

Local authority owned parks – needs assessment

Individual parks of national or local historic importance

Please read notes before completing questionnaire, use a separate form for each park photocopying the form as necessary.

Heritage Lottery Fund



ENGLISH HERITAGE



1 Full name of authority

Contact officer

Tel Fax Email

2 Name of park

3 Address of park

Postcode

4 Area of park in hectares

5 Do you regard the park as of: ☐ national historic importance? ☐ local historic importance?

6 Is the park listed with a statutory authority as a historic park?
(eg English Heritage, CADW, Historic Scotland, DOE NI)

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes: Grade ☐ I ☐ II* ☐ II

7 Is the park within a designated conservation area? ☐ YES ☐ NO

8 Does the park include any of the following nature conservation designations?

☐ SSSI ☐ SNCI ☐ NNR ☐ LNR

9 Please note all listed buildings within or associated with the park (with grades) and indicate their condition.

1	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
2	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
3	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
4	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
5	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
6	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor

10

List the main features of the park and their present status

Feature	number lost	number existing			
		in use and in good/ reasonable condition	usable but not used	derelict and abandoned	in use but in urgent need of repair
All weather surfaces					
Aviary/Pets Corner					
Bandstands					
Boathouses					
Bowling Greens					
Bridges					
Café/tea bars					
Fountains					
Golf/putting facilities					
Grass sports pitches					
Grottos					
Ice-houses					
Lake/pond/boating pools					
Lodges					
Mansion houses					
Memorials/statues					
Monuments/follies					
Ornamental gates					
Paddling pools					
Playgrounds					
Public glasshouses					
Shelters/pavilions					
Skateboard/BMX ramps					
Temples					
Tennis courts					
Toilets					
Visitor centres					
Other: <i>Please list</i>					

11

Condition of park

Condition of: *(tick one box)*

	park overall	built structures	railings	drives and paths	trees	shrubs	flowers and bedding	grass	water features /facilities	seats
Good										
Fair										
Poor										

Trend in condition over ten years of: *(tick one box)*

	park overall	built structures	railings	drives and paths	trees	shrubs	flowers and bedding	grass	water features /facilities	seats
Improving										
Stable										
Declining										

12

Total gross expenditure (in 000s)

	1999/2000 (budgeted)	1994/95	1989/90	1984/85	1979/80
a total gross revenue expenditure	£	£	£	£	£

b total capital expenditure	£	£	£	£	£
------------------------------------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

If figures are estimated, please enclose in brackets, eg £(###)

13

Has the park received any significant public grant award in the past ten years?

☐ YES☐ NO

If yes, please indicate

☐ SRB☐ Lottery

other (please specify)

14

Training: Do you consider that training opportunities are required for:

☐ horticulture/arboriculture☐ park management☐ specialised management of historic parks

other (please specify)

15

Estimated number of visitors per year to park

16

Have you carried out a visitor satisfaction survey in the past five years?

☐ YES☐ NO

* Please see notes on back page

Please return form to:

Local Authority Parks Needs Assessment Project
ILAM House, Lower Basildon, Reading, RG8 9NE
Tel: 01491 874800 Fax: 01491 874801

Local authority owned parks – needs assessment

Heritage Lottery Fund



ENGLISH HERITAGE



About the council

Please read notes before completing questionnaire

1

Full name of authority

Category of authority
(eg District, County etc)

Address of council

Postcode

Contact officer

Tel

Fax

Email

2

In which DETR region or country is the authority situated?

