultation version to include details about application process and contact point here]

Who may apply for a licence?

The person applying for a licence should be a competent person who has sufficient control of the circus and the wild animals in it, and who can ensure that the licence conditions will be met.

The applicant should be the person who owns the circus or business, or the person with control over the facilities, business or activity.

If the animals are not a permanent feature of the circus (for example, if the an animal act is used for all or part of a season and not otherwise attached to the circus) then the applicant will either be the owner of the circus (as a new licence if no other wild animals are used, or as a licence variation if a licence is already held for other animals) or the owner of the animals.

Any person who has an unspent disqualification from activities such as owning, keeping animals will not be granted a licence. If a person who already holds a licence is disqualified then the licence will be invalidated from the date of disqualification. A full list of disqualifications can be found in section 34 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Definitions

Draft definitions

1. Operating a travelling circus that includes wild animals is an activity for the purposes of section 13(1) of the Animal Welfare Act 2006.
2. “Circus” includes any place where wild animals are kept or introduced wholly or mainly for the purpose of performing tricks or manoeuvres.
3. A “travelling circus” means a circus which gives performances in more than one place and includes winter quarters where a wild animal associated with the circus is based while not touring.
4. “Wild animal” means an animal that is a member of a species not normally domesticated in Great Britain.

Please note that these are draft definitions – subject to change - intended to inform the consultation, and on which views are sought.

The regulations, which would be made under section 13(1) of the 2006 Act must set out to licence a defined **activity**. The draft definition of the activity (number 1 in the box) is “operating a travelling circus that includes wild animals”. To assist interpretation, it is important to sufficiently define “travelling circus” and “wild animals” (numbers 2, 3 and 4 in the box).

This would mean that only travelling circuses with wild animals are covered by the regulations. The word “circus” is well understood but for clarity is defined to include all places where wild animals are kept mainly for the purpose of performing tricks or manoeuvres (with those animals). This definition of a “circus” applies only to the regulations and does not change its meaning elsewhere. The definition of “wild animal” is relatively broad so that it covers species whose welfare needs may not be generally well understood in this country.

Length of a licence

A licence may be issued for a maximum of three years.

The first licence held by an individual would usually be for one year in duration. If an individual who has already held a licence applies for a renewal of their licence then a license may be issued for up to three years in duration. A number of factors will be taken into account when deciding on the length of the license. Factors include:

- current standards and history of compliance by the licensee
 - for the **first licence application**, this may include consideration of whether the circus is already employing a veterinary surgeon and whether appropriate records are being maintained;

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- for **licence renewals**, this is likely to include consideration of the circuses' history of compliance in the previous licensing period) and the severity of past breaches of conditions;
- the existence of good management systems;
- demonstration of good levels of training and qualification from staff; and
- the structure and standards of the animals accommodation and transportation.

The applicant may be required to submit evidence in support of an application, which can include details such as:

- copies of written procedures and plans;
- copies of the contract with veterinary practices;
- details of contingency arrangements; and
- details of staff training and qualification or enrolment on or completion of specialist courses.

This guidance also provides examples of the good practice that, if demonstrated by a circus, can be used in support of an application.

Please note that the Animal Welfare Act 2006 states that Regulations may not provide for licences to be granted for a period of more than three years.

A person will be committing an offence if they continue to operate with wild animals after a licence has expired.

Inspections

Defra inspectors have the power to enter and inspect premises to check compliance with licensing conditions or search for evidence that an offence of operating without a licence has been committed. A combination of announced and unannounced inspections will be put in place.

Defra has the power to suspend and revoke a licence if it believes that the licensing conditions are not being complied with.

Licence conditions






There are four licence conditions with which the licensee must comply.

Condition 1	Condition that prescribed welfare standards are complied with and that due regard is had for species specific guidance
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Condition 2	Condition that a “lead vet” is appointed and that veterinary care is provided to all wild animals
Condition 3	Condition that “Care Plans” are prepared; reviewed and agreed by the “lead vet”; and followed at all times
Condition 4	Condition that staff are ‘competent’ and are available to provide care at all times

Key to symbols used in this guidance document:

Symbols are used to denote different types of information.

	Denotes a set of prescribed welfare standards (e.g. about <i>diet</i>)
	Denotes a sub-set of standards on a key aspect of welfare provision (e.g. within the section on <i>diet</i> , there is a sub-set on <i>food storage</i>)
	Additional information about a prescribed standard or a licence condition
	Denotes a requirement to prepare plans and keep records (it may be made up of more than one plan or record)
	Denotes an individual plan or record
1.	(Numbered paragraph) denotes a key legal requirement that is set out in the regulations and for which the licensee is responsible

Boxes are also used to explain detailed requirements.

Technical terms

A **glossary** of terms is included at [not included in draft version].

Read across other legislation

The Regulations are made under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. The Act still applies in full to any animal in a travelling circus, and in particular all circus personnel should be familiar with the requirements of the Act at section 4 (on “unnecessary suffering”) and section 9 (“duty of person responsible for animal to ensure welfare”).

Any requirements under other legislation must still be complied with by the responsible person. If in doubt, please discuss with the inspectorate.

Licence Conditions

Condition 1. Welfare Standards

It is a condition that prescribed welfare standards are complied with and that due regard is had for species specific guidance

Key points

- Prescribed standards are the requirements set out in the regulations.
- It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure compliance with the prescribed standards.
- Prescribed standards cover all aspects of life for a wild animal in a travelling circus environment.
- Prescribed standards must be met at all times, including during training, performance and transport.
- Prescribed standards will help to ensure that the animals are treated appropriately and welfare conditions are optimised (the licensing scheme is designed to promote and safeguard animal welfare).
- Prescribed standards draw on international best practice.
- Guidance is included on interpreting the prescribed welfare standards for in the context of the welfare needs of individual species. Defra expects travelling circuses to have due regard to this guidance issued on welfare of their animals.
- The welfare standards are grouped under the following headings:
 - Housing and environs
 - Training and performance
 - Transport
 - Diet
 - Acquisition and disposition (e.g. adding or removing animals from the circus's collection).
- The prescribed standards cover all wild animals that are kept by the travelling circus under its licence.
- The prescribed standards do not cover domesticated species of animal (although a circus must nonetheless adhere to the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and any other applicable regulations).



Housing and environs

The following welfare provisions must be made under this condition about the accommodation and other facilities provided for - or used by - the animals.

In checking that the environment is appropriate, particular attention should be paid to:

(iv) **Accommodation**

(v) **Behavioural and environmental enrichment**, and

(vi) **Environmental factors**.



Accommodation

1. Accommodation (which includes any area that the animal uses, including its housing) must be safe for the animal to use, and be operated in a way that optimises welfare (both promoting it and safeguarding it).
2. Accommodation must be designed, constructed, maintained such that, and used such that it is of a suitable size for the animals contained, it is **free from hazards** and it is **secure**.

i Free from hazards: This includes ensuring that accommodation is in good condition and is free from any hazard that could harm an animal.

If a hazard is identified then immediate steps should be taken to protect the animal.

The nature of the hazard and the steps taken to mitigate it must be recorded in the “Care Plans” (including in the “daily record sheets; both are requirements of Condition 3).

It is important that no hazards are present, for example:

- Materials used in the enclosure, materials used in enrichment, products used for cleaning and sanitising. It is important that if an animal is to come into contact with a material that it is not toxic to the animal. Care should be taken, as it may not be immediately apparent that something could present a hazard.
- Apparatus, equipment or plant used. It is important that the normal use of the item does not present a hazard to an animal when it is in use. It is also important that no tool or portable equipment is left unattended in a place it could cause harm to an animal, provide a means of escape or be used by the animal to could cause injury to itself or another animal.
- Environmental hazards such as muddy conditions. Unless a requirement for the species, no animal must be housed in muddy conditions without freedom to move to an area that

is clean and dry.

- Anything that could harm an animal. For example, accommodation and fittings for securing animals shall be constructed and maintained so that there are no sharp edges or protrusions likely to cause injury to them.

i Secure: It is important that the accommodation can effectively and comfortably hold the animal(s), has secure access points, can prevent escape, and is accessible only to people with a legitimate need to have access to the animal and its environment. Only the animals that are meant to be kept in the accommodation should be able to access it.

This includes ensuring that:

- Accommodation is secure and strong enough to prevent any animal from escaping, including those that can burrow, climb or jump (or otherwise escape).
- Access points are sufficiently strong and effective to hold the animal(s) and not be opened by the animal(s). Access points include things such as doors, gates, lids and slides.
- Accommodation is free of any item which could aid escape. Items could include vegetation and other materials used for enrichment. Careful choices should be made to provide both the enrichment necessary whilst ensuring that chances of escape, hazard and injury are minimised.
- Accommodation is accessible only to people with a legitimate need for access. Unless the person is a veterinary surgeon or suitable member of staff and has reason to access the animals, access to the animals should be prevented.
- No animal can enter the accommodation from outside except where intended.

i Dangerous wild animals: If the accommodation contains a dangerous wild animal it also has a safety entrance and a keyed lock on all access points (such as doors, gates, and slides). If an opening is unlocked and opened, such as to remove an animal for a legitimate use, it is important that the entrance is checked and secured again once the animal returns (or immediately closed and locked if there are other animals left inside).

3. Accommodation must be suited to the **social needs** of the animal(s) and species accommodated.

i Social needs: It is important the accommodation is designed and used in such a way that it can fully provide for the social needs of the animals it houses.

