

INSPECTOR NOTE

Building:	
Street:	4 ATHERSTONE WAY
Suburb:	EDGEMEAD
Postal Code:	7441
Date:	2026-01-04
Time:	08:21
Inspector:	PEACE NOKOLOLO
Type:	EMAIL - RECEIVED
Follow-Up Date:	2026-01-05

Comments:

ORIGINAL FOLLOW-UP DATE: 12/01/2026

From: Martin Gouws <swougi@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 04 January 2026 07:49
To: Inspectorate – Cape of Good Hope SPCA <inspectorate@spca-ct.co.za>
Subject: Re: CoGH SPCA: Formal Claim and Request to Hold Leopard Tortoise Pending Permit Application

Good day,
Thank you for your response and for the guidance.
I confirm that I will attend the Cape of Good Hope SPCA offices on Monday to formally lay claim to the leopard tortoise and to receive guidance on the applicable procedures.
Kind regards,
Martin Gouws

On Sun, 4 Jan 2026 at 06:38, Inspectorate – Cape of Good Hope SPCA <inspectorate@spca-ct.co.za> wrote:

Good day, Mr Gouws
Thank you for your email below.
Please be advised that all claims relating to seized wildlife must be made in person at our offices . We will not be discussing or processing this matter further via email.
You are therefore required to attend the Cape of Good Hope SPCA offices within the stipulated claim period in order to formally lay claim to the leopard tortoise and to receive guidance on the applicable procedures.
Should you fail to present yourself within this timeframe, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with applicable legislation and SPCA protocol.
Kind regards,
Peace

Inspectorate
Inspectorate Control
T: 0217004158
E: inspectorate@spca-ct.co.za
Cnr First Road and 1st Avenue, Grassy Park, 7941
www.capespca.co.za

Animal Cruelty Must Stop. No Animal Should Suffer.

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From: Martin Gouws <swougi@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 3, 2026 3:51 PM
To: Inspectorate – Cape of Good Hope SPCA <inspectorate@spca-ct.co.za>
Subject: Formal Claim and Request to Hold Leopard Tortoise Pending Permit Application

Hi

I am writing regarding the leopard tortoise that was seized from our residence in Edgemean on 03/01/2026, and to formally place on record our intention to claim the animal and to comply fully with all legal requirements.

The tortoise has been part of our family for more than ten years. It was given to us as a hatchling by a late grandmother, and we were genuinely unaware at the time that a provincial permit was required to keep an indigenous tortoise. There was never any intent to contravene conservation or animal welfare laws, and the animal has been kept and cared for responsibly throughout this time.

Following a discussion with Ayanda, I understand that we have six days to claim the tortoise. I hereby formally notify the SPCA of our intention to claim the animal and respectfully request that the release or rehoming process be placed on hold while we urgently apply for the necessary CapeNature wild animal captivity permit and transport permit.

We are in the process of contacting CapeNature immediately to submit the required permit applications and are fully willing to provide:

- a sworn affidavit explaining the history and origin of the tortoise,
- photographs and details of the enclosure and care provided,
- any additional information required by CapeNature or the SPCA,
- and to cover any reasonable costs associated with the tortoise's care while in SPCA custody.

We respectfully request written confirmation that the tortoise will be held pending the outcome of the permit application, and guidance on any further steps the SPCA requires from us during this process.

We appreciate the SPCA's role in protecting animals and wildlife, and we are committed to resolving this matter lawfully and cooperatively as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,
Martin Gouws
0833058453

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PEACE NKOLOLO 2026-01-04 08:21

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