Weymouth Sealife Park Lodmoor Country Park Weymouth Dorset DT4 7SX Contact: Coralie McGown

Extension: 01305 838396

Date: 25 January 2012

Our Ref: MAU125

Your Ref:



WEYMOUTH SEALIFE CENTRE ANNUAL INSPETION DECEMBER 2011

Further to my joint visit with Mr Cumber, I should like to congratulate you on your continued high standards throughout the centre.

There were a couple of minor points which we discussed during the visit. I have listed them below for your attention. Should Mr Cumber advise on any other matters which he noted during our visit, I shall write again.

- 1. The condition of the mock bridge to the floor of the Amazone Pod has deteriorated again. This area is uneven due to the planks of wood loosening. I understand that the flooring within this Pod is to be replaced at some point. Due to the possible risks to visitors tripping in this area, I recommend that this is dealt with before the visitor numbers start to increase again.
- 2. We discussed new activities for visitors to assist with feeding of the animals, but did not review any risk assessments associated with this activity during our visit. This was because the Interim Periodical inspection is due in March 2012 and these documents would be reviewed then. Likewise, the increase of the numbers of 'Touch Pools' will also need to be incorporated into the existing assessments.

Finally, I would like to highlight the proposed introduction of Cleaner Shrimp and the activity of the public being able to place their hands into a supervised touch pool, where these shrimp would then 'clean' the hands. As we discussed, I would like to take advice from my Health and Safety colleagues in relation to this activity along with reviewing any possible relevant guidance. Please could you give me the contact details of your colleagues in Chessington who have already introduced this activity so we may establish further details about this practice.

We shall review these points during the March Inspection with Defra Vet Peter Scott. In the mean time if you would like to discuss these matters further, please contact me on 838396.

Yours sincerely

Coralie McGown

Specialist Environmental Health Officer

Copy to:-

Mr D Cumber Fielding and Cumber Vets 176 Chickerell Road Weymouth Dorset DT4 0QR