

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 3 September 2019

PERMITS IN PLACE FOR FITNESS PROVIDERS USING PUBLIC SPACES

Campaspe Shire Council is urging fitness providers who use public spaces for personal and group fitness training, to apply for a permit for continued use of these spaces.

Mayor, Cr Adrian Weston said council adopted a new policy and guidelines for the use of public spaces in November 2017. The policy covers all activities on council's footpaths, parks and reserves, with a focus to ensure that public access remains safe and enjoyable.

"Whilst most users of public spaces are required to apply for use, such as markets and events, the policy identified a gap, where fitness providers were not captured," Cr Weston said.

"The changes to the policy and guidelines now capture this market, ensuring providers apply for use and obtain an annual permit."

To start the process, we have met with fitness providers across the shire, outlined the changes and advised a phased-in approach for the new permits.

"This will be an application and permit to June 2020, with application, permit and annual fee applicable from 1 July 2020," Cr Weston said.

"There are many private operators in this market, and whilst we have contacted known providers, we recognise some may have been missed. All are invited to apply for a permit."

"We want to encourage the use of our public spaces for health and recreation, however need to ensure we manage the impact, public safety and public liability risks," Cr Weston said.

Providers seeking clarification on the new process can speak with Marc Turri in the Recreation team on 1300 666 535.

The Public Places Trading Policy, Public Places Trading Guidelines and Permit Application is available on council's website. Applications are to be made at least 14 days in advance of the first activity.

To coordinate an interview or seek further information contact:

Communications Unit, Bel Anderson 5481 2825 or Chris Hawking 5481 2830