

OUT16/7265

15 February 2016

Ms Kate McDonald
Team Leader
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms McDonald

I refer to your letter of 8 December 2015 in which you sought advice from the Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee on the development application for Sydney Zoo within the Western Sydney Parklands.

The Committee was not scheduled to meet within the timeframe for feedback. It is also not the function of the Committee to review development applications. I make the following comments on behalf of the Department.

To date the proponents of the zoo have had a preliminary meeting with the Department to go through the proposal. However, a formal application for a license application has not yet been provided so the proposal has not yet been assessed under the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*.

Within the limits described above, and the discussion that we had last week, I have restricted my comments to Section 3.4.6 of the Environmental Impact Statement. In reviewing this document it does not provide sufficient information to comment on exhibit compliance.

In order to properly assess the proposed exhibit facilities for the proposed species the Department will need to be provided with detailed drawings and information about the on-exhibit and off-exhibit facilities and the animals being held there by the exhibitor as a formal application for an authority.

The applicant is required to submit an application to the Department under the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*, its Regulation and Standards and have the approval of the Department before commencing operations or obtaining animals.

I can advise that regarding Building 7, within the *Standards for Exhibiting Australian Mammals in New South Wales* there is a requirement for a holding area of at least 25m² that can hold up to four animals. The proposed 24.8m² is under this requirement.

If you have any further queries I can be contacted on (02) 6391 3716.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Jackson', written in a cursive style.

Dr Stephen Jackson
Research Scientist