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Water Meadows closed after legionella scare



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MANSFIELD'S Water Meadows Swimming Complex will be closed for at least 12 days after a legionella scare at the facility.

The Bath Street complex has been shut since Tuesday and tests have since shown traces of the bug in a water supply system for the showers.

Leisure chiefs say they have taken the decision to close Water Meadows as a precaution.

Legionella is a bacteria that can result in Legionnaire's disease - a severe respiratory illness which can be fatal and is related to pneumonia. It can affect anybody, but mainly affects those who are susceptible because of age, illness, immunosuppression, smoking etc.

Work to sterilise the affected water system will be completed on Wednesday, which will be followed by further testing of the system over the next 12 days.

All other facilities at the complex, including the swimming pools, have not been affected by the bug - but are all closed.

An investigation is underway into how the traces have appeared.

Coun Eddie Smith, portfolio holder for the environment at Mansfield District Council, said: "The Water Meadows complex will be closed during the school half term and we apologise for the inconvenience this will cause, but public safety is our number one priority.

"Mansfield District Council operates a rigorous and regular testing schedule at all its leisure facilities, demonstrated by the identification of this issue and our swift action in closing the complex as a precautionary

measure."

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