

Report to the Leader of the Council

Subject: Temporary closure of Jubilee Park

Date: 19 June 2025

Author: Director of Operations

Wards Affected

Purpose

To authorise temporary closure of Burton Road recreation ground (Jubilee Park) on Burton Road Gedling to enable an inspection and cleansing of the site following an unlawful encampment.

Key Decision

No

Recommendation(s)

THAT the Leader of the Council:

Authorises temporary closure of Jubilee Park in Gedling to enable the park to be cleared as detailed within this report

1 Background

- 1.1 On Thursday 19 June 2025, the Council secured a court order to move on an unlawful encampment on Jubilee Park in Gedling. It is expected that the site will start to clear within the next 24 hours.
- 1.2 Once the site is vacant, officers of the Council will need to inspect the area and ensure a thorough clean-up of the site so that it remains safe for park users. Until this work can be completed, it is considered in the best interests of the community to temporarily close the park. If agreed, once the site is vacated signage to this effect will be placed across the park to advise the public it should not be used.

- 1.3 It is expected that the park can re-open early next week once cleaning work has been completed but until the site can be assessed it is unclear what the cleansing will involve.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that authority is given to temporarily close the park to ensure inspection of the site and cleansing can take place. Works to clean the site will be undertaken as soon as possible once the scale of the operation is established.

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 The Council could leave the park open whilst the clear up is underway but this is not considered safe. The encampment covered the majority of the park and as such it is unclear at this time what the risks of the site remaining open are.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The costs associated with cleansing the site will be met by the council. At this stage those costs are uncertain until a full site inspection can be undertaken.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 As landowners, the Council wants to ensure the safety of its residents and park users, as such closure of the park is a proportionate step to achieve this.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 Closure of the park is likely to have an impact on park users some of whom will fall under protected characteristics, in particular, on site is a children's playground and skate park. It is incredibly unfortunate that those facilities will not be available on a temporary basis but the risk to those groups is higher should the park remain open.

7 Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications

- 7.1 The impact on the local environment is unclear until the site is vacated.

8 Appendices

None.

9 Background Papers

None.

10 Reasons for Recommendations

10.1 To protect park users.

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Monitoring Officer