This includes ensuring that:

- It can satisfy the “behavioural and environmental enrichment programme(s)” for the animals for which it is intended
- It is suited to the stages of growth and development of the animals for which it is intended (including pregnancy, if applicable)
- It is suited to keeping animals in socially compatible groups, except under advice from a veterinary surgeon and where separation/isolation is necessary to secure the health and/welfare of an animal or the group and where it is not unduly detrimental to an individual animal
- It does not allow animals within herds or groups to be unduly dominated by individuals
- It does not allow persistent and unresolved conflict between herd or group members
- It allows animals to separate themselves from other individuals in their accommodation
- It provides sufficient separation to avoid distress or suffering as a result of close proximity with another animal(s) that may interact in a stressful way. This includes incompatible animals of the same species, and predator and prey species.
- It provides access to an area in which all the animals (simultaneously) can hide from public view

The accommodation should be supplemented by equipment such as stand off barriers, where appropriate; for example to maintain an acceptable distance between visitors and the animals.

4. Accommodation must be maintained so that strict **hygiene** standards are adhered to and due regard is had for **biosecurity**. **Cleaning** must be adequate.

i Hygiene and biosecurity: It is important that accommodation is designed and used in a way that is clean and hygienic.

It includes meeting the following requirements:

- Ensuring that cleaning and sanitation agents and water for cleaning are available at all times and staff are trained in their use
- Ensuring all accommodation is regularly cleaned and disinfected and that hygiene standards are maintained at an appropriate level
- Not allowing uncontrolled build-up or spread of parasites and other pathogens
- Minimising risk of transmission of disease or pathogens, in particular, allowing sufficient space or a solid barrier between groups of animals, between enclosures, and/or between animals and visitors
- Providing sleeping area(s) which is set as far away as possible to prevent faecal contamination, if the species or animal defecates in one given area.

i **Cleaning and disinfection** should include ensuring that:

- All bedding is kept clean and dry
- Contaminated bedding and stale food and water does not accumulate and is regularly removed
- Faecal and food waste is removed from inside, under and around accommodation at least once a day and as often as necessary to prevent hazards of contamination, disease and odour
- Excess water is drained or removed
- Waste material is not removed in a manner that causes stress to an animal.
- Apparatus used to remove waste material is regularly cleaned to prevent risk of cross contamination
- Once removed, waste material is securely placed in designated areas with due regard to biosecurity and cleared frequently to prevent a health risk

5. Accommodation must include a **floor** suited to the animal and that does not present a hazard.

i **Floor:** It is important that the floor is suited to the animal(s) and is free of hazards. In particular, the following requirements should be met:

- (If indoors and) if there is a risk of becoming slippery and this being detrimental to the animal(s) ensuring the floor should be roughened or textured
- The floor should be covered with a suitable material that insulates against heat and cold where the animal rests on any sealed surface such as concrete or bitumen
- Adequate quantities of bedding must be used where the surface of the floor is not otherwise suited to the animal
- It must be possible to drain / remove excess water easily

6. If short-term confined housing or night quarters are used, in addition to the conditions above, they must:


- Provide space for the animal to stand without its head touching the roof
- Provide space for the animal to turn around comfortably, and
- Provide space for the animal to lie down comfortably.

Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment

7. “Behavioural and enrichment programmes” must be followed at all times. However, it is acceptable to suspend the programmes if the animal is being transported (including loading and unloading) or if it would be to the animal’s detriment (such as during severe weather, or suffering from a physiological disturbance).
8. One of the welfare needs of an animal is to be kept with, or apart from, other animals as appropriate. Animals should be part of a social group where that is what suits the species.
9. If an animal or sub-group of animals has been temporarily accommodated away from the rest of the group, then it should not be separated for such a period of time that there would be difficulties in reintroducing to the group.

Environmental Factors

10. All reasonable steps must be taken to minimise noise, in particular loud, sudden or unexpected noises. Particular attention must be paid to training and performance.
11. Potential causes of distress or adverse health and welfare from poor management of environment should be eliminated, in particular in the use of strobe lighting, carbon dioxide (dry ice) or artificial smoke.

 See also: Prescribed standards on training and performance and transport

12. In areas of accommodation, environment variables must be managed at levels appropriate to the welfare needs of the animal and species, and in all other areas due regard must be had of the following:
 - temperature including providing temperature gradient where necessary
 - ventilation
 - humidity
 - lighting (levels and spectral distribution including ultra violet)
 - noise, and
 - odour.
13. Backup facilities should be available, functioning and well maintained to ensure that environmental variables continue to be managed if, for example, the main equipment fails.

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14. Animals – including grazing animals - must be provided adequate shelter from **adverse weather** conditions.

i **Adverse weather:** Precise requirements and sensitivities may vary from animal to animal, but will include considering conditions of the environment that could cause harm or distress to an animal such as exposure to sunlight, rain, snow and extremes of temperature.



Training and performance

The following welfare provisions are designed to ensure that high welfare standards are maintained during activities such as training and performance. Particular attention is needed to ensure that activities reflect natural behaviours, are safe and that only positive reinforcement is allowed.

1. No animal shall be used in any physical activity, including display, performance and training unless it is **fit** for the intended activity.

i **Fitness:** animals must be fit for the activities demanded of them.

An animal is not considered fit if it is injured, presents a physiological weakness or pathological process, and in particular if it:

- Is unable to move independently without pain or unable to walk unassisted
- Has a severe open wound, or a prolapse
- Is a pregnant female for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed
- Is a female that gave birth in the previous week
- Is a new-born mammal in which the navel has not completely healed
- Is a cervine animal in velvet

A sick or injured animal may only be considered for the activity if:

- Veterinary advice has been sought and the vet has confirmed in writing that the animal is slightly injured or ill and the activity would not cause additional suffering
- It undertakes the activity under veterinary supervision for the condition or following veterinary treatment or diagnosis and where no unnecessary suffering is caused to the animal
- It is an animal that has been submitted to veterinary procedures in relation to farming practices such as dehorning or castration, provided that wounds have healed

If there is any doubt, the lead vet must be consulted.

2. Performance and training must only be carried by a person listed as a “trainer” in the staff list, or under the direct supervision of such a person.
3. All animals must be checked after display, training and performance for signs of pain, suffering, injury or disease.

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4. Unless an “activity assessment” (a requirement of “Care Plans” under condition 3) has been prepared, no animal is to be:
 - allowed out of its usual accommodation,
 - used for any training or performance, or
 - allowed to come in to contact with any member of the general public (which includes any physical contact, handling and riding).
5. Due regard must be given to the "activity assessment" during training and performance, and in particular any steps identified in the assessment to minimise risks to welfare.
6. Training and performance, and the techniques used, must only be carried out in a manner that has full regard for the welfare needs of the animal and is halted at the first sign of abnormality.

i **Welfare during activity such as training and performance:** welfare needs must be considered during any activity, and be done with regard to the activity assessment and **Care Plans** (requirements of condition 3).

In particular, it is important that:

- nothing is done that will cause an animal any pain, suffering, injury or disease, or that is likely to cause injury
- no animal is ever physically punished for any reason (which includes depriving the animal, for example of food or water)
- no animal is struck under any circumstances
- no animal is overworked
- no activity is continued where it is apparent that an animal’s attention span or willingness to perform a behaviour has decreased
- no bodily movements, behaviours or routines are included that are outside the normal capabilities and physical capacity of the animal
- due care is taken to ensure that the musculoskeletal and physiological development and function of the animal are sufficient to meet the demands placed on the animal
- collars, head collars, or leads are not pulled forcefully or jerkily in order to guide an animal
- no fire is used
- no animal is intentionally provoked for any reason
- no animal is intimidated

If any apparent musculoskeletal or physiological abnormality manifests itself or is suspected the activity must be halted and a veterinary surgeon called to diagnose and treat the condition.

No apparatus, device or equipment (including whips and prods) is to be used:

- in a manner that could cause pain, suffering, injury or disease
- of a design that could cause pain, suffering, injury or disease
- where accidental misuse is likely to result in injury
- that is capable of administering an electric shock with the exception of responsible use of electric fencing

Minor changes to the behavioural repertoire should be introduced constantly, but an individual behaviour should be halted if it is found to cause any pain, suffering, injury or disease to an animal.

7. Only positive reinforcement techniques may be used. Rewards for successful completion of a desired behaviour must be immediate and tangible for the animal.
8. All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the performance area (and any areas used for preparation or temporary holding of an animal) is secure and free from hazards for the duration of the performance and at any other time during which the animal has access.
9. No item used to dress or decorate an animal or other item used in training and performance is used unless it is fit for its intended purpose.
10. Any item which has caused pain, suffering, injury or disease must be altered or replaced before it may be used again.

i **Costumes, collars, props, saddles, dressing, decoration etc:** it is important that all items used are safe and do not cause any detriment to welfare.

This includes ensuring that where an item is to be used:

- The item's proper use will not cause pain, suffering, injury or disease
- The item is a good and proper fit for the individual animal (if fitted)
- The item is comfortable for the animal to wear (if worn)
- The item does not restrict breathing
- The individual animal has been checked for, and found free of, injury due to rubbing
- The item has been adjusted to avoid further pain, suffering, injury or disease if that has

resulted from its previous use

- No item (including any prop, costume, make-up) is used unless is easily removed, non-permanent, non-toxic, non-caustic, non-carcinogenic and non-flammable

11. The public is informed about unacceptable behaviour that could cause detriment to an animal's welfare, including by use of signage and announcement.

i **Signage and announcement** : It is important that visitors understand the minimum steps they should take to avoid putting an animal's welfare at risk. As a minimum, visitors should be asked:

- not to feed animals, except under staff supervision
- not to eat or carry food near the animals
- to wash hands if food has recently been consumed
- not using flash photography without permission;
- to consider whether they have any health problems which may be transmissible to the animals
- to maintain a safe distance as instructed by signage or a member of the circus



Transport

The following welfare provisions are designed to ensure that high welfare standards are maintained during transport.

1. No animal shall be transported unless it is fit for the intended journey.

i **Fitness:** animals must be fit for the intended journey.

