



Our reference: FOI 20/38 – Social distancing

17 November 2020

Dear Mr Hai,

Thank you for your email of 8 October 2020 in which you asked:

*What guidance have staff been given about social distancing?*

*What policies do you have in regards to closing parks due to social distancing?*

In answer to your questions:

*What guidance have staff been given about social distancing?*

Our guidance for staff in relation to social distancing is in line with the Government guidance.

The Royal Parks' staff are regularly informed about our Covid-19 safety management systems including at our company-wide staff meetings chaired by the Chief Executive, held on a regular basis. Covid-19 safety information is regularly communicated to staff via email and the intranet.

The Royal Parks' Covid-19 specific risk assessment, which contains social distancing information and other safety controls which must be followed by staff, is regularly updated and communicated to staff via email and the intranet, and is also available to staff on a shared drive.

In addition, social distancing and other safety information is displayed in our offices. Our Health & Safety Officer provides advice and guidance to our managers and responds to queries.

*What policies do you have in regard to closing parks due to social distancing?*

The Royal Parks does not have any intention to close any of the parks specifically due to social distancing factors. Our parks have remained open for the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic. We have also applied public messaging to support keeping your distance. The



Metropolitan Police operates within the parks and have undertaken enforcement of social distancing.

I hope that this information satisfies your request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original email, quoting the reference at the top of the page and should be addressed to:

FOI Officer  
The Royal Parks  
The Old Police House  
Hyde Park  
London  
W2 2UH

Email [records@royalparks.org.uk](mailto:records@royalparks.org.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, quoting the reference at the top of the page. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

**Gavin Gribbon | Records Manager | 0300 061 2002 | [ggribbon@royalparks.org.uk](mailto:ggribbon@royalparks.org.uk)  
[www.royalparks.org.uk](http://www.royalparks.org.uk) | The Old Police House | Hyde Park | London | W2 2UH**