

SMALL CITIES

🏆 **Loughborough in Bloom: Gold Award and Category Winner 179 points**

Judged on 9th July Judges Martin Hardy and Chris Beal

Music was the theme of the visit to Loughborough. The presentation had a musical accompaniment, the tour started with the Loughborough bells ringing in the background and finished in Queens Park with some impressive musical themed art in the landscape. In between all of the musical themes this community continues to bloom together.

Areas of Achievement

SECTION A

The quality of Queens Park with its art in the landscape features continues to flourish.

Community gardening within the entry is very strong.

The crematorium & cemetery were of an excellent quality and judges would have liked to have spent a little more time here.

SECTION B

The quantity and quality of the wildflower meadow areas.

The sculpture displays based upon local heritage were impressive.

Quality of cleanliness throughout the town is impressive

SECTION C

The increasing number of sponsored hanging baskets ensures a sustainable future for the bloom in Loughborough.

The tour showed good use of the allotments with the Charnwood Gardening Project.

The university grounds are an asset to the community and to the bloom initiative.

It was pleasing to see that previous judges' comments had been taken on board and a wider range of the community had been met on the tour.

Areas suggested for future development

SECTION A

Try and make progress with the County Council over grass cutting on verges to either increase the frequency or improve timing in relation to the judging period.

SECTION B

Have a programme of refurbishment for street furniture as some is beginning to look tired.

Show more evidence of recycling initiatives.

Look at introducing the park sculptures into the city centre to make an arts trail..

SECTION C

Continue to build upon the excellent community links that Loughborough in Bloom has.

A – 90 B – 42 C – 47 Total 179