An animal is not considered fit if it is injured, presents a physiological weakness or pathological process, and in particular if it:

- Is unable to move independently without pain or unable to walk unassisted
- Has a severe open wound, or prolapsed
- Is a pregnant female for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed
- Is a female that gave birth in the previous week
- Is a new-born mammal in which the navel has not completely healed
- Is a cervine animal in velvet

A sick or injured animal may only be considered for transport if:

- Veterinary advice has been sought and confirms that the animal is slightly injured or ill and the activity would not cause additional suffering
- It is transported under veterinary supervision for or following veterinary treatment or diagnosis provided no unnecessary suffering is caused to the animal
- It is an animal that has been submitted to veterinary procedures in relation to farming practices such as dehorning or castration, provided that wounds have completely healed

2. No person may transport wild animals or cause wild animals to be transported in a way likely to cause the animals pain, suffering, injury or disease.

3. Transport arrangements must be appropriate to secure welfare.

i **Appropriate transport arrangements:** there are a number of requirements that must be met before allowing an animal to be transported, including making every effort to ensure that:

- The means of transport, containers and their fittings (including those intended for loading and unloading) shall be designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to:
 - avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals and

specifically have no sharp edges or projections which might cause injury

- protect the animals from inclement weather, extreme temperatures and adverse changes in climatic conditions
 - be cleaned and disinfected regularly
 - prevent the animals escaping or falling out and be able to withstand the stresses of movements
 - have sufficient floor area and height is provided for the animals, appropriate to their size and the intended journey
 - provide enough space to enable the circus animals to travel in a natural position without risk of injury
 - provide each animal sufficient space to turn about freely, stand and lie down; provided, however, that certain species may be restricted in their movements according to professionally acceptable standards when such freedom of movement would constitute a danger to the animals, staff, or other persons
 - ensure that air quality appropriate to the species transported can be maintained for the duration of the journey
 - provide access to the animals to allow them to be inspected and cared for
 - present a flooring surface that is anti-slip; and be checked regularly
 - present a flooring surface that minimises the leakage of urine or faeces
 - provide a means of lighting sufficient for inspection and care of the animals during transport
 - ensure that where partitions are used, they are strong enough to withstand the weight of animals ensure fittings are designed for quick and easy operation
- Vehicles in which animals are transported are clearly and visibly marked to indicate the presence of live animals
 - Goods, including food and equipment, which are being transported in the same means of transport as animals are positioned so that they do not cause injury, suffering or distress to the animals.
 - During transport and handling, containers holding animals shall always be kept upright and severe jolts or shaking shall be minimised
 - Containers holding animals are secured so as to prevent displacement due to the movement of the means of transport
 - Vehicles are equipped with a sufficient number of adequately designed, positioned and maintained securing points enabling containers to be securely fastened
 - When containers loaded with animals are placed one on top of the other on the means of

transport, the necessary precautions shall be taken:

- to avoid urine and faeces falling on the animals placed underneath
- to ensure stability of the containers
- to ensure that ventilation is not impeded
- Unless the animals have been raised in compatible groups, are accustomed to each other, where separation will cause distress or where females are accompanied by dependent young, animals must be handled and transported separately in the following cases:
 - animals of different species
 - animals of significantly different sizes or ages
 - animals hostile to one another
- Animals are provided with bedding or equivalent material which guarantees their comfort appropriate to the species, the number of animals being transported, the journey time, and the weather. This material has to ensure adequate absorption of urine and faeces.
- A sufficient quantity of food and water shall accompany transport conveyances to provide food and water for all animals for a period of at least 24 hours
- There is a stationary period of no less than 12 hours in any 24 hour period, when the circus moves between venues or layover sites
- During transport, animals shall be offered water, feed and the opportunity to rest as appropriate to their species and age, and health and physiological state
- Non-domesticated species are not taken from the transport vehicle during transport except under emergency conditions
- Contingency plans in the event of emergencies must be in place and in these circumstances a temporary enclosure must be used that is structurally strong enough to prevent the escape of the animal

Every effort must be made to make a journey as comfortable as possible for the animals being transported. There is no substitute for common sense and adhering to all traffic laws, such as keeping to a speed which is legal and does not put the animal in any distress or danger, and having due care of things that may be outside the direct control of the licensee such as driving conditions.

4. The personnel handling animals must be trained or competent as appropriate for the purpose and carry out their tasks without using violence or any method likely to cause unnecessary fear, injury or suffering.

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5. Transport by methods other than air shall only occur when the animals are accompanied by at least one “trainer” or “carer” (as defined in the “staff list”) for the species who shall be responsible.
6. “Trainers” or “carers” shall visually observe the animals as frequently as circumstances may dictate, but not less than once every 4 hours.
7. All staff must be briefed on the contingency plans that would apply in the event of an emergency, before the journey commences.
8. Sufficient planning ahead must take place.

i Planning ahead: it is important that all necessary arrangements have been made in advance to minimise the length of the journey and meet animals' needs during the journey, which should include steps such as:

- before setting off, checking information for factors that could affect the journey, particularly weather reports and warnings, general driving and road conditions, information about likely delays and road closures, whether the planned route is the most efficient, and determining alternative routes should problems arise with the planned route
- where possible, and where the animal does not travel in its permanent accommodation, sending accommodation ahead of the animals so that it can be erected on the new site before the animals arrive
- ensuring that food and water is available at the new site, sending it ahead of the animals or having it in situ at the new site if practical and if it is not being transported with the animals
- making every effort not to delay the journey once animals have been loaded
- where possible, planning meal breaks and planned stops for the benefit of staff around the needs of the animals



Food must be **stored, prepared** and **provided** appropriately.

Food storage

1. Food and drink must be stored appropriately, and as a minimum:
 - Must be protected against:
 - dampness
 - deterioration
 - mould
 - contamination including by insects, birds, vermin or other pests
 - adverse environment/weather conditions
 - Must be clearly labelled.

Food preparation

2. Food must be prepared only in a suitable area, which is specifically designed and constructed for food storage and for food preparation and that is used for no other purpose.
3. Strict standards of food hygiene and personal hygiene must be applied and followed at all times and in particular in preparing food.
4. Food must be prepared in such a way that cross contamination does not take place, particularly between storage containers, receptacles, equipment, utensils and surfaces.
5. Receptacles and utensils for food and drink are not be used for any other purpose.
6. Food receptacles and utensils must be cleaned regularly (daily).
7. Food receptacles must be appropriate to the foodstuff.
8. Self feeders, where used, must be inspected twice daily to ensure that they are working effectively and do not contain caked or unfit food. Water lines should be checked twice a day.



Food provision

9. Food and water may only be provided in accordance with the “diet plan”.

i **Diet Plans** are a requirement of Condition 3. Diet plans are intended to provide for all the dietary requirements of each animal, and should incorporate specialist advice (primarily from the lead vet or other specialist) to ensure that the dietary needs are met. These must be reviewed frequently in light of the animal’s general health, physiological state and body condition.

10. Food and water may only be provided under the supervision of a person listed as a trainer or carer (other than a veterinary surgeon).
11. Food may only be provided by a visitor in accordance with the diet plan and under the supervision of a person listed as a trainer or carer.
12. No spoilt or “off” food may be offered to an animal.
13. Fresh, clean drinking water of sufficient quantity is available at all times unless specified otherwise in species-specific guidelines.
14. Before moving an animal from its current location to another location, the licensee must be certain that food and water will be available at the destination site.
15. No animal is to be deprived of food and water for any reason except under the instruction of a veterinary surgeon for medical reasons.
16. Uneaten food must not be left such that it becomes unhygienic.
17. All reasonable steps must be taken to offer food and drink in a way that encourages each animal to exhibit normal behaviour patterns.
18. Food and drink must be accessible and available to every animal in the group and accommodation/enclosure.
19. Food and drink must be placed in positions that minimise the risk of contamination from soiling by the animal or group or by any other animal including birds, rodents and pest.
20. Reasonable effort must be made to allow grazing animals an opportunity to graze on a daily basis.



Acquiring and disposing of wild animals

It is important that animals are introduced and retired from the circus responsibly. The following standards apply.



Acquiring animals

1. No wild animal may be introduced to (under any circumstances including purchase, gift, loan, rescue) or bred in or by a travelling circus (including winter quarters) unless:
 - the licence has been varied to include the incoming animal
 - the “lead vet” (a requirement of condition 2) has first been consulted and Care Plans (under condition 3) prepared in full for the new animal
 - suitable environments have first been prepared, including:
 - accommodation, which allows for social grouping/solitary status as appropriate
 - transportation, and
 - winter quarters.
 - a suitable number of “carers” that are “competent” (under condition 4) for that species of animal have first been nominated to care for the animal.



Disposing of animals

2. No wild animals may be disposed of without due regard for the “retirement plan” for that animal (a requirement under condition 3).
3. The welfare needs of surplus stock must be met as for any other animal kept.
4. Every reasonable effort must be made to ensure that if an animal is to pass to another keeper, the new keeper is a suitable person and in particular:
 - is able to meet the welfare needs of the animal, paying attention to facilities, resources and expertise, and
 - does not have an unspent conviction for an animal welfare offence.
5. If the animal has participated in training and performance, then a transitional period must be entered in to in the presence of the old trainer until such time as the new keeper can work with and / or care for the animal, except in extenuating circumstances.
6. The new keeper should be given a copy of all relevant care plans and medical history prior to taking over responsibility,

Condition 2. Lead Vet and Veterinary Care

It is a condition that a “lead vet” is appointed and that veterinary care is provided to all wild animals.

Key points

- It is important that the circus has sufficient veterinary cover to ensure that health and welfare needs of the wild animals are being appropriately met.
- The circus must appoint a veterinary surgeon who has specialised knowledge of the specific species in the travelling circus to lead on veterinary care for its wild animals (a “lead vet”, who should not be confused with the Defra-appointed inspector who will also be a vet).
- The lead vet must be consulted in planning for the animals and checking that welfare requirements are being satisfied.
- The lead vet must be available for consultation as and when appropriate by the circus.
- The lead vet should attend at least once every three months to check all the animals, at which point the standards of animal welfare for the circus should be reviewed.

