



# Penrith Town Council

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**Press Release 22<sup>4</sup>th October 2018**

**Title: Penrith wins Silver Gilt at Britain in Bloom Awards 2018.**

The prestigious Britain in Bloom Awards Ceremony was held in Belfast on the evening of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October. A total of 76 groups from across the UK competed in 12 categories, with each vying for a gold, silver gilt, silver or bronze medal.

Penrith received an overall 'Silver Gilt' award in the 'Large Town Category.' The judges were particularly impressed with the high level of 'Community Participation,' awarding Gold for that criteria, Silver for 'Environmental Responsibility' and Silver Gilt for 'Horticultural Achievement.'

In addition, the Penrith Poly Tunnel received a 'National Certificate of Distinction' following excellence in the Regional Cumbria in Bloom Competition.

Achieving these national Britain in Bloom awards in addition to the fifteen awards received from Cumbria in Bloom in the regional competition earlier in the year, reflects the enthusiasm of all those involved and the high regard of the 'in Bloom' judges.

Scott Jackson, Mayor of Penrith, said:

"I had the great honour to accompany David Whipp, representing the BID and Malcom Carruthers, representing the Community Gardeners to the Awards Ceremony. These are only two of the many groups who have helped bring Penrith alive with vibrant colour not only over the past few months but all year round. From innovative planting schemes to environmental considerations, so much of Penrith has been enhanced by their efforts. We've been given excellent feedback on how to take our work to the next level, and the Town Council stands ready to support anyone and everyone who wants to help make Penrith look beautiful again next year.

Britain in Bloom's recognition of the high levels of community participation is well deserved and I'd like to thank all the volunteers in the town for all their extremely hard work. In addition I'd also like to thank the officers of Penrith Town Council for their input in co-ordinating and collaborating with the groups along the way."