

Special Awards 2018

Categories and Criteria

1. Business Parks

This award is open to entry from all business parks in the Region including those in localities which are not in the main Northumbria in Bloom competition. An entry form can be downloaded from the website.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall impact, choice and variety of plants, use of permanent and structural planting, encouragement of wildlife, use of resources, peat, water etc,

Accessibility (25) – access and use by site users, paths and sitting areas.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

2 Community Champion

For outstanding contribution over several years by individuals, whether salaried or volunteer, in support of Northumbria in Bloom. Nominations may be initiated by judges or entrants (excluding the individual concerned) but it is the decision of the judges as to whether the nominee is put forward for consideration for an award. If so, a written appreciation and up-to-date photo of the nominated individual is required and should be submitted by the nominating entry to Jo Wood (joannamfwood@gmail.com) by 23 July. Individuals may receive the award only once, and nominations are limited to one per entry. Once submitted, nominations will be considered by the trustees, and awards made at their discretion. Awards will only be made to those who have made a truly outstanding contribution over a sustained period and will be limited to a maximum of five for each calendar year.

3 Schools

For educational establishments (excluding colleges of further education and universities)

Horticultural and educational achievement (50) – overall appearance and standard of horticulture, appropriate choice of plants including permanent planting, condition of plants, educational value including links to the curriculum, accessibility, standard of cleanliness and maintenance

Conservation(25) – recycling, recognition of environmental issues, sustainability and use of resources, encouragement of gardening in the future, creativity and originality

Involvement of pupils, and the wider school community(25) – in design, growing and maintenance

4 Care/Residential/Convalescent Homes, Hospices and Day Centres

For grounds of care homes, residential and convalescent homes, hospices and day centres.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – visual impact, quality of planting, encouragement of wildlife, conservation and sustainability, choice of plants for lasting effect, use of resources.

Accessibility (25) – maintenance of hard pathways, sitting and other areas appropriate to residents and visitors.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

5 Religious Establishments

For grounds of places of worship, cemeteries and crematoria.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – floral impact, quality and choice of plants, appropriateness of planting, accessibility to visitors, sensitivity, encouragement of wildlife.

Design, planting, maintenance (25) – including involvement of volunteers

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter & weeds. General tidiness.

6 Commercial Premises

For commercial premises (shops, restaurants or other businesses). For sites where a single business is carried out including subsidiaries.

Horticultural Achievement (50) - choice of plants, colour schemes, coordination. Overall effect.

Appropriateness to building & surroundings (25) - use of colour and its relationship to the building and others nearby, design and creativity - originality, colour combinations, structural planting

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

7 Pubs & Hotels

For public houses and hotels. (Rear garden/ beer garden may be included)

Horticultural Achievement (50) – choice of plants, colour schemes, coordination, condition of the plants. Overall effect. Design and creativity – originality, colour combinations, structural planting.

Appropriateness to the building & its surroundings (25)– use of colour and its relationship to the building and the surrounding area.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

8 Conservation Projects

For conservation projects. The conservation work should relate primarily to the natural environment and the majority of the site should be within the parish boundary.

Horticultural and Conservation Achievement (50) – introduced plants should be appropriate to the conservation nature of the project.

Involvement of the community (25) – Friends group, other volunteers, litter pickers etc. Educational value – benefit to and use by the community. Interpretation material, contact with schools etc.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) - control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

9 Bus/Metro/Railway Stations

For bus, metro and railway stations. Applies to platforms and clearly defined forecourt/station car parks.

Horticultural Achievement (50)– choice and condition of plants, use of colour, relationship to buildings.

Involvement of the community (25) - station staff and/or volunteers, local businesses.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

10 Parks

For parks

Horticultural Achievement (50) – annual & permanent planting, grass cutting, colour selection & coordination. Quality of planting and design, plant condition.—appropriateness to the site, features.

Range of uses/activities for the public (25) – education, recreation, relaxation, conservation, wildlife areas etc.

Cleanliness, tidiness and maintenance including furniture and play areas (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness and state of repair.

11 City and Town Centres, and Business Improvement Districts

For shopping precincts, arcades and Business Improvement Districts within a clearly defined area and under a single administration.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall impact, appropriate choice of plants, creativity, innovation and special features; standard of maintenance; sustainability

Business/Community involvement (25) – funding and practical support, development and sustainability of local initiatives, special events to encourage visitors

Environmental (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling etc; condition of street furniture and hard landscaping; recognition of local heritage

12 Private Gardens

For gardens visible to the public from a public thoroughfare- Up to two nominations allowed from each entry.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – use of colour in annual and perennial plants, design. Overall effect.

Structure and Features (25) – hard landscaping, use of contours, art & architecture, trees & shrubs, use of height, borrowed landscape

Cleanliness/Tidiness/Maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

13 Grounds of Hospitals, Universities and other Public Buildings

For grounds of Hospitals, Universities, fire stations, police stations, town halls etc.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall appearance and floral impact, Appropriateness and sustainability of planting, wildlife areas, hard landscaping

Facilities (25) for residents/employees & visitors, accessibility.

Cleanliness/Tidiness/Maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

14 Sports Grounds

For Sports Grounds - Bowling Clubs, Golf Clubs, Sports Complexes etc.

Horticultural Achievement (50) - overall impact and standard of horticulture – floral, trees & shrubs, grass cutting. Quality of planting and design.

Involvement (25) of members and/or volunteers and/or local businesses in the Horticultural Achievement

Cleanliness/Tidiness/Maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness.

15 Residential Communities

For discrete residential communities eg cul de sac, street.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall impact and standard of horticulture – floral, trees & shrubs, grass cutting.

Involvement of members of the community (25) in the horticultural achievement

Tidiness/Maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds. General tidiness

16 Allotments

For allotment sites with three or more individual plots.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall appearance and standard of horticulture; appropriateness and quality of planting; resources, recycling.

Involvement of allotment holders (25) in the horticultural achievement, communal schemes, and in maintenance

Cleanliness/Tidiness/Maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds, and general tidiness.

17 Tourist and Visitor Attractions, and Country Estates

For gardens at sites and buildings whose main function is as a tourist or visitor attraction and significant country estates.

Horticultural Achievement (50) – overall impact and standard of horticulture; appropriateness to the site of the planting; quality of design; sustainability and use of resources; recycling

Range of uses and facilities for visitors (25) – accessibility, education, recreation, relaxation, facilities, signage

Cleanliness/tidiness/maintenance (25) – control of litter, graffiti, dog fouling, weeds, hard landscaping and general tidiness