

General notes

The answers given relate only to open spaces owned by Rother District Council. Open spaces owned by others including Town and Parish Councils, housing associations and wildlife trusts are excluded.

'Parks' is interpreted as meaning parks only (including countryside parks), not any other type of public green space and therefore, unless otherwise stated under individual questions, the following are also excluded in relation to 'Parks':

- Sports and recreation grounds, amenity green space, gardens, natural/semi-natural areas and children's play areas.
- Combe Valley Countryside Park, a small part of which is currently owned by RDC, but the majority of which is in other ownership with the small part owned by RDC being likely to be transferred to a CIC in due course.

'Woodland' includes open space within which there is woodland as well as sites that are woodland alone.

1. What is the total number of publicly accessible a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves currently in your local authority area, and what was the figure in 2009/10?

Open Space Typology	Number of publicly accessible open spaces	
	2009/10	2017/18
Parks	2	2
Village greens	0	0
Community gardens	0	0
Woodland	11	10
Allotments	12	12
Nature reserves	0	0

2. What is the total number of publicly accessible a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves in your local authority area for which members of the public are charged to access (including spaces which only charge for access on particular days of the year or for certain events), and what was the corresponding figure for each in 2009/10?

Note that we no longer have the 2009/10 information on our files so the figure given is a best guess.

Open Space Typology	Charge made in connection with a public event or sports match	
	2009/10	2017/18
Parks	1 (Manor Gardens, open air theatre)	0
Village greens	n/a	n/a
Community gardens	n/a	n/a
Woodland	0	0
Allotments	12	12
Nature reserves	n/a	n/a

3. What is your local authority's total budget allocation for spend on a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves in your local authority area for 2017/18, and what was the total budget allocation for each in 2009/10?

Open Space Typology	Allocated budget	
	2009/10	2017/18
Parks	£911,770	£887,750
Village greens	n/a	n/a
Community gardens	n/a	n/a
Woodland	Included in 'Parks'	Included in 'Parks'
Allotments	£16,140	£600
Nature reserves	n/a	n/a

Note the following about the figures provided;

- They are for the total budget allocated at the start of the relevant financial years and don't necessarily equate to the actual expenditure.
- They relate to revenue only. Any available capital money or grants/donations from external bodies is not included.
- They include associated utility bills.
- Salaries and internal recharge costs are excluded.
- Where 'Parks' are concerned, the figures relate to the following types of public open space; formal and informal parks and gardens, recreation grounds, playing fields, amenity green space, natural and semi-natural open space e.g. wood, children and young people's play facilities which include equipped play areas, skate parks, basketball hoops and pads, kickabout goals etc.

4. How many staff are employed by your local authority to maintain or manage a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves, in your local authority area in the year 2017/18, and how many were employed for each in 2009/10?

The staff detailed below were employed in relation to the management and maintenance of all public green space under RDC's responsibility, not specific open space typologies.

Year	FT staff	PT staff	Details
2009-2010	3	2	1 x Parks Development Officer: FT 1 x Parks Technical Officer: FT 2 x Parks Technical Officer: PT 1 x Parks Manager: FT
2017-2018	2	2	1 x Parks Development Officer: FT 1 x Parks Technical Officer: FT 1 x Parks Technical Officer: PT 1 x Contracts Manager: FT, but not specifically designated to Parks and therefore categorised here as PT for the purposes of this exercise.

5. What is the total number of publicly accessible a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves currently in your local authority area which have limited opening hours, and what was the figure in 2009/10?

Open Space Typology	Limited opening hours		Reason
	2009/10	2017/18	
Parks	1	1	Byelaw (open in hours of daylight)
Village greens	n/a	n/a	
Community gardens	n/a	n/a	

Woodland	0	0	
Allotments	0	0	
Nature reserves	n/a	n/a	

6. What is the current total area in km² of publicly accessible a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves currently in your local authority area, and what was it in 2009/10?

Open Space Typology	Area in km ² of accessible open spaces		Note
	2009/10	2017/18	
Parks	0.1585	0.1569	Small amount of a larger site was sold for development.
Village greens	n/a	n/a	
Community gardens	n/a	n/a	
Woodland	1.0013	0.9931	The area in RDC's ownership has reduced to 0.9931 due to a wood being sold. However, it is still publically accessible.
Allotments	0.9933505 (some of these allotments have not been under RDC's management for decades)	0.9933505	The area under RDC's management has reduced dramatically to 0.086 due to sites being devolved. However allotments may still be tenanted by the public.
Nature reserves	0	0	

7. What was the total number of publicly accessible a) parks, b) village greens, c) community gardens, d) woodland, e) allotments, f) nature reserves currently in your local authority area for which the management or services are provided by an outside organisation rather than the local authority, and what was the corresponding figure for each in 2009/10?

Open Space Typology	Number of publicly accessible open spaces		Note
	2009/10	2017/18	
Parks	2	2	
Village greens	0	0	
Community gardens	0	0	
Woodland	2	2	One woodland has been managed by an external organisation under a service level agreement for many years. Another has been leased to a Wildlife Trust for many years.
Allotments	2	10	Many sites have been leased on a 25 or 99 year basis.
Nature reserves	0	0	