

Royal Parks Foundation Drinking Fountain Competition

Response to Questions

1. **Will the fountain have continuous running water - have a visible movement of water?**

No, the fountain will not have continuous, visible running water.

2. **Will it be necessary to specify the engineering of the tap (if of the type where there is an actual tap and it is not a continuous flow of water) mechanism?**

Yes – it will be necessary to specify engineering and internal workings – plus drainage - of the fountain as a whole, including any taps. The tap mechanism needs to shut off automatically after use as otherwise visitors leave the tap running. The tap will need to be demonstrably readily available and easily replaced in the future.

3. **I understand the fountain must also be able to ideally be installed in public toilets, roughly, is the fountain to occupy 1 square metre or less?**

See answer to question 7 – the main focus of the competition is to create a drinking fountain for use outdoors in the Parks and it is likely that it will occupy 1 square metre or less.

4. **Does the spout have to be one or could it be multiple spouts?**

There could be multiple spouts.

5. **Is there a FAQ list of answers to previous questions?**

These are all the questions we have received in relation to the competition.

6. **On page 5 of the brief it states that despite a worldwide trawl the Royal Parks have not been able to find a drinking fountain suitable for the Royal Parks. It appears from our research that there are indeed some very good fountains available such as those made by Santa & Cole <http://www.santacole.com/en/catalogo/fuentes> . Can you be more specific in indicating how existing models fail to fulfill your needs?**

Other designers' fountains often function very well however, The Royal Parks are all Grade One listed landscapes and we are looking for something that combines fun and creativity with great practicality. The drinking fountain might even, by its very form, promote the idea of sustainability.

7. **Is the requirement for the fountain to be wall mounted a serious proposition? 6.8 states 'in an ideal world' the design will be free standing or wall mounted. Our research into existing models indicates that a wall mounted drinking fountain is a fundamentally different product to a free standing drinking fountain. It might be hard to make a wall mounted drinking fountain a 'work of art in itself' as these are**

usually small compact units. A wall mounted unit is like an item of sanitary ware yet a freestanding unit is like a piece of civic street furniture - both fundamentally different, furthermore there is also a requirement for use inside buildings. Do you not think that the designs may be compromised by the requirement for the fountain to work in significantly different settings?

The main focus of this competition is to create a free-standing drinking fountain for use outdoors in the Parks. However, the Parks also feature wall-mounted units - both internal and external – and we would be interested to see if/how your design could be adapted for this use.

- 8. Can you publish some common parameters on the hygiene standards that you wish to adhere to - particularly with reference to the spout. Do you wish there to be a guard to discourage contact with the unit? Some fountains on the market have them and some don't.**

See answer to question 11. The design should be such that people cannot put their mouth directly on the spout – this might be a guard or another design feature.

- 9. Do you wish there to be a separate water bottle filling facility?**

Yes, it is a requirement that the fountain be able to fill water bottles although it is not automatic that this will require a separate spout. You might also wish to consider the optional concept of a dog bowl at the foot of the fountain as many users are dog walkers.

- 10. When is the deadline for the 'registration' of the competition?**

There is no deadline for registering to enter the competition; however competitors should ensure they register in time to receive and subsequently send their official declaration form in with their submission.

- 11. Where can we get insight into the UK Standards and the ROSPA guidance?**

The Royal Parks adhere to standards set by HSE (The Health & Safety Executive). HSE have no real standard for drinking fountains but the following should be considered;

- Will the fountain be easy and safe to maintain?
- Will the water have any risk of being contaminated by an outside source prior to being drunk, such as vermin, or ground contamination?
- Simplicity of use
- Drainage issues
- Visibility and location

The water itself comes from the mains, so is not subject to any checks by The Royal Parks, however pipe work must be of a decent and proper design/construction. Please refer to

http://www.standardsuk.com/shop/products_list.php?cat=252&searchtype=

[category](#) for list of BS/EN numbers for water quality, especially in relation to carrying of water.

Designs should also comply with DDA (The Disability Discrimination Act Legislation), please refer to http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG_4001068

12. Are there restrictions in size and height?

The maximum height is 1.5m and the maximum footprint 1 square metre.

13. Can I have more information about the standards and guidance points that are necessary to protect the fountain? Can I find something on internet?

See answer to question 11.

14. Can I use a “title” (or motto) of my design (in the board, statement and in the publicity images)? It’s important to represent my idea and my concept. Anyway I wouldn’t make a mistake and consequently be excluded from the competition.

It is permissible to create a ‘brand’ name for your concept, however this should in no way divulge your identity.

15. Is it possible to use a hard-set and lightweight material for the A2 board?

You may use a hard-set board so long as this is still lightweight like the foam board.

16. In order to reduce possible damage to the submission drawing, is it acceptable for the A2 size board to be hinged along its centre to form an A3 package?

Yes that is acceptable.

17. Can you describe the different maintenance operations usually done on the fountains?

The Parks carry out two planned maintenance activities per year. The Winter decommissioning and the Spring re-commissioning.

Decommissioning comprises closing down the water, draining down the pipe work and securing any access covers before the winter.

Commissioning comprises cleaning all casings and sterilizing with an approved product. Overhauling and de-scaling all components. Reconnecting the water supply and ensuring that the isolating valve is lubricated and fully operational. Inspecting all pipe work for leaks and rectifying any that are found.

All other maintenance is carried out on a reactive basis.

18. Is it possible to make more than one proposition?

You may make more than one proposition but this should be done as a separate entry and you would therefore be required to register a second time.

19. Do we need to provide a cost estimate?

Yes – please provide a cost estimate with enough detail for the jury to be able to know that it is soundly based. Entrants who are successful in reaching Stage Two will be asked to give more detail.

20. Does the fountain and its parts, have to be built in England?

The build should take into account the fountain's lifespan in regards to ease of replacement, ready-availability of parts, cost-efficiency and sustainability (minimise miles involved in transportation of parts, components etc).

21. Where can we get more information about the norms relevant to the fountain?

See answers to questions 11, 12 and 17