

Councillor Jon Molyneux  
City Chambers  
George Square  
Glasgow  
G2 1DU

Dear Councillor Jon Molyneux,

As a resident of Glasgow Southside, I would like to raise my concerns over the state of the North Play Area in Queen's Park Glasgow and its recent closure by Glasgow City Council.

The park is well-used by residents and with the closure, they have nowhere else to go in proximity to their home. Families are deprived of an outdoor environment to play in.

The condition of the play equipment has long been an issue and Glasgow City Council has not put in place a proper maintenance plan for many years. This conflicts with the council's Vision Statement featured in Queen's Park Management Plan 2011 – 2016 that stated:

To ensure Queen's Park continues to provide high quality facilities that meet the recreation, leisure, education, environmental and cultural needs of the community whilst protecting the historic & natural landscape character of the park, and at the same time contribute significantly to the economic and environmental regeneration of the city.

If high quality facilities had been provided to meet the needs of the community, play equipment for different age groups and disabilities would have been included. The same equipment is used by toddlers, children and teenagers and there are no play facilities for the disabled. This unacceptable neglect has reduced it to a hazardous environment. Its closure is a 'quick-fix' to adhere to Health and Safety regulations. If the equipment had been properly maintained, the park would still be open to the public.

I have signed the petition which now has a total of 1,086 signatures at the time of writing this. As you are the Scottish Green Party elected member for the Pollokshields Ward, I ask you to speak to your officers in Parks and Gardens and urge them to open the park, cordon off hazardous equipment and provide you with a detailed plan of how and when they will improve the play area. Funding is available and the council has a duty to correct the situation.

Yours sincerely,