



Subject:	Belfast Zoo – Closures for Maintenance and Training
Date:	5 th December 2018
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City and Neighbourhood Services, ext. 3260
Contact Officer:	Jacqui Wilson, Business Manager, City and Neighbourhood Services Department

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of proposed closures to the public to allow for maintenance and staff training over the low season at the Zoo.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to agree to the Zoo being closed to the public for a period of four weeks (excluding weekends) over the Winter period to allow for essential maintenance and staff training. The exact dates are to be agreed with Property Maintenance and Management.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="272 208 432 241"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 293 1474 730">Belfast Zoo is currently open to the public all year round and only closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. The Zoo infrastructure requires continual planned and reactive maintenance to ensure that health and safety and customer experience of the Zoo are achieved. Management are working closely with property maintenance and our landscape planning unit to ensure that as much essential maintenance is carried out in low season to ensure disruption to the service and the customer experience is minimised. Having the Zoo closed to the public for a number of days over a limited period will facilitate this without significant impact on our customers. It will also allow the Zoo to plan and release staff to attend essential training.</p> <p data-bbox="272 797 786 831"><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 848 1437 981">Management have assessed the impact on footfall during this off-season period and as visitor numbers are low historically and some front of house staff will not be required, due to the closure, there are no significant financial implications.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1048 1198 1081"><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 1099 1318 1133">There are no Equality, Good Relations or Rural needs Assessment implications.</p>
4.0	Documents attached
	None.