



# BE AWARE, STAY PREPARED: THE ZONOSIS CHALLENGE.



## MANAGING A DISEASE OUTBREAK...

- A disease outbreak is an infectious disease that spreads among animals and sometimes people.
- In zoonotic disease cases, symptoms may appear in staff and volunteers before animals.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT A ZONOTIC DISEASE...

- If you suspect that you or an animal may have a zoonotic disease, take the following steps:

### For Personal Health Concerns:

- Inform your line manager immediately.
- Consult your GP and disclose your work with animals. Present your zoonotic card if necessary. All animal carers/handlers must carry a zoonotic card to alert medical professionals to potential zoonotic illnesses.

### For Animal Health Concerns:

- Notify the veterinary department and Health & Safety team.
- Label the enclosure with a "Contagious Barrier Nurse" sign and ensure strict adherence to PPE and disinfection protocols until the animal is evaluated.

### Outbreak Response:

- Management teams should monitor reports of zoonotic diseases and identify any patterns indicative of an outbreak.

## MANAGING A DISEASE OUTBREAK...

### Animal Welfare Actions - Domestic/Wildlife

- Consult your vet or the Veterinary Department if unsure.
- Conduct diagnostic tests.
- Provide appropriate treatment.
- Treat suspected zoonotic diseases with caution
- Decide whether to isolate, treat, or euthanise based on disease severity, prognosis, and available resources.
- For widespread outbreaks in collections (e.g., aviaries), the vet department may advise cull, deep clean, and restart and may recommend post-mortems for sudden deaths.



## WILDLIFE, IN PARTICULAR...

Often enters care due to illness or injury caused by disease, and these animals can unknowingly transmit infections. Without strict hygiene measures, diseases can spread rapidly, not only among animals but also to staff, volunteers, and visitors.