

**DECISION NOTICE - CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY RELATED**  
**Key Executive Decision taken by an OFFICER**

<b>KEY DECISION Subject:</b> Temporary closure of outdoor play areas.
<b>DECISION TAKER:</b> <b>Name:</b> Richard Protheroe  <b>Job Title:</b> Strategic Director  <b>Signature:</b>  <b>Date:</b> 11 January 2021
<b>REASON WHY THIS DECISION DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THE URGENCY PROVISIONS WERE NOT FOLLOWED:</b>  This key decision outside the Council's Budget and Policy Framework was taken as part of the Council's emergency response to the national Coronavirus Emergency. Due to the necessary speed of decision taking at this time it was not possible to comply with the Council's Constitution that includes the requirement to give 28 days' notice of the decision to be taken; publish details 5 clear days before the decision was taken; publish the decision within 2 days of it being taken; and provide the 5 day call-in period before implementation. Nor was it possible to comply with the Urgency provisions in the Constitution
<b>DECISION TAKEN:</b> Outdoor play areas are to close for an initial period of four weeks, with effect from Monday 11 January 2020. The situation will be reviewed in four weeks' time, following consideration of the Coronavirus infection rates.
<b>REASONS FOR DECISION:</b> This decision has been taken in order to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus, particularly in the context of the significant increase in the number of cases in the age 0 – 11 category.
<b>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:</b> N/A
<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:</b> There are no financial implications as these facilities are free to use.
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:</b>

There are no legal implications. These facilities are owned and controlled by the Council who can determine that the facilities be closed if necessary.

**EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

Parks and open spaces remain open, providing a wide range of alternative options for the community to take their daily exercise allocation.

**CONSULTATIONS:**

Consultation has been undertaken with The Leader of the Council and members of the Coronavirus Emergency Committee who are in agreement. Consultation has also been undertaken with Richard Protheroe, Strategic Director who is also in agreement.

**Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

I agree that this decision was reasonable in all the circumstances, was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred

I further agree that any delay likely to be caused by the call -in process would prejudice the Council's or the public interest and that the decision should not therefore be subject to call-in.

**Signed:**

**Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**Date:**

**DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION: 11 January 2021**