

## Marking criteria

		Gold 8-7	Silver Gilt 6	Silver 5-4	Bronze 3-0
<b>A1</b>	<p><b>Overall Impression</b> Taking account of all relevant factors, how strong is the impact of the entry in creating a memorable impression? Are the designs and materials used appropriate to their locations? Emphasis on coordination and overall quality.</p>	High impact with <b>excellent</b> attention to detail delivering the desired results in an appropriate and consistent manner.	Most areas are high impact with <b>very good</b> attention to detail although a few areas are inconsistent.	<b>Good</b> overall impact although not always balanced. Some areas make an impact but others need to be more vibrant with better design.	Although generally <b>satisfactory</b> , more attention to detail is required in order to increase impact and improve consistency of design.
<b>A2</b>	<p><b>Maintainance of Planted Areas</b> Are the areas within the entry maintained to an appropriate standard, including cultivation, weeding, feeding, pruning, and grass and tree maintainance, including management of dead tree material?</p>	<b>Excellent</b> standards of cultivation. Very consistent throughout. Horticultural maintainance and general care is outstanding.	Standards are <b>very good</b> with few exceptions. Horticultural maintainance is managed consistently.	Standards of horticultural maintainance are <b>good</b> and fairly consistent. There are a few exceptions where further attention is required.	Standards are generally <b>satisfactory</b> . However, the horticultural maintainance programme requires further attention to detail in some areas.
<b>A3</b>	<p><b>Plant Selection</b> Are the plants used in the planting schemes suited to their growing conditions and locations and is there year-round interest where appropriate?</p>	<b>Excellent</b> plant selection with extensive year-round interest, and almost no exceptions.	Plant selection is <b>very good</b> overall with only a few exceptions and ample year-round interest.	Plant selection is generally <b>good</b> , but there is room for improvement in some areas in order to extend year-round interest.	Plant selection is generally <b>satisfactory</b> , however, it requires further consideration in order to extend the season and maintain interest.
<b>A4</b>	<p><b>Plant Quality</b> Are the plants vibrant and grown to their full potential?</p>	Plant quality is <b>excellent</b> , plants are very healthy, vigorous and grown to their full potential.	Plant quality is <b>very good</b> , plants are mostly healthy and vigorous, with only a few exceptions.	Plant quality and health is generally <b>good</b> , but not always consistent. Lack of vigour in some areas.	Plant quality and health is generally <b>satisfactory</b> but could be improved.

## Marking criteria *continued*

		<b>Gold 8-7</b>	<b>Silver Gilt 6</b>	<b>Silver 5-4</b>	<b>Bronze 3-0</b>
<b>B1</b>	<p><b>Local identity &amp; Pride of Place</b></p> <p>Is there a sense of place, with appropriate acknowledgement of local heritage and its relevance for the community; e.g. art in the landscape, signage and interpretation etc? Consider the pride taken in hard landscape (including streets), open spaces (including grassed areas and beaches) street furniture maintenance etc</p>	Evidence of extensive efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. An <b>excellent</b> impression made about what makes the area unique. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in excellent condition.	Evidence of considerable efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. A <b>very good</b> impression made about what makes the area unique. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in very good condition.	Evidence of some effort to highlight/enhance local identity. A <b>good</b> impression made about what makes the area unique. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in good condition.	Little evidence of efforts made to highlight/enhance local identity. A <b>satisfactory</b> impression made about what makes the area unique. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in variable condition.
<b>B2</b>	<p><b>Natural Environment</b></p> <p>Is there an understanding of what biodiversity means locally, eg regarding the protection and conservation of the natural environment and wildlife habitats? The provision of appropriate wildflower areas, bat/bird boxes and insect hotels, aquatic and if applicable marine conservation sites. Has an assessment of their effectiveness been made, where possible?</p>	The natural environment is managed to an <b>excellent</b> standard supporting an extensive range of flora and fauna, with little improvement required.	The natural environment is managed to a <b>very good</b> standard supporting a considerable range of flora and fauna, very little effort would lift it to excellent.	The natural environment is managed to a <b>good</b> standard supporting a range of flora and fauna. Requires further work to improve it in places.	The natural environment is managed to a generally <b>satisfactory</b> standard supporting some flora and fauna. Needs significant improvement in places.
<b>B3</b>	<p><b>Environmental Quality and Resources</b></p> <p>What has been done to minimise the use of resources eg water, chemicals, pesticides; and to implement solutions like recycling, composting etc. To include cleanliness, absence of litter, street weeds, graffiti, vandalism, flyposting, temporary signage and chewing gum. Also plastic management, effective dog fouling control measures and gully cleaning.</p>	Extensive evidence of resource management initiatives. All areas are cleaned to an <b>excellent</b> standard. There is effective control of street weeds, no graffiti, vandalism or flyposting. Excellent evidence of recycling initiatives.	Considerable evidence of resource management initiatives. All areas are cleaned to a <b>very good</b> standard. There is very good control of street weeds, very little graffiti, vandalism or flyposting. Very good evidence of recycling initiatives.	Some evidence of resource management initiatives. All areas are cleaned to a <b>good</b> standard. There is generally good control of street weeds, but evidence of some graffiti, vandalism and flyposting. Reasonable evidence of recycling initiatives.	Little evidence of resource management initiatives. All areas are cleaned to a <b>satisfactory</b> standard. There is some control of street weeds, but evidence of considerable graffiti, vandalism and flyposting. Little evidence of recycling initiatives.