For practical reasons, up to two of these visits can be delegated by the lead vet to another suitably specialised veterinary surgeon (for example, to cut down on unnecessary travel), who must be in direct communication with the lead vet. If the veterinary surgeon in attendance is a different person to the lead vet then any care, treatment and changes to care plans must be discussed with the lead vet.

The lead vet should be in attendance to inspect all the animals at least once a year at the winter quarters for the circus animal, and at least once a year at a tour site to advise on the conditions whilst on tour.

- The lead vet should lead on all veterinary matters and have an overview of health and welfare throughout the year and whenever a review or revision is made to a “Care Plan”.

1. A licence will require that a “**lead vet**” is appointed. The lead vet will need to be an expert in the field who understands the needs of the animals, is able to treat the animals and can advise on the Care Plans.
2. The lead vet:
 - must be a named individual veterinary surgeon (meaning that the circus has a single point of contact who provides overall veterinary care), and
 - must have specialised knowledge of the species of wild animals in the circus.

i About the “lead vet”

- The lead vet will take an overview of the health and welfare of the wild animals.
 - The lead vet’s specialist knowledge should extend to all matters relating to the health, feeding, and exercising, working, breeding and general welfare of the animals.
 - It is recommended that the lead vet holds a specialist qualification, relevant to the type of animal(s) in the travelling circus, and can demonstrate ongoing continued professional development in their specialist field.
 - The appointment of a lead vet does not in any way absolve the licensee or any circus staff of their responsibilities for ensuring animal welfare is maintained.
 - Where appropriate to the circumstances the licensee or the lead vet may make use of other advisers provided that the lead vet retains overall oversight of the health and welfare of the animals and is the person that agrees the Care Plans.
 - The lead vet must be ready and prepared to offer advice and maintain good communication with the travelling circus, and with other veterinary surgeons involved in the care of the animals, especially in emergency situations while the circus is on tour. It is important because a local veterinary surgeon by necessity used in an emergency may not themselves be an expert in the species concerned.
3. A licence will require that a veterinary surgeon attends at least once every three months (for a “routine visit”; the term is used to distinguish this formal involvement of a vet under the licence conditions from ad-hoc informal visits, or the responsibility of the licensee to arrange any emergency and health care needed by the animals as it arises).
4. The licensee may arrange routine visits for a time that suits him/her, provided that:
- at least one routine visit is carried out at the winter quarters whilst the animals are present, at least one of which must be undertaken by the lead vet, and
 - at least one visit is carried out at a tour site whilst the animals are present, at least one of which must be undertaken by the lead vet.
5. The licensee must arrange as many other visits, to be undertaken by a suitable veterinary surgeon, as are necessary to ensure the health and welfare of the animals.
6. If the attending veterinary surgeon is not the lead vet then they (the vet) must:
- except in an emergency, contact the lead vet before attending and familiarise themselves with the Care Plans
 - consult and inform the lead vet of any treatment given and any recommended change to any of the Care Plans for the animals being treated
 - make every effort to provide continuity of treatment for the animals

7. Attending veterinary surgeons must update the “programme of preventative care” and/or the “individual history and medical card” (as applies) for the animals treated, or furnish the licensee with the appropriate information so that the licensee can update them.

i About visits by the lead vet

- It is expected that the lead vet visits at times that s/he can see all the animals and the way that they are being kept.
- If it is not possible to see the animals in one place, then more than one visit will need to be arranged.

8. The licensee must ensure that if an animal has been found not to be “fit” for the purposes of training/performance or transport because it was injured or presents with a pathological process, it may not be used in training/performance or transported until it has been declared “fit” by a veterinary surgeon.

i About fitness

- Animals must be fit for use.
- An animal is not considered fit if it is injured, presents a physiological weakness or pathological process, and in particular if it:
 - Is unable to move independently without pain or unable to walk unassisted
 - Has a severe open wound, or prolapsed
 - Is a pregnant female for whom 90% or more of the expected gestation period has already passed
 - Is a female that gave birth in the previous week
 - Is a new-born mammal in which the navel has not completely healed
 - Is a cervine animal in velvet

9. Attending veterinary surgeons must make arrangements to meet the ethical responsibilities of veterinary cover and all applicable legislation. For example, as set out in Guide to Professional Conduct of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

10. The licensee must actively involve the lead vet in the following routine activities:

- routine inspections of the wild animals
- directing or carrying out treatment of all sick animals
- administration of vaccines, worming and other aspects of preventive medicine

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- health monitoring of animals including submission of blood and other samples for laboratory examination
- safe and proper collection, preparation and dispatch of diagnostic and other samples
- training of circus personnel in health and hygiene
- ensuring that post-mortem examinations of animals are carried out where necessary
- the nutrition and the design of diets, and
- the establishment of written procedures to be followed in the event of the accidental use of dangerous drugs and chemicals.

ⓘ About key aspects of veterinary care the circus should provide its animals:

- Vaccinations and treatments must be provided to all animals in accordance with the requirements of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1739/2005 and any other applicable legislation concerning animal health and/or disease control.
- Prescription drugs may only be given by or under the direction of a veterinary surgeon who has knowledge of and contact with the animals and has him/herself prescribed or supplied the medicine. Administration of prescription drugs may be performed by trainers or carers with previous experience in the procedures, but only at the direction of a veterinary surgeon.
- All prescription drugs should be correctly labelled by the supplier stored in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations and in a locked cupboard and discarded via a veterinary practice when out of date. All medicine shall be administered in accordance with the manufacturer and prescribing veterinary surgeon's recommendations. Use of medicines should be recorded on each and every occasion.
- All animals must be properly restrained for injections unless administered by dart. Sterile disposable needles and syringes must be used for all injections.
- Disposal of clinical waste such as needle sharps must comply with any applicable legal requirements.
- If a disease condition is diagnosed by a veterinary surgeon that requires hospitalisation, either the animal should be removed for treatment or, if space is available, hospital facilities can be set up within the circus. These would comprise a separate area within the existing facilities where the animal can be contained, isolated, monitored and nursed as necessary. In extreme illness, the animal should be accommodated in appropriate conditions, which may include a return to winter quarters or a need to visit a specialist animal hospital.
- If a diagnosed disease involves an infectious agent which renders it communicable to other animals or humans, a hospital area within the circus must be quarantined. Only selected staff shall have access to the area, disinfection measures should be devised under the guidance of the veterinary surgeon to prevent the spread of the disease.
- Animals that die should be examined post-mortem in accordance with veterinary advice. Where appropriate, samples for diagnosis or health monitoring should be taken for

laboratory examination.

- Dead animals must be handled in a way which minimises the risk of transmission of infection and disposed of in accordance with relevant legislation.

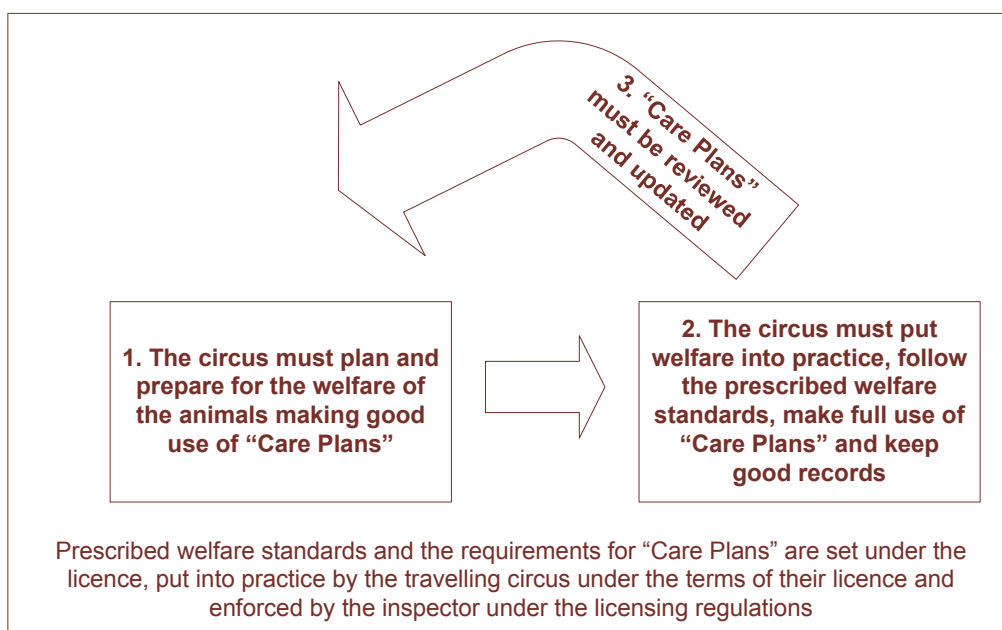
11. Travelling circuses must work with their vets to ensure that all appropriate care is given to the animals and that all records are kept up to date and note veterinary advice and treatment.
-

Condition 3. Care Plans

It is a condition that “Care Plans” are prepared, agreed by the “lead vet” and followed at all times. They must be kept under review.

Key points

- Travelling circuses must plan ahead and establish precisely what each wild animal’s welfare needs are.
- Once the needs are identified, the circus is responsible for including details in “**Care Plans**” of how all the welfare needs will be met.
- Two types of Care Plan must be prepared (“**Group Care Plans**” and “**Individual Care Plans**”). These are explained below in this section of the guidance.
- All the Care Plans should be prepared in consultation with the “lead vet”.
- Once prepared, all Care Plans should be agreed by the “lead vet”.
- Care Plans must then be followed at all times by all people that have reason to access and care for the animals.
- Good daily records management should be used as a tool to help manage welfare as well as record conditions and actions taken to maintain or improve welfare.
- Care Plans should be reviewed during visits from the “lead vet” to ensure that they are up to date and fit for purpose.
- Care Plans should be used as part of a feedback loop to maintain and improve welfare standards:



A. Overview of Care Plans

i Care Plans: Putting Welfare into practice

The term 'Care Plan' is used to capture all planning, record keeping and routine management that must go into providing for the welfare needs of wild animals in a travelling circus environment.

