

FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

March 24, 2020

Council parks to remain open at present but enclosed play areas close

In response to yesterday's COVID-19 update from the Government, Fenland District Council has announced that while its parks will remain open until further notice, its play areas and skate parks have closed with immediate effect.

The Council has closed all facilities across the district in line with Government advice on closing outdoor recreation areas to minimise the spread of coronavirus.

Notices are being put up to make communities aware and gates on enclosed play areas are being locked. Where facilities are ungated, such as skate parks and outdoor gyms, people are being asked to comply with Government advice and not use the equipment.

The situation will be reviewed periodically in line with Government advice.

Cllr Peter Murphy, the Council's Portfolio Holder for Environment, said: "Considering the current risk to public health, the availability of hand washing facilities and the difficulty in keeping children at a safe social distance, closing play areas will help to limit the spread of coronavirus.

"Fenland's parks and open spaces are still open but I encourage everyone to be responsible and stay at least two metres apart whilst they are using them for exercise, as per Government guidance."

Cllr Steve Tierney, the Council's Portfolio Holder responsible for Emergency Planning, added: "The Prime Minister has implemented these measures to try and keep people safe and well during this difficult time. It is important that we all stay calm and work together to beat the coronavirus."

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For more information contact Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226