

House of Commons Inquiry into the Future of Public Parks

In July 2016, the House of Commons' Communities and Local Government Select Committee announced its Inquiry into the 'Future of Public Parks' to examine the impact of the reduced local authority budgets on open spaces and consider concerns that the existence of public parks was under threat. It invited written comments from the public by the end of September 2016. It also set up a simple comments page on its website for the submission of public comments. A large number of submissions (close to 400) were made including one from the Clapham Society, which was posted in Latest News in October 2016 and can be seen if you [click here](#).

You can view all the evidence that has been submitted to the Inquiry on:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/public-parks-16-17/publications/>

You can also see the results of a survey carried out by the Communities and Local Government Committee, which were published at the end of November 2016:

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/Cu7ttIsXspLhK/>

The Committee has considered all the written submissions and held a number of public hearings to take further evidence from witnesses, including government officials and Ministers. The Committee will publish its report and recommendations within the next few months. Andrew Percy MP, the Minister responsible for Local Growth and the Northern Powerhouse, whose portfolio includes Parks, who gave evidence to the Committee in early December 2016, undertook to set up a cross-departmental group involving the various stakeholders within government to consider the Report and its Recommendations. Eventually, the Government should respond to the Committee's Recommendations.

In the meantime, you can keep track of progress on the Committee's website, <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/public-parks-16-17/> and keep in touch with the Committee via email on clgcom@parliament.uk or via twitter [@CommonsCLG](https://twitter.com/CommonsCLG),