The records used by the circus should be adapted to suit their circumstances and the needs of their animals, provided that the records:

- contain the information set out in the regulations (explained in detail below)
- can be scrutinised by the inspector and attending veterinary surgeons, and
- are readily accessible to all staff that are caring for the animals and who will be expected to follow the plans.

There are two types of Care Plan that must be prepared and kept up to date under the Regulations:

- **(1) Group Care Plans** are intended to highlight and plan for all of the welfare needs of a group of animals.
- **(2) Individual Care Plans** highlight and plan for the welfare needs of an animal where its needs may differ from the rest of the group and the Group Care Plan.

i Introduction to (1) Group Care Plans

A **Group Care Plan** caters for all welfare needs of each group of animals (i.e. animals kept together in a socially compatible group or kept under the same husbandry conditions).

- Group Care Plans will ensure that the animals' needs are provided for in the everyday management of the circus.
- Group Care Plans should include:
 - consideration of welfare needs in providing accommodation and other spaces in which the animals will be kept and used
 - consideration of welfare needs in relation to the intended uses of animals
 - sufficiently detailed welfare plans and programmes (including "**behavioural and environmental enrichment plans**", "**breeding policies**", "**diet plans**")

and "**preventative medicine programmes**"), and

- copies of up to date routine management records including "**daily record sheets**" and "**journey plans**".

① Introduction to (2) Individual Care Plans

An "**Individual Care Plan**" must be used to plan for all the welfare needs of each animal and be followed to ensure those needs are provided for in the everyday management of the circus.

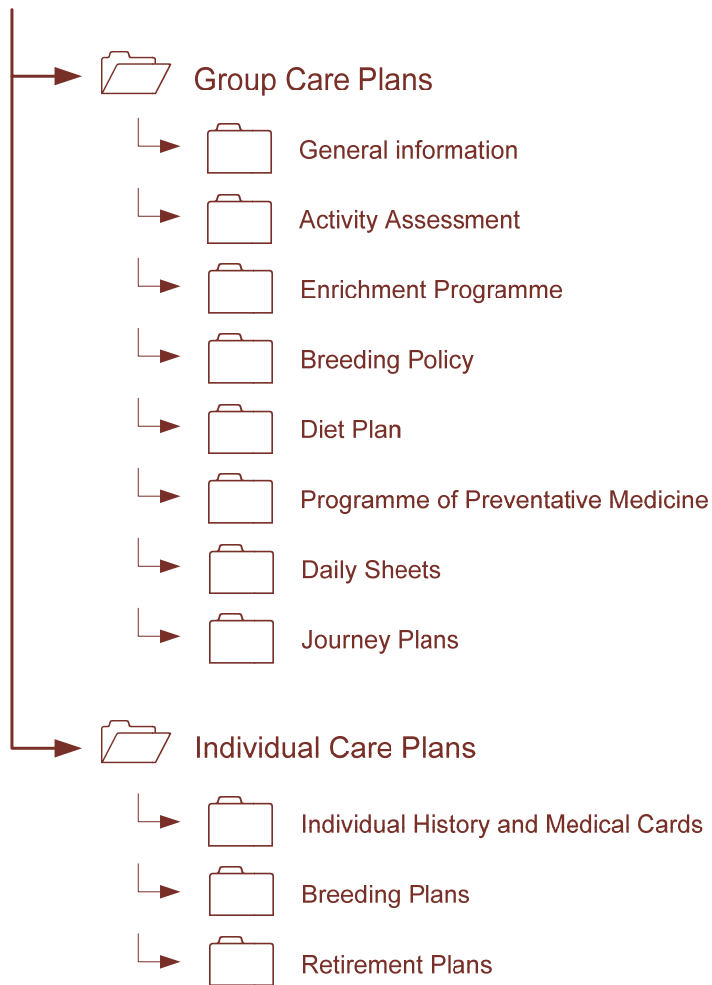
An Individual Care Plans should record where the needs of one animal differ from those of the group in which it is kept (where applicable), and must also include:

- individual history and medical cards
- breeding plans, and
- retirement plans.

① Structure of Care Plans


Care Plans are made up of a series of plans and records, as illustrated below.

 Records must be kept by the licensee



B. Content of Group Care Plans and Individual Care Plans

Content of Group Care Plans

 Group Care Plans are intended to highlight and plan for all of the welfare needs of a group of animals.

1. A “Group Care Plan” must:
 - fully identify every animal in the group
 - set out **general information** about the keeping of the group, including:
 - a summary of the times that the group will spend in different accommodation and other spaces
 - a summary of the accommodation and other spaces used by the animals, including dimensions, materials, correct use of access points etc
 - a summary of intended/planned use/activity for every animal in the group (including whether the animal is being used in display, training, performance and/or any other use and which other animals / groups will be used in that use/activity)
 - include a fully developed set of welfare plans and programmes, including:
 - an “activity assessment”
 - a “behavioural and environmental enrichment programme”
 - a “breeding policy”
 - a “diet plan”
 - a “programme of preventative medicine”
 - include a copy of the routine management records, including:
 - “daily sheets”
 - “journey plans”

The individual records that make up the Group Care Plan(s) are explained later in this section of the guidance.

Content of Individual Care Plan(s)

i Individual Care Plans are intended to supplement the Group Care Plans and highlight and plan for the welfare needs of an animal where its needs may differ from the rest of the group and the Group Care Plan. It also includes the retirement plan and ‘individual history and medical card’ for each animal where individual arrangements must be made.

2. An “Individual Care Plan” must be prepared for each animal and:
- include up to date “individual history and medical cards” record any variation (e.g. a planned difference) or deviation (e.g. an ad hoc, or temporary or reactive difference, or record of an unplanned difference) from the Group Care Plan, and in particular the:
 - “activity assessment”
 - “behavioural and environmental enrichment programme”
 - “breeding programme”
 - “diet plan”
 - “programme of preventative medicine”
 - include a fully developed “breeding plan”
 - include a fully developed “retirement plan”
 - include a copy of the animal’s “individual history and medical card”

The individual records that make up the Individual Care Plan(s) are explained later in this section of the guidance.

i There should be significant read across between the Group Plan and the Individual Care Plan that covers each animal. It is not expected that the same content is duplicated – as that would be unnecessary – but it is important that the individual requirements either match those in the Group Plan or a clear record is made within the Individual Care Plan of any variations or deviations. ‘Variation’ means a planned difference which is necessary for the welfare of the animals; ‘deviation’ means a short term or possibly an unplanned variation which should be recorded, and should help trigger appropriate reviews of the plans.

C. Care Plans: Your responsibilities

It is important to understand the general rules that apply as licence holder regarding the Care Plans required under the regulations.

3. Under a licence, the licensee:
 - **must** for every “social group” of wild animals have prepared a “group care plan” (including all visiting acts or temporary acts)
 - **must** for every wild animal in the travelling circus prepare an “individual care plan” (including all visiting acts or temporary acts)
 - **may** delegate the preparation of the plans to a person classified as a “trainer” in the “staff list”, but the licensee remains responsible for the care plans
 - **must** ensure care plans are prepared in consultation with the “lead vet”
 - **must** ensure care plans, once prepared, are formally agreed by the “lead vet” (in writing from the lead vet to the licensee)
 - **must** ensure care plans are **reviewed** at each visit from the “lead vet” (visits are every three months)
 - **must** ensure plans are reviewed if – for any reason - an animal leaves or joins a group; which includes consulting the “lead vet” and obtaining formal agreement to revised care plans
 - **must** ensure the "trainers" of an animal participate in the preparation and review of Care Plans, and in particular the preparation of assessments, plans and programmes under the Care Plans
 - **must** ensure that every person on the “staff list” has access to the care plans
 - **must** ensure that care plans are followed at all times
 - **must** make every effort to ensure that a copy of an animal’s care plans travel with that animal (and must ensure as a minimum that an animal’s individual history and medical card travels with the animal)
 - **must** ensure that any variation or deviation from a Care Plan, including the assessments, plans and programmes under the Care Plan, are recorded as a "deviation" or "variation" in the appropriate "daily sheet" and are taken into account at the next review
 - **must** make a copy of the Care Plans available to the inspector at any time
 - **must** ensure that a copy of each of the Care Plans prepared under the Regulations is kept on site and retained for at least three years.
 - **must** make provision for the long term archiving of Care Plans in a secure format.

i Reviews: It is important to regularly review the content of the Care Plans. Reviews should be done in consultation with the lead vet, who will have to sign off the Care Plans.

i Social group:

The term "social group":

- means animals that either are kept together as part of a socially compatible group (where at least one of the animals is a wild animal), or that are kept under the same husbandry regime;
- it also means an individual/solitary wild animal that is kept apart from other animals or does not have socially compatible animals with which it can be kept (in this scenario the Group and Individual Plans could be combined);
- if any number of wild and domesticated animals are kept in the same social group, then the requirements for care plans apply (to ensure holistic management of groups that contain wild animals, in particular to ensure that the circus does not overlook any issues with the domestic individual that could affect a wild animal within that group or vice versa).

i Archiving Care Plans: It is recommended that an individual animal's record (including Care Plan) is retained for as long as the animal is with the circus.

D. Summary of the plans and records contained in Care Plans

The information boxes below give an overview of each of the plans and programmes that must be prepared under the terms of a licence.

Section E (below) explains the detailed requirements of each plan that this section summarises.

In Group Care Plans:

Activity Assessment:

An Activity Assessment should be used to identify any risks to animal welfare from the uses the travelling circus has for the animals. It should identify the steps that will be taken to minimise risks to welfare, and the initial steps that would be taken if a problem arises during an activity / use of an animal.

Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Plans:

Under the Group Care Plans, a Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Plan must be developed for every species to help ensure that normal behaviours can be expressed and to take as much account as possible of the natural habitat, physiological and psychological needs of each animal. Enrichment is a continual process and should form a part of daily routine.

Breeding Policies and Breeding Plans:

Under the Group Care Plans, “**Breeding Policies**” must be prepared for each group of animals.

A breeding Policy should set out the additional steps to the standard Care Plans that will be taken to ensure that welfare is maintained in pregnancy, the perinatal period and separation/reintroduction from/to the social group. Particular attention is to be paid to differing needs of animals during breeding and rearing young.

If an individual animal is to be intentionally bred from, or was not meant to be mated but has become pregnant, a “**Breeding Plan**” must be prepared which must plan for and set out the additional steps beyond the standard Care Plans that will be taken to secure the animal’s welfare. The welfare needs of young animals must be catered for in accordance with the prescribed welfare standards.

ⓘ Diet Plans:

Diet Plans should cover the dietary requirements of each animal, incorporating appropriate specialist advice (e.g. from the lead vet or other specialist) to meet dietary needs. Plans must be reviewed frequently and reflect the animal's health, physiological state and body condition.

ⓘ Programmes of Preventative Medicine:

A Programme of Preventative Medicine is an essential part of the veterinary / health planning and record keeping for every animal. (See also: individual history and medical cards, below).

ⓘ Daily Sheets:

Daily Sheets are intended to be part of the routine management of the welfare of the animals, requiring a light touch but act as a powerful tool to monitor the environmental conditions and well being of the animals and to help inform adjustments and reviews. Key findings from Daily Sheets should be used to update and review the Care Plans, and should also trigger action as soon as a problem arises which could compromise an animal's welfare.

ⓘ Journey Plans:

Journey Plans should help ensure that sufficient planning is made before embarking on a journey, and record important facts about the actual journey undertaken. The Journey Plans should note any welfare issues experienced and the remedial action taken.

In Individual Care Plans:

ⓘ Individual History and Medical Cards:

Individual History and Medical Cards must be kept for all animals. They should compile important information about each animal including all relevant clinical, health and behavioural issues and treatments. The Cards should be kept up to date, travel with the animal and be retained for long term use. The Cards should be kept on card index, computer or similar appropriate media, be available for quick reference, and be backed up securely (and at least for three years). Good practice is to keep long term, and as long as relevant to the health and welfare of the animal.

 **Retirement Plans:**

A Retirement Plan ensures that the long term welfare needs of each animal are considered in advance, helping ensure appropriate provision is made when an animal is no longer used in the travelling circus. A Retirement Plan should make provision for each animal's retirement as well as - if applicable - assess the impact of the individual's removal on other animals in its group.

E. Detailed explanation of plans and records required under Care Plans



Understanding Activity Assessments

i About Activity Assessments:

An Activity Assessment forms part of the Group Care Plan.

An Activity Assessment is intended to be used as a tool to identify all the risks that an animal might face from any of the uses to which it is put from training and performance to rides and petting.

The Assessment should identify any risk such as (but not limited to) a risk of injury, suffering, pain or the transmission of disease and parasites.

The Assessment should identify the steps that will be taken to manage the risk as well as steps that would be taken immediately if any of the risks becomes a reality, which should involve removing the animal from harm, treating the animal and removing the cause.

4. An "Activity Assessment" must:

- cover every animal within the group
- identify the intended uses of each animal including training, performance and other physical activities
- and for each of those uses:
 - identify all risks to the animal's welfare from participating in the use / activity, including risk of pain, injury, suffering, disease, parasite.
 - identify steps that will be taken to mitigate each of the identified risks
 - identify the members of staff that will lead each activity / use
 - sets a limit on the duration, frequency and intensity of each activity / use
 - set out the procedure that will be followed if an animal suffers detriment to its welfare (during and as a result of) the use / activity, which must include:
 - halting the activity
 - removing the animal from direct contact with the public
 - taking steps to treat the animal
 - taking steps to remedy the cause of the pain, suffering, injury or disease
 - recording the event



Understanding Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Programmes

ⓘ About Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Programmes:

Enrichment Programmes form part of the Group Care Plan. An appropriate Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Programme must be developed for every species held to ensure that normal behaviours can be expressed and to take as much account as possible of the natural habitat, physiological and psychological needs of each animal. Appropriate enrichment should be provided in all environments and be part of daily routine. It should be a continuous process. Appropriate provision must be formalised in the preparation of the behavioural and environmental enrichment programme.

5. A "Behavioural and Environmental Enrichment Programme" must, for every species of animal held, make provisions for:
- access to an exercise area for the animals, which:
 - must be in an environment suited to the animals and species
 - suited to the exercise of the animals and species
 - is available to the animals for at least six hours in any 24 hour period, at a time of day or night suited to the animals and species
 - access to enrichment materials in the animals' accommodation, which must be available:
 - every day
 - in sufficient quantity to allow all animals simultaneous access to enrichment materials
 - in a manner that aids and encourages normal behaviour patterns for the species to which it is provided
 - in a manner that prevents the development of abnormal behaviour or stereotypy
 - that is suited to the animals, species and changes during stages of growth and development



Understanding Breeding Policies

i About 'Breeding Policies' and 'Breeding Plans':

Breeding Policies form part of the Group Care Plan. Breeding Policies are intended to plan for the welfare needs of animals that are used for breeding, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Breeding Policies can apply to groups of animals and are intended to set out the additional steps to the standard Care Plans that will be taken to ensure that welfare is maintained in pregnancy, the perinatal period and separation/reintroduction; with particular attention paid to differing needs of animals during breeding.

If an individual animal is being intentionally bred, or was not meant to be mated but has become pregnant, a "**Breeding Plan**" must be prepared which must plan and set out the additional steps beyond the standard Care Plans that will be taken to secure the animal's welfare. The welfare needs of young animals must be catered for in accordance with the prescribed welfare standards. A breeding policy forms part of an Individual Care Plan.

A "Breeding Plan" does not need to be prepared for animals in the group that are not being intentionally bred, but a "breeding plan" must be prepared at the first sign of pregnancy in an animal that was not intentionally mated.

6. A "Breeding Policy" must:

- identify the animals in the group that are being intentionally used for breeding and set out a "Breeding Plan" for each of those animals, which must include:
 - steps that will be taken to secure welfare during pregnancy and the perinatal period
 - procedure and provision for separation (if appropriate) of animals during pregnancy and the perinatal period
 - any additional or different accommodation and environmental requirements (including restrictions on transportation)
 - procedure and provision for reintroducing/introducing animals that have been separated for breeding
 - steps that will be taken to ensure appropriate veterinary care
- identify the animals in the group that are not being intentionally mated and set out for those animals (as a group):
 - appropriate controls for preventing over population and unplanned breeding
 - procedure to be followed in the event of accidental mating or unexpected birth

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- set out the procedure that will be followed in the event of producing surplus stock and the steps that would be taken to ensure the welfare needs of surplus stock are met.
- set out measures for preventing breeding across different taxa



Understanding Diet Plans

About Diet Plans:

Diet Plans form part of the Group Care Plan. They are intended to provide for all the dietary requirements of each animal, and should incorporate specialist advice (primarily from the lead vet or other specialist) to ensure that the dietary needs are met.

7. A "Diet Plan" must be followed and:
- have due regard to veterinary or other specialist advice in all aspects of nutrition
 - allow for variation (such as quantities) in response to monitoring of the animal's body condition by the trainer or carer that is caring for the animal
 - be appropriate to the animals, taking account of the animals':
 - age
 - growth rate
 - level of activity and exercise
 - physiological state
 - previous feeding levels
 - sex
 - size
 - species, breed or strain
 - state of health
 - training undertaken
 - take due account of other relevant factors including:
 - climate and weather
 - transportation
 - type of management system (e.g. extensive or intensive - as applies)
 - allowing an animal to remain with its mother and its own species if it is an unweaned mammal, except under the advice of a veterinary surgeon
 - include as part of the plan all rewards (food) given (such as during training and performance) and feeding by visitors
 - ensure feed is of sufficient:

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- nutritional composition
 - quality
 - frequency
-
- set out the process taken if new feeds are to be introduced



Understanding Programmes of Preventative Medicine

About Programmes of Preventative Medicine:

A Programme of Preventative Medicine is an essential part of the veterinary / health planning and record keeping for every animal.

8. A "Programme of Preventative Medicine" must identify for every group of animals (and for any individual not in a group or where its needs differ from that of the group):
 - details of all planned vaccinations, worming and other preventative medicine regimes
 - details of any health monitoring, including any sampling



Understanding Daily Sheets

About Daily Sheets:

As part of the Group Plan, Daily Sheets are intended to record the day to day behaviour, consumption patterns and other factor relevant to the welfare of the animals.

Daily Sheets will provide a record over time of how welfare standards have been maintained and where adjustments have been made. Key findings from Daily Sheets should be used to update and review the Care Plans, and should also trigger action as soon as a problem arises which could compromise an animal's welfare.

Daily Sheets should be as detailed as possible, but are not a substitute for planning under the Care Plans. By their nature, if there is no change in a point of detail from one sheet to the next then it is acceptable to note that there is no change from the previous review, however any changes/differences must be recorded in sufficient detail.