☐

North East

☐

South East

☐

London

☐

North West

☐

Yorkshire and The Humber

☐

Scotland

☐

West Midlands

☐

East Midlands

☐

Wales

☐

East of England

☐

South West

☐

Northern Ireland

Total parks survey

3

Number and area of parks (urban and rural) owned by the authority

	numbers	area in hectares
a of national historic importance	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
b of local historic importance	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
c recreational open spaces	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total number/area	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

4

Total gross expenditure on parks included in question 3 (in 000s)

	1999/2000 (budgeted)	1994/95	1989/90	1984/85	1979/80
a total gross revenue expenditure	£	£	£	£	£
b total capital expenditure	£	£	£	£	£

If figures are estimated, please enclose in brackets, eg £(###)

5

Perceived condition of park stock overall

Current condition	<input type="checkbox"/> good	Trend in condition over last ten years	<input type="checkbox"/> improving
	<input type="checkbox"/> fair		<input type="checkbox"/> stable
	<input type="checkbox"/> poor		<input type="checkbox"/> declining

6

Parks strategy

Does your authority have:

☐ a dedicated parks strategy?
☐ a parks strategy incorporated in a wider strategy?
☐ does not have a parks strategy?
☐ will have a parks strategy within twelve months?

If the strategy is incorporated in a wider strategy, please state which strategy

* Please see notes on the reverse of the letter

Notes on Questionnaires

About the Council

- Q1** Please ensure that the full correct title and postal address of the council is given – this prevents any confusion.
- Q2** DETR region or country enables us to correlate findings with other government statistics.
- Q3(a)** Parks of national historic importance are those on the lists of statutory agencies AND any parks you feel merit consideration for listing, as it is known that public parks tend to be under represented on statutory lists of historic parks and gardens.
- Q3(b)** Parks of local historic importance are those where historic character is visible in the structure – ornate gates and railings, memorials and ornamental buildings, mature planting and evidence of deliberate design. Exceptionally, a park's historical associations alone might qualify as local importance – please use your local knowledge and judgement.
- Q3(c)** Recreational open spaces are the remainder of the Council's stock of parks, gardens and public spaces which are used and managed principally for recreation. These will include playing fields and sports pitches under the Council's care, but will exclude other land maintained by the Council, such as road verges and roundabouts, landscaping around housing, car parks, etc.
- Q4** Please estimate total council expenditure on recreational space. This might entail deducting an amount from grounds maintenance spending for non-recreational landscape management. Please do your best to enter figures for the preceding years indicated, as it is intended to evaluate trends in spending.
- Q5** The perceived condition of parks is relative to expectation. As a guide, it is suggested that "good" means the park is thriving and well managed, with no immediate repair work required. "Fair" is where the park functions adequately and there is the prospect that repairs will be attended to in the foreseeable future. "Poor" is where there are obvious signs of decay and no immediate prospect of renovation. In your judgement of condition, please remember that we are concerned with all aspects of parks – buildings, horticulture and public facilities, such as playgrounds and toilets.
- Q6** If the parks strategy is incorporated in a wider strategy, e.g. nature conservation, greenlinks or culture, please state the title of the strategy.

Individual parks of national or local historic importance

- Q3** Please give full postal address of park. This is important to enable the identification of parks beyond the Council's boundaries and to enable the correlation of information at ward and neighbourhood level. We are keen to be able to identify the communities served by the park.
- Q9** There is no centrally held information on the numbers and condition of listed buildings in, or strongly linked to parks. They will be found in the lists under the address of the park and may include walls, railings, gates, as well as the more obvious buildings, bandstands and memorials. Please give an estimate of their condition, whether or not they remain in council ownership.
- Q10** This question is intended to provide an inventory of what our parks contain. We have attempted to produce a list of the most frequently occurring features, but are aware that in the great variety of parks, there are many unique features. Please specify other significant features not included in our list. The grid should be filled in with numbers. Numbers lost refers to known features that have disappeared, for example railings and bandstands. Numbers given in the other categories will enable us to pinpoint the condition and usability of all existing features.
- Q11** This question asks for your perception of the condition and the trend in condition of the park overall. It also asks the same question in respect of generic features that are difficult to enumerate.
- Q12** The same principles apply here as for council spending on parks overall (Q4). It is important to obtain figures on individual parks – even if these are best estimates. It is realised that few parks are cost-centres in their own right and that it may be necessary to apportion, using your judgement, an amount for each park. Please use brackets to indicate estimated figures.