

GROUP FITNESS AND PERSONAL TRAINING POLICY

(1) INTENT

The Group Fitness and Personal Training Policy is intended to:

- Ensure that Council reserves and public open spaces are used in a way that is appropriate for each space;
- Encourage residents to participate in healthy activities;
- Minimise disruption to residents and other users of facilities; and
- Regulate the use of Council reserves for profit making activities.

Note: it is not the intent to regulate private exercise on Council reserves, however, where an individual wants to ensure the availability of an approved site and wish to make a booking, the provisions of the Policy will apply.

(2) BACKGROUND

In recent times there has been a rise in the popularity of personal trainers and group fitness classes in outdoor settings. Cottesloe has many locations that are ideal for such classes, and as such has become a popular location for them.

The Town has a role in regulating the use of reserves, to maximise their use, while minimising disruption to surrounding residents and existing users. Restrictions on times of availability, group size and equipment that can be used, will allow classes to continue, while providing some level of protection for residents.

(3) STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Under the *Local Government Property Local Law 1999*, a permit is required to undertake any function on a reserve controlled by the Town. A group fitness class of more than 4 people falls under the definition of “function” as defined in the Local Law.

When an application for a function is received, the Local Government can;

- a) grant permission
- b) refuse permission; or
- c) grant permission subject to conditions

While personal training does not meet the definition of a function, the Local Law makes it an offence to carry on any business (trade) on local government property without a permit.

The intent of this policy is to provide guidance to the Chief Executive Officer as to what applications would be considered appropriate, and what conditions should be attached to any approval given for group fitness classes and personal training.

(4) DEFINITIONS

Group Fitness Class – is an organised gathering with the use of a paid trainer and 4 or more people with a maximum of 20 people, where the group participates in a range of exercises, which fulfils the definition of “function” as per the *Local Government Property Local Law 1999*.

Personal Training Sessions– is an organised gathering with the use of a trainer for less than 4 people, and the trainer provides guidance and instruction of personal fitness activities. It is typified by a payment for coaching, but can include coaching on a voluntary basis.

Fees –the fee included in the Schedule of Fees and Charges, as set by Council in the Annual Budget. Venue hire is included in the fees listed in the Schedule of Fees and Charges.

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior to providing any Group Fitness Class or Personal Training Session from a facility or place controlled by the Town, trainers are required to obtain a permit from the Town to do so, in accordance with the *Local Government Property Local Law 1999*.

Fees must be paid in full prior to commencement. Fees paid assist in the maintenance of facilities and ensure equity with similar businesses operating in commercial premises.

It is an offence to conduct a Group Fitness Class or Personal Training Session without the required permit and penalties will be applied as stipulated in the *Local Government Property Local Law 1999*.

(5) EXCEPTIONS

This policy does not include the activities of any not for profit sporting club, undertaking training for their competition or club duties. For sake of clarity, this includes but is not limited to the activities of Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club, North Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club, Cottesloe Rugby Club, Cottesloe Junior Football Club, Seaview Golf Club or Cottesloe Tennis Club.

This policy does not apply to activities that are covered specifically by the *Beaches and Beach Reserves Local Law 2012*, or any other event granted permission by the Town of Cottesloe.

(6) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to receive permit to conduct Group Fitness Classes or Personal Training Sessions on a Town of Cottesloe Reserve, the application must provide evidence of the following:

- Approved industry qualification;
- Current senior first aid; and
- Public Liability Insurance (valid for the duration of the permit).

(7) LOCATIONS

Personal Training Sessions are permitted to take place on any recreation reserve, where public access is permitted, except children’s playgrounds, or any other space where specific permission or authorisation is required.

Group Fitness Classes will only be approved at the following locations;

1. Cottesloe Oval
2. Beach Reserve
 - a) between a line extending from Napier Street and Bryan Way (grassed areas only).
 - b) near Beach Street (grassed areas only);
3. Jasper Green Reserve

4. Main Lawn – Cottesloe Civic Centre; and

At no time shall permission be given for personal trainers to operate within 15 metres of a residential property, adjacent to a public open space.

The Town of Cottesloe reserves the right to permit other events or grant permission for Group Fitness Classes or Personal Training Sessions to take place at any Council reserve concurrently.

(8) TIMES

Applications for Group Fitness Classes will only be considered where the class begins after 6am. Applications for activities after 8pm on any night will not be considered.

Personal Training Sessions may apply for a permit to operate at any time, however, due consideration will be given to noise and amenity in considering applications.

(9) SIGNAGE

Temporary signage issued by the Town of Cottesloe must be displayed at all times when operating, indicating a permit has been granted for a Group Fitness Class or Personal Training Session.

Temporary business signage will be permitted to be installed 30 minutes before an approved class and must be removed within 15 minutes of the completion time.

(10) FOOTPATHS / DUAL USE PATHS

Footpaths and dual use paths are allowed to be used as an incidental part of a Group Fitness Class or Personal Training session, subject to noise in residential areas being kept to an absolute minimum.

(11) USE OF IN SITU EQUIPMENT

The Town provides In Situ equipment for a variety of uses by residents. Any such equipment should only be used for the purpose for which it was installed. While personal trainers and group fitness classes may use such equipment incidental to

their sessions, trainers and instructors are not to attempt to “reserve” the use of this equipment in any way.

Children’s playgrounds and equipment are not to be used by either personal trainers or group fitness classes.

ADOPTION: November 2016

REVIEW: November 2021

Elizabeth Nicholls

From: Cate Pattison
Sent: Thursday, 29 September 2016 1:04 PM
To: council
Subject: Group Fitness and Personal Training

TO: Cottesloe Council
RE: Group Fitness and Personal Training - Policy Amendments

I would like express my disappointment at the intention to introduce a fee for operators to run group fitness training in Cottesloe.

I believe that supporting residents to participate in outdoor activity - with the benefits of connecting the community, health and local vibrancy should be encouraged by the council and no charges be introduced to make this prohibitive for operators who are greatly valued by their clients, to come to the area and provide their services in a convenient location. Ultimately these costs are passed on to the ratepayers, who already pay for the maintenance and management of these facilities.

Yours sincerely

Cate Pattison