9. Each "Daily Sheet" must, for each group (or individual where it is not in a group), note:
 - the location of the animal(s)
 - the species of the animal(s)
 - the identity of the animal(s)
 - the environmental conditions (weather, general conditions such as state underfoot)
 - food and water, including:
 - amounts of food and water given
 - who prepared and gave the food and water

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- any deviations or variations from the diet plan and any matters that give cause for concern
 - amounts of food and water consumed, including during training &/ performance and provided by visitors
 - any medication or treatment administered (and by whom)
 - any sign of pain, injury, suffering or disease and any a summary of steps (both planned and taken) in response
 - general observations about welfare conditions, including:
 - observations about environment that might affect welfare
 - observations about the state of enclosures
 - observations about abnormal, unusual or unexpected behaviours or stereotypy
 - a summary of steps (both planned and taken) in response to observations
 - any hazards (such as broken glass, litter, mud, protruding wires, structural defects etc) and steps (both planned and taken) in response
 - times that accommodation and spaces used for "planned activities" were checked for compliance with the 'prescribed welfare standards' and any observations made and remedial action planned or taken
 - who has had access to and/or direct contact with the animals
 - who filled in the Daily Sheet
10. If an animal has been used in physical activity (particularly training and performance), the Daily Sheet should note:
- time the activity commenced
 - duration of activity
 - brief description of the activity
 - observations of any pain, injury, suffering or disease before, during and after the activity
 - observations of any abnormal, unpredictable or unexpected behaviour before, during and after the activity
 - quantities of food and water consumed during the activity (including rewards)
 - who led the activity
 - who else came into direct contact with the animal(s) during the activity



Understanding Journey Plans

About Journey Plans:

As part of the Group Care Plan, Journey Plans will help ensure that sufficient planning is made before embarking on a journey, and record important details about the actual journey undertaken. The Journey Plans must record any welfare issues experienced and note the remedial action that was taken.

It is possible that a Journey Plan may be a separate legal requirement for some animals. If this is the case then only one Plan needs to be prepared for an animal provided that all the required information is included.

11. A "Journey Plan" must be prepared for each journey involving one or more of the animals and note:
 - before departure:
 - place of departure
 - date and time of departure
 - identity of the animal(s) being transported
 - intended place of destination
 - expected time of arrival
 - distance of route
 - expected duration of journey
 - provision of any rest and watering stops
 - upon arrival:
 - time of arrival
 - distance travelled
 - duration of journey
 - times and location of any rest and watering stops
 - details of any actual or signs of injury, distress, poor welfare
 - details of any action planned or taken in response to any actual or signs of injury, distress or poor welfare



Understanding Individual History and Medical Cards

ⓘ About Individual History and Medical Cards:

As part of the Individual Care Plan, Individual History and Medical Cards must be kept for all animals. Individual History and Medical Cards should compile important information about each animal and note all relevant clinical, health and behavioural issues and treatments. Individual History and Medical Cards should be kept up to date and should be retained for long term use. Good practice suggests that Individual History and Medical Cards should be kept on card index or computer, be available for quick examination, and be backed up securely.

12. "Individual History and Medical Cards" must be kept for every animal and must include full information (where applicable) on:
- identification and scientific name
 - microchips
 - any distinctive markings, including tattoos, freeze-brands, rings
 - origin (i.e. whether wild or captive-born, including identification of parents, where known, and previous ownership, if any)
 - dates of entry into, and disposal from, the circus and to whom
 - date, or estimated date, of birth or hatching
 - sex
 - clinical health information, including details of and dates of any veterinary examinations and treatments given, whether given by a veterinary surgeon or a member of the circus
 - chronic health conditions and ongoing medication
 - behavioural issues (e.g. mothering behaviour, unusual or extreme behaviour, escape, damage, injury to self and other, reason for issue, stereotypy) and life history data (e.g. matings, births)
 - date of death and the result of any post-mortem examination
 - laboratory investigations
 - food and diets
 - the use to which the animal is being put (e.g. training &/ performing; display / exhibition; travelling companion etc)



Understanding Retirement Plans

About Retirement Plans:

As part of the Individual Care Plan for an animal, a Retirement Plan ensures that the long term welfare needs of each animal are considered in advance, and to help ensure that appropriate provision is made for an animal if it is no longer to be used in the travelling circus for any reason. A retirement Plan should make provision for each individual animal's retirement as well as - if applicable - assess the impact on other animals from its group.

13. A "retirement plan" must:

- for every animal, set out the provision to be made for:
 - retirement from training and performance at a time, age and condition appropriate for the health, welfare, behaviour and temperament of the species and individual animal
 - animals that are not performing or training to be located in a suitable environment (which may include relocation and may include retired animals continuing to travel with a social group if its needs are best met by remaining with the social group so long as compliant with prescribed transport welfare standards)
 - suitable accommodation that meets the animal's welfare needs and incorporates opportunities for appropriate levels of exercise, enrichment and any other special care as necessary to meet the needs of the individual animal.
 - assess the impact on the social group (where applicable) and make provision to sustain the rest of the social group
 - set out the steps that will be taken if an animal dies and leaves a solitary member of its own species, including either relocating the surviving individual to a population of compatible individuals or acquiring additional compatible individuals
-

Condition 4. Staff Competence and Availability

It is a condition that staff are 'competent' and are available to provide care at all times.

Key points

- In order for animal welfare standards to be safeguarded and improved, it is important that all people that have access to and responsibility for wild animals are competent.
 - By "competent", it is intended that people should be sufficiently trained and/or experienced to properly keep the animals entrusted to their care.
 - Enough competent people should be on hand at all times to meet the animal's needs.
 - Records must be maintained that set out who the competent people are (e.g. using a staff list), who is on site, and who is on duty to take overall responsibility at any given time (e.g. duty roster); notwithstanding the licence holders overall responsibility under the licence.
 - Staff competency should be continually maintained and improved.
 - The licensee must ensure that contingency plans in the event of emergencies are in place and that all staff are briefed on them.
1. Under a licence, the licensee must ensure that all staff that have contact with animals are competent; s/he must:
- ensure that only "**competent**" people may care for the animals
 - be responsible for any guest act(s) that has animals and ensuring that the conditions are applied to the guest act(s) [be it for all or part of a season] (ownership is not relevant).
 - where an animal is "dangerous" or difficult to handle, ensure that the competent persons are capable and present in sufficient numbers to safely handle the animal.
 - maintain an up to date "**staff list**"
 - not allow access to animals to any person that holds a conviction for animal welfare
 - not allow access to wild animals to any person unless:
 - that person is competent and is listed as a "trainer" or a "carer" on the "staff list",
 - will be directly supervised by person listed as a "trainer" or a "carer"

i By “**competent**” it is meant:

- that a person must either by virtue of documented training and/or experience have satisfactory, up to date knowledge and understanding (for the species in their care);
- that knowledge and understanding should be held in all the following areas:
 - Animal husbandry and care
 - Animal handling restraint, transport
 - Biology of species under their care
 - Normal range of behaviours of the animals
 - Seasonal and/or day-to-day variations in individuals and groups
 - Changes in behaviour associated with ill health
 - Indicators of disease, injury or distress
 - Understand animal welfare
 - Methods to minimise distress experienced by animals
 - Methods for integrating animals into social groups
 - Methods of habituating animals to humans before exhibiting them
 - Nutrition and the provision of adequate diets
 - Emergency drills to contend with incidents of fire, flood, animals escaping, animals attacking other animals or persons, and any other serious risk
 - Legislative requirements

It is important that the knowledge and skills of staff are kept up to date to be certain that an animal’s welfare needs will continue to be met, including if the understanding and evidence of an animal’s welfare needs changes or improves over time. As such, the licensee is responsible for maintaining and improving the competence of trainers and carers, including (but not limited to) access to training and sharing of industry best practice.

Two sets of records should be kept under this condition, a **staff list** and a **duty roster**, as explained overleaf.



Staff List

2. The “staff list” must:
 - set out for all members of staff (which must include any temporary, visiting or unpaid staff; including people from visiting/temporary acts) that have any access to or contact with wild animals:
 - Their full name,
 - Whether they are:
 - A trainer – who may train and perform with wild animals
 - A carer – who may care for, handle and enter enclosures
 - An assistant – who may assist animal carers and trainers but who is not allowed direct contact with animals either inside or outside of the animal’s accommodation unless s/he is under the direct supervision of an animal trainer or carer; and who may not enter an animal enclosure that does not have animals in it (at the time in which the assistant is in it) unless under the supervision of an animal trainer or carer.
 - A summary of their “competence” i.e. their qualification, training and expertise relevant to their grading as a trainer, carer or assistant.
3. In order to take responsibility and to ensure conditions are met, as well as ensuring that someone will take overall responsibility if the licensee to unavailable, the licensee must:
 - be contactable at all reasonable times;
 - ensure they have nominated a “trainer” at all times who is:
 - on site
 - on duty
 - in charge of all animals
 - will ensure that licence conditions are met
 - has the authority to take any necessary steps to meet licence conditions
 - maintain an up to date “duty roster” that records who is on duty
 - ensure that enough “competent” people are present at all times to adequately care for the animals
 - ensure that enough “competent” people are present to handle the animals. Enough handlers must be available for the duration of any activity undertaken, including training, performance and exercise. Adequate provision must be made if an animal’s lead trainer or carer has cause to be absent.



Duty Roster

4. The “duty roster” must:
 - be kept up to date
 - name the duty trainer, hours on duty, means of immediate contact, such as by mobile phone or in person
 - be readily accessible to all staff at all times
-

Guidance for specific species

Introduction to guidance for specific species

Travelling circuses must take responsibility for understanding and applying stringent standards of animal welfare for all their animals.

Guidance on meeting specific needs of certain species of wild animals has been set out in this section. The species reflect those known to have been used in travelling circuses in England in recent years.

The omission of a species does not relieve anyone of their duty to ensure an animal's welfare and does not mean that the licence conditions cease to apply.

The species-specific guidance is included to aid understanding of the practical steps that may be taken to meet the minimum requirements of the regulations.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the guidance is accurate and in the interests of the welfare of the species covered, it is not a substitute for expert veterinary and husbandry advice.

Contents of guidance for specific species

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Large Cats

Animal Health Care

- Circus animals performing in England must not have been de-toothed or de-clawed (after the commencement of the regulations) unless for health reasons certified by the circus's designated veterinary surgeon.

