

FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRESS STATEMENT

March 17, 2020

St George's Fayre is cancelled

St George's Fayre, which was due to be held in March on Sunday, April 26, has been cancelled due to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The annual event organised by Fenland District Council and a committee of volunteers usually attracts thousands of people to the town every year.

But due to the latest guidance from the Government and World Health Organisation and growing public concern relating to Coronavirus, the committee has taken the decision to cancel the event.

Cllr Peter Murphy, the Council's Cabinet member responsible for events, said: "St George's Fayre is a highlight in the calendar for many, so it is with deep regret that it has had to be cancelled. We realise this will be a great disappointment to the thousands who usually attend, and to our loyal stall holders, but it is necessary in these unprecedented circumstances."

"I'd like to thank the events staff and the committee for all the hard work they have put into this year's event, and we look forward to it returning next year."

The council will be contacting stallholders, caterers and entertainers to offer the option of transferring their booking to next year's event, which will be on Sunday, April 25, 2021, or a full refund.

Cllr Steve Tierney, the Council's Cabinet member responsible for emergency planning, added: "Fenland District Council is monitoring the situation with respect to COVID-19 and continues to follow national Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice in its decision making.

"It also continues to play an active role in the multi-agency Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Resilience Forum (CPLRF) to support the area's response to the pandemic. We have robust policies and resilience plans in place for emergencies and business continuity, which we continue to review and refresh as the situation develops."

The Council's Pride in Fenland Awards ceremony, which was due to be held tomorrow, March 18, has already been postponed until later in the year. Over the coming weeks and months, the Council will continue to follow the latest Government advice and monitor the situation with respect to other Council-run events planned across the district.

- At present, the March Spring Fair is still due to open in City Road car park this Thursday, Friday and Saturday (March 19-21). Local organiser, Dean's Fun Fair, part of the Eastern Section of The Showmen's Guild, is monitoring the situation closely.

ENDS

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