



## Press Release

### **Blue Green Algae present in Canvey Lake**

Due to the high levels of Blue Green Algae present in the lake the Town Council is warning residents to stay away from the water.

Algae occurs naturally in waters such as rivers, streams, and lakes. During a bloom, the water becomes less clear and may look green, blue-green, or greenish brown and scums can form during calm weather when several bloom forming species rise to the surface.

Cyanobacteria or 'blue-green algae', a type of blooming algae, can produce toxins. These toxins can kill wild animals and pets. They can also harm people, producing rashes after skin contact and illnesses if swallowed.

Please keep pets and children away from the water and avoid skin contact. Dogs should be kept on leads.

Canvey Lake is not a bathing lake and fishing is prohibited, therefore, the risk to residents is limited if you remain away from the water and heed the warning signs.

Canvey Island Town Mayor, Cllr Elaine Harvey, said: "Due to the location of the lake it is very difficult to close the lake to the public, therefore, please read the signage around the lake, keep your dogs on leads and keep your children away from the water."

For more information, please see the Councils website [www.canveyisland-tc.gov.uk](http://www.canveyisland-tc.gov.uk).