

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 October 2017 14:21  
**To:** [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** China

Hello [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

[REDACTED]

I am so disappointed to not make it to the meeting, to hopefully make some sort of contribution and of course I was looking forward to taking those attending the event, down to the pandas and give them a talk. That said rather than hearing from me, you can go one better and meet and talk to the person that looks after and is in charge of our pandas. [REDACTED] The plan was to take people down at the end of the event around 2pm on the 2nd November [REDACTED]. Would you be able to check in on the group at some point to make arrangements for their visit....they are meeting in the mansion house)  
I look forward to seeing you all sometime soon and hope you have a great event.

My best  
Iain

## IAIN VALENTINE

Director of Giant Panda Programme and Senior Policy Advisor  
[REDACTED]

### THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

RZSS Edinburgh Zoo, Edinburgh EH12 6TS

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC004064



Please think before you print this email

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 September 2017 11:19  
**To:** [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]  
**Subject:** Statement

Dear all  
Please see attached a press statement which we are sending out today  
My best  
Iain

## IAIN VALENTINE

Director of Giant Panda Programme and Senior Policy Advisor  
[REDACTED]

### THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

RZSS Edinburgh Zoo, Edinburgh EH12 6TS

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC004064



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## Giant pandas at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo – media statement

**Iain Valentine, Director of Giant Pandas at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS), said:**

“It is with sadness that we can confirm Tian Tian, Edinburgh Zoo’s resident female giant panda, will not give birth to cubs this year. Our tests show that her hormone levels and behaviour have returned to normal as the breeding cycle ends for this year.

“I would like to thank the expert team of keepers, veterinary staff and others who have shown dedication and tenacity throughout the last nine months to ensure Tian Tian received the very best round-the-clock care. Her welfare is our top priority and the hard work of our expert team continues to make a significant contribution to the conservation of giant pandas internationally.”

**Barbara Smith, CEO of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS), said:**

“There was great excitement when early tests indicated that Tian Tian was pregnant. Like everyone, we are sad that the pregnancy did not result in cubs this time around.

“Giant panda breeding is an incredibly complex, unpredictable process. Over the next few weeks, we will be working closely with our Chinese partners to review not only this year’s breeding season but all the scientific data from the past five years, to help us better understand this complex process. This year our expert team has gathered more information than ever, which will be shared with our partners both here in Scotland and across the globe for review and learnings to be applied.

“I am incredibly proud of the work that takes place at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo and we remain hopeful that successful giant panda breeding will be possible in the future. It is important too to emphasise the crucial role RZSS is playing in giant panda conservation success internationally. Last year the giant panda was reclassified from ‘endangered’ to ‘vulnerable’ in the wild, and RZSS can be justly proud of our efforts in safeguarding the future of the species, supporting over 30 conservation projects in China.

“We will continue to work with the Conservation and Research Centre for Giant Pandas (CCRCGP), the China Wildlife Conservation Association (CWCA) and the team at the University of Edinburgh to learn from our giant pandas. I thank them for their continued support.”

...ends...

[REDACTED]

**From:** [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]  
**Sent:** 31 August 2017 10:40  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Update TT

Hi Iain,

Just also dropped you a wechat message, but thought I’d follow up by email.

Appreciating you’ll be busy over the next few days, if you wanted to pass my email details to your comms colleagues for them to share lines, pictures and releases we will then put them up on our social media channels.

[REDACTED]

Best of luck!

[SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

**From:** Iain Valentine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 August 2017 20:37  
**To:** [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)



**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Update TT

Hello [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

Hope all is well with you.

Martin forgive the silence over last week. I have been on holiday. I will answer your previous email soon.

I said I would keep you posted regarding Tian Tian.

I thought we were on track for 26<sup>th</sup> August but after some more results came in from other tests I have had to shift the predicated birth date by five /six, days.

So the date we are now looking to and have fixed on is the 1<sup>st</sup> September. I have to remind staff here that pandas don't wear a watch or work in a 24 hour cycle so this means a period from 1<sup>st</sup> September and into the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Her results from tests are good as are her behaviours. So we are now 10 days out from potential birth. Things can still go wrong(obviously) so although numbers and tests results are all good it's still not an absolute indication of successful live birth.

As we move into next week we will begin 24 hour monitoring of her and conduct daily testing for we can, hopefully, pick up the second pgfm spike in her hormones which should occur 24 hours before birth.

Will keep you posted. I am about to write the same email to the Chinese Consulate here in Edinburgh as they like to keep the Chinese Ambassador to UK, informed.

Best

Iain

#### IAIN VALENTINE

Director of Giant Panda Programme and Senior Policy Advisor  
[REDACTED]

#### THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

RZSS Edinburgh Zoo, Edinburgh EH12 6TS

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC004064



Please think before you print this email

**From:** [SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

**Sent:** 10 August 2017 07:24

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Pandas

Hi Iain,

[REDACTED]

Finally, any news on Tian Tian – are things still progressing?

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)



Thanks again,

[SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL]

