



Date: 18 March 2020

On behalf of West Lothian District Scout Council

Dear Guests and Visitors,

Temporary closure of The Craigs Camping & Training Centre

It is with regret, that I write to advise you of the temporary closure of The Craigs due to the current situation with the global health pandemic. **In the first instance, the site will be closed from 17th March till 1st September 2020**

The decision to close the campsite was taken in the interests of the safety and wellbeing of staff, guests and other visitors, being mindful of the advice from the UK and Scottish Governments about unnecessary travel and social contact. So by closing, we will remove the possibility of exposure to the virus by being in close proximity to other groups, and at the same time aid the country's efforts to reduce the rate of spread of the virus in the community.

In addition, the UK Chief Commissioner for Scouts, Tim Kidd has recently suspended all face-to-face scouting activities until further notice; and as The Craigs is a Scout-owned and run site, we will comply fully with this suspension. It will apply to all our guests and other visitors, whether members of the Scout Association or otherwise. And the closure of the site is the simplest and most direct way of applying the rule equally across the board.

So to be clear, there will be no overnight guests and no daytime/ evening visitors allowed onsite during the period of closure.

The timeframe has been agreed so as to cover the Easter holidays; the expected peak infection period; and the school summer holidays (to provide a post-peak tailing-off period).

However, should travel restrictions or Scout suspension still remain in place by September, then the re-opening date will be reviewed and rolled back as appropriate, and we will update you accordingly.

I apologise for the disruption and inconvenience this will have caused, but I hope you bear with us during these unusual circumstances. We look forward to having guests back onsite and enjoying the outdoors as soon as is safe and practical. But in the meantime, we urge you to keep safe and well and we hope to see you soon.

Best regards.

Gerry Paterson
Craigs Campsite Manager.

West Lothian District Scout Council

District Commissioner: Neil Rowland

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