30 March 2020

**Cockburn playgrounds closed to mitigate spread of COVID-19**

In the interest of our community’s health and safety, the City of Cockburn has closed all of its playgrounds and outdoor recreation equipment until further notice.

These closures follow instruction from the Federal Government in order to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Affected facilities include:

* All playgrounds
* Skate parks
* Exercise equipment, including the Manning Park stairs
* Water play areas
* Dog parks
* Pump tracks

Fenced playgrounds and dog parks will be chained and locked for the duration of the closure.

Public toilets and drinking fountains, including the Bibra Lake and Manning Park toilet blocks, will also be closed. The toilets at Coogee Beach Foreshore, Coogee Surf Life Saving Club and C. Y. O’Connor Beach will remain open for now.

The City will install signage at every affected site and will notify its residents through its website, social media accounts, and enews.

Mayor Logan Howlett said while the closures were inconvenient, they were necessary to protect the community.

“COVID-19 continues to rapidly change how we live and work. Our top priority remains the health and safety of our residents, especially those most vulnerable to the virus,” Mayor Howlett said.

“We encourage our residents to heed the Federal Government’s instruction not to use playgrounds and observe social distancing when exercising.”

Beaches remain open for now, while the City awaits further guidance from the State.

The City continues to liaise with the Federal and State Departments of Health.

Any further changes to the operation of City facilities, community services or events will be detailed on the City’s website and via the other channels detailed above.

For further information on what the City is doing, visit the City’s dedicated COVID-19 website page at: <https://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/COVID-19>

For health updates on COVID-19, visit the [Commonwealth Department of Health](http://www.health.gov.au/), the [WA Department of Health](https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus) and the [World Health Organisation](https://www.who.int/) or call the Coronavirus Health Hotline on 1800 020 080.

ENDS

For more information contact:
Media and Communications Officer
City of Cockburn
T: 08 9411 3551
E: media@cockburn.wa.gov.au