Behaviour

- There must be provision to separate and feed all big cats as described above.
- There must be access to wood in the enclosure for scratching and marking,
- Tigers should be provided with access to a pool which animals can lay down in.

Food and Water

- Tough, raw meat including raw bones should be provided in sizes that necessitate chewing to maintain cats' tooth and gum health.
- Food should be presented in a manner that encourages natural behaviours.
- Water should be presented in a manner which ensures regular and unrestricted access but ensures its cleanliness and quality. (Cats often urinate and defaecate in water provided in containers)

Suitable Environment

- Indoor enclosures at winter quarters or home base should provide a minimum size of 12 m² per animal.
- It is vital that the enclosures and transport vehicles provide for separation of individuals maintain the minimum space requirements.
- Flooring in cages must be waterproof and graded, to enable quick drainage and drying after cleaning. In addition fresh bedding should be provided at least daily.
- A minimum exercise area of 50m² for two to four animals must be provided, plus an extra 10m² for each additional cat.
- At least part of the exercise area must be equipped with platforms at a minimum height of 1.5 m to allow all the cats access to a climbing facility with areas allowing all the animals to rest above the ground simultaneously. The exercise area should have an inner overhang of 1m and must be covered with at least netting.
- Exercise areas must provide the cats with access to the ground, i.e. natural, well-drained earth, or an alternative substrate such as sawdust or bark chippings.

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- Transport trailers must not provide the sole area for accommodation at the performance site.

Training of Animals

- Big cats must not be tethered.

Elephants

Animal Health Care

- A foot care routine should be in place under veterinary direction.

Behaviour

- Females especially, must be maintained in social contact with other elephants at all times and strive to allow them unrestricted access to each other for not less than 16 hours in any 24 hour period, save in exceptional circumstances.
- Animals should be kept in appropriate social groupings at night and provided with sufficient enrichment and food.
- Facilities which have compatibility issues, such that individual cows are kept separated for prolonged periods of time, must ensure that these situations are resolved expediently.
- Bulls in musth can be difficult to manage and are not compatible with cow herds (apart from females in oestrous), therefore all bulls must be maintained in such a way that they can be separated from females and other males. However it is not acceptable to subject them to prolonged physical and social isolation from other elephants. Adult bull elephants over the age of 9 years should not travel with the circus but can be maintained at winter quarters or home base if suitable facilities are provided.

Food and Water

- There must be a means of providing food during the night, ultimately in both the indoor and outdoor exhibit.
- Browse should be provided everyday along with a variety of feeding opportunities. Browse allows animals to exhibit natural behaviour, increases foraging time, has nutritional benefits and can be distributed around the enclosure to encourage walking. It should be positioned as to encourage normal feeding behaviour.
- Consideration should be given to the regular measurement of circulating α -tocopherol levels to ensure that elephants are obtaining adequate dietary vitamin E, which is important for nutrition.

Suitable Environment

- Elephants must have indoor and outdoor facilities and, when weather conditions allow, they should have access to both over a 24 hour period.
- The indoor space for the cow herd must allow 45m^2 for each animal. The indoor enclosure size for a bull must be at least 50m^2 .
- Housing should reflect the recommendation that elephants are managed as a herd, ensuring that they can move freely as a group, turn and lie down.

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- Separation and isolation facilities i.e. separate pens, must be available to allow veterinary and behavioural management as required, such as maternity areas for cows and calves.
- The inside temperature must be no less than 16°C and it is recommended that an area capable of maintaining 21°C is available for sick or debilitated animals (following veterinary advice).
- Lighting should be on dimmer control so that low light levels can be provided when required.
- Indoor floors should be quick drying, well drained and able to be readily cleaned and disinfected. They should also be relatively smooth but not slippery and not rough enough to traumatize the feet, with a degree of 'give' so that elephants can lie down comfortably.
- A minimum outdoor exercise area of 500m² for 2 elephants must be provided, plus an extra 200m² for each additional elephant.
- The ground underfoot in elephant exercise areas must be non-abrasive and drained so as not to cause injury or compromise the health and welfare of the elephants.
- Electric fences are a suitable barrier but must be of sufficient power to deter elephants and have a failsafe alarm system. When electric fences are used as a main barrier, as in cases when they are used to give access to large grassed areas, suitably trained staff members must be present.
- Access to sand or soil for bathing is essential as in the provision of rocks and, tree stumps etc for scratching in order to keep skin in good condition.
- Elephants must have access to water. A pool, waterfall, sprinkler, dust bathes and wallows provide enrichment and allow cooling. Bathing may also assist with skin care by protecting from sun and biting insects.

Training of Animals

- Elephants must not be tethered with metal leg bands or chains except for safety reasons, during storms, in an emergency, or for treatment. All chains should be covered.
- If used for safety, emergency, storms and or treatment these must be attached to one front leg and one back leg on alternate sides and changed at regular intervals and swivel-style connections must be used. The animal should be able to move, turn and lie down.
- Elephants must not be chained for periods in excess of five out of 24 hours.
- Training of elephants should involve the introduction of new behaviours and the modification of existing routines.
- All collections keeping bulls must ensure that staff are adequately trained to work with bulls.
- The ankus or elephant hooks must be used appropriately. Cueing should be done in a decisive, controlled manner, avoiding quick, jerky movements. Self-control must be maintained at all times.

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- Different (elephant) body regions have different sensitivities and therefore require different pressures. Most sensitive would be any area around the ear, ankles and toe nail beds. The belly, temple, urogenital area and front ankle joints must not be used.
- If trauma occurs at a cue site (hook point), this area should not be used until completely healed.
- The ankus should never be used to 'smack' an elephant.
- The use of electric goads or hotshots is prohibited.

Reptiles

Animal Transport

- Care must be taken to ensure that the animal's environment is not compromised during transport, when provision of power to heating and lighting may be more difficult. The mechanism for achieving this must be agreed with the Lead Vet and recorded in the group care plan.

Food and Water

- Balanced diets which meet all the nutritional needs are essential, as for all species, and vitamin and/or mineral supplements are also often necessary. These should be detailed in the care plan and used under veterinary direction.

Suitable Environment

- In Britain, most species of non-native reptiles and amphibians require a controlled environment for survival in captivity. Animals must be kept in fully controlled vivaria. Controlled environments must provide all of the animal's needs for heat, humidity, light and photoperiod, air and water quality.
- Vivaria must be used for reptile housing, wooden boxes and cloth bags are not suitable accommodation.
- Vivaria must provide a thermal gradient around the preferred body temperature of the species of animal kept. Natural daily and seasonal variations should be provided. Maximum/minimum thermometers should be positioned at either end of the temperature gradient, out of reach of the animals. Both readings on each thermometer should be recorded daily on the daily record sheets
- Heat sources must be designed and fitted to prevent injury to the animal. Sources must be thermostatically controlled or regularly adjusted in response to a clearly visible monitoring system (thermometer, thermocouple etc.).
- Safe local sources of more intense heat (heat pads, basking lamps) should be provided at all times.
- Where an animal is to be removed from its vivarium for performances, care must be taken to avoid excessive cooling which might compromise the welfare of the animal. The conditions under which they are used, including the length of time permitted for them to be away from their heat and light sources, must be agreed with the Lead Vet and documented in the group care plan. Their actual time out of the vivarium must be recorded on the daily sheets.
- Measurement of relative humidity should be undertaken -daily readings are acceptable and must be recorded on the daily record sheets. Relative humidity range for most reptiles varies from 50-80% depending on the natural habitat of the species, and an accepted range for the species present must be agreed with the Lead vet and recorded in the Group Care Plan.

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- Hide structures can be used to provide local humid areas.
- Lighting should be appropriate in strength, photoperiod and type for the species held. Ultraviolet (UV) light from full spectrum sources is essential for many species. Most glazing materials do not transmit natural UV light. UV light sources have a limited life and must be replaced regularly,. This replacement programme must be agreed with the Lead Vet and recorded in the group care plan. Bulb changes must be undertaken whether or not the bulb appears to have aged, and must be recorded in the daily record sheets for the group.
- There should be sufficient ventilation to maintain air quality and relative humidity in the exhibit without compromising temperature control.
- Pools large enough for full immersion are required by many reptiles Water quality is normally maintained in smaller pools by regular replacement of the water and cleaning of the pool surface. Attention should be given to sudden temperature change and the risk of introducing toxic disinfectant residues during this procedure.
- Basking and concealment sites and rough surfaces to aid sloughing should be provided. Climbing material should be provided for arboreal species.

Ungulates, Equids and Camelids (South American, Arabian and Bactrian)

Animal Health Care

- Ungulates hooves should be trimmed regularly so that they don't split, separate from the sole or start to curl upwards.

Animal Transport

- Ungulates and camelids must be transported in vehicles which have partitioning to safely restrain each individual or group of individuals.
- Camelids will usually sit down during transportation and this must be facilitated.

Behaviour

- Zebra must be kept in a minimum group size of two compatible individuals.
- Camelids should be kept in at a compatible pair (not necessarily of the same species).

Suitable Environment

- Zebra and South American camelids must be provided with a minimum indoor enclosure size of 10m² for each animal. Outdoor enclosure size should be a minimum of 100m² per animal.
- Bactrian and Arabian camels must be provided with a minimum indoor enclosure size of 12m² for each animal. Outdoor enclosure size should be a minimum of 150m² per animal.

Training of Animals

- When equids, ungulates or camelids are not performing no harnesses of any sort except a halter shall be worn by animals. The halter must not rub around an animal's ears or cheeks.
- If tethered during transportation camels must be restrained with a tether tied from their halter so the camel can completely sit down.
- Tethers for equids, ungulates and camelids must be tied from their halter and not to limbs.
- Tethering of ungulates and camelids is only allowable for safety reasons and during storms. Under these circumstances the chain must form the extreme lower section of the tether (that nearest the ground) and must not exceed 30 cm in length.