## Marking criteria *continued*

		<b>Gold 8-7</b>	<b>Silver Gilt 6</b>	<b>Silver 5-4</b>	<b>Bronze 3-0</b>
<b>C1</b>	<p><b>Year Round Activity and Future Commitment</b></p> <p>Evidence of forward planning and year-round activities, initiatives or events. Highlighting where they are adding value and demonstrating the strengths or uniqueness of the entry.</p>	<p>Evidence of <b>excellent</b> activities taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning. The annual programme of activities is exceptional.</p>	<p>Evidence of <b>very good</b> activities taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning.</p>	<p>Evidence of <b>good</b> activities taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning.</p>	<p>Evidence of <b>satisfactory</b> activities taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning but some areas of improvement needed.</p>
<b>C2</b>	<p><b>Communication, Education and Awareness</b></p> <p>Use of suitable interpretation, enabling learning and a greater understanding of purpose. Engagement with schools, young people or other groups. Promotion within the immediate area through local and regional communications (parish magazine, newspapers and social media). Appropriate communication and media involvement evidenced.</p>	<p><b>Excellent</b> use of signage and interpretation, and evidence of involvement in public awareness and educational programmes. Communications and appropriate media involvement are extremely well evidenced.</p>	<p><b>Very good</b> use of signage and interpretation, and evidence of involvement in public awareness and educational programmes. Communications and appropriate media involvement are very well evidenced.</p>	<p><b>Good</b> use of signage and interpretation, and evidence of involvement in public awareness and educational programmes. Communications and appropriate media involvement are well evidenced. A few missed opportunities.</p>	<p><b>Satisfactory</b> use of signage and interpretation, and evidence of involvement in public awareness and educational programmes. Limited evidence of communications and appropriate media involvement. There is room for improvement.</p>
<b>C3</b>	<p><b>Support and Funding</b></p> <p>Has the entry made every effort to engage the support of a wide variety of local groups and organisations? Participation should be representative of the local community. Evidence of fundraising and on-going support from a range of businesses and organisations appropriate to the size of the entry, making it viable and able to continue moving forward.</p>	<p>The range of groups and organisations engaged is an <b>excellent</b> representation of the wider community. Excellent levels of funding to ensure the viability of the entry. Support in all areas is sustainable and outstanding.</p>	<p>The range of groups and organisations engaged is a <b>very good</b> representation of the wider community. Very good levels of funding to ensure the viability of the entry. Support in all areas is very good and will be sustainable over time.</p>	<p>The range of groups and organisations engaged is a <b>good</b> representation of the wider community. Good levels of funding to ensure the viability of the entry. Support in all areas is good and, with effort, will be sustainable over time.</p>	<p>The range of groups and organisations engaged is a <b>satisfactory</b> representation of the wider community. Satisfactory levels of funding to ensure the viability of the entry. Support in all areas is satisfactory and fairly sustainable over time.</p>