

The following information covers the period 1st January 2010 – 23rd March 2016.

Question 1. Full list of dates of inspections of Belfast Zoo carried out by DARD officials.

Answer No inspections of Belfast Zoo have been carried out by DARD Inspectors under the Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2011.

However, a number of inspections have been carried out by Veterinary Officers and Animal Health and Welfare Inspectors under trade legislation.

The dates of these inspections are:

24/02/10, 08/07/10, 21/07/10, 26/01/11, 28/09/11, 12/09/12, 22/05/13, and 01/05/14.

Question 2. How many unannounced animal welfare inspections have taken place at Belfast Zoo during this period?

Answer No unannounced welfare inspections have taken place at Belfast Zoo.

Question 3. Copies of any reports regarding animal welfare produced by or for DARD during this time about Belfast Zoo.

Answer No animal welfare inspection reports were produced by DARD Inspectors or for DARD during the period in question.

Question 4. During this stage where any concerns about animal welfare raised with DARD? If so please provide detail and some information about the action taken.

Answer No concerns about animal welfare were raised within the period in question.

Question 5. Has DARD issued any sanctions or enforcement action against Belfast Zoo during this time?

Answer DARD has not issued any sanctions or enforcement action against Belfast Zoo during the period in question.

Question 6. Has DARD carried out any inspections in relation to "Zoochosis" in elephants since some of the herd starting displaying signs of abnormal behaviour including rocking from side to side. If so, what work was carried out and what were the results?

Answer DARD Veterinary Inspectors have not carried out any inspections in relation to 'Zoochosis' in elephants.