

26 JUNE 2020 | STATEMENT TWO FROM TELEGRAPH HILL WARD COUNCILLORS ON THE UPPER PARK

As you know, your ward councillors called for a temporary closure of the Upper Park up to 4th July in response to the appalling abuse of the park by late night revellers.

Today we have been in discussions with senior council officers and a compromise has been reached which will allow ongoing park use by local residents while stopping late night/ all night parties and related anti-social behaviour.

What will now happen?

From today, Friday 26th June Telegraph Hill Upper Park will close at dusk. To help our parks team manage at busier times, entry will be restricted from 8pm. We continue to work with local police who patrol regularly and additional security officers will be in place.

The lower park gate on Kitto Road will be kept closed to help deter people entering the park with drinks purchased locally.

The extra cleaning recently introduced will continue and further bins are being placed in the park, to be collected daily.

The Council has considered adding temporary toilets but believe this could attract more people to the park so have decided against this for now.

The lower park will continue to be locked each evening as usual.

We will be meeting with council officers again on Monday to review these measures after the weekend.

As your ward councillors, we sincerely hope that these temporary changes will enable responsible use of the Upper Park as well as support residents whose homes back onto it.

We would like to thank Cllr Sophie McGeevor, Lewisham Cabinet Member with responsibilities for parks, and Council officers for their help in recognising the effect of recent events on residents who live nearby as well as the need for public access to the Upper Park.

We also wish to thank all residents who have been in contact with us, and the Park User Group for their assistance too.

Cllr Paul Bell

Cllr Joan Millbank

Cllr Luke Sorba