



BIRMINGHAM IN



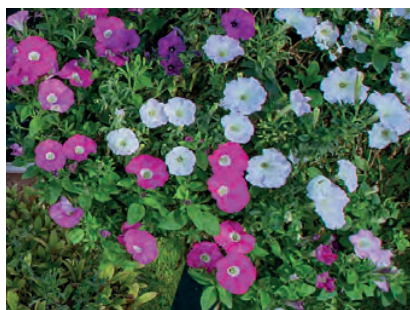
Issue 1



Bloom

2020

Celebrating our clean and green city



The Birmingham in Bloom competition has been running for several years for all of our council and leasehold tenants, resident groups and local communities.

One of the key motivations behind the competition is that it's an opportunity for the council to recognise the hard work and achievements of tenants and leaseholders in maintaining their gardens, and in keeping with the conditions

of their tenancies. It also shines a spotlight on tenants' efforts that benefit their area by making it a much better and greener place to live, which gives them a stronger sense of belonging and a voice in how their neighbourhood is run.

In essence, Birmingham in Bloom was created to meet the council's objectives to make Birmingham a great, clean and green city to live in, and to encourage residents' engagement and involvement in council-led activities.

In 2020, we expanded the competition by introducing an additional five categories for our residents. These are highlighted on the 'New Categories in 2020' page.

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- Welcome by Julie Griffin

- New categories in 2020

- Overall City Winners gold highlights

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Gold winner
Mr Brian Hanson



Thank you to everyone who entered the Birmingham in Bloom Housing Liaison Board Awards 2020, during this unprecedented time. It's been great to see so many people getting involved in the competition and residents' hard work over the lockdown period shows.

Welcome!



With so many more people turning their hands to gardening we have been thrilled to share the beautiful array of photos.

Well done to all the award winners, for bringing colour to our streets with your vibrant displays and bringing people together in communal vegetable growing projects. Your green-fingered enthusiasm and talent makes our city a more colourful and vibrant place for everyone.

The quality of entries for this year's competition has been exceptional, and I was pleased to see so many new competitors.

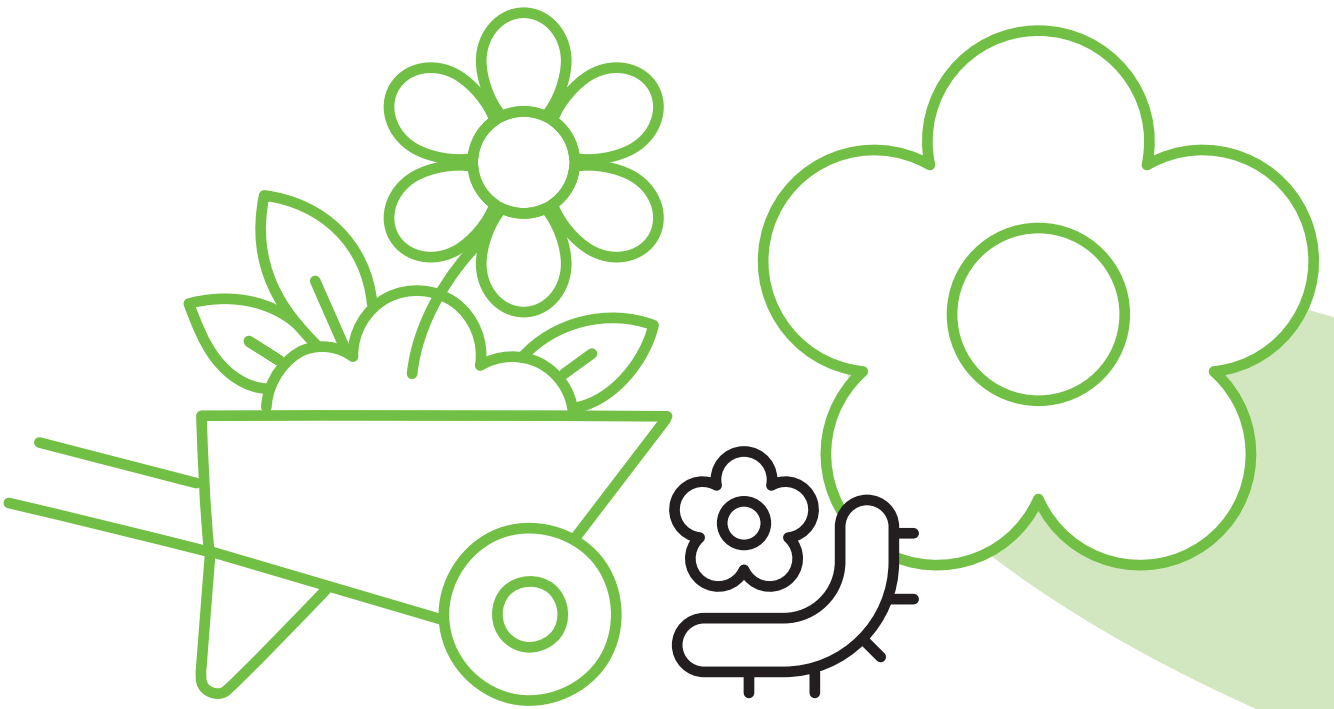
The Birmingham in Bloom competition has been running for well over 15 years, and we would like to thank everyone who has ever participated in the competition. Each year we receive hundreds of entries, and it is fantastic to see so many people who have worked to make their neighbourhoods better. You all put in so much time to make your gardens and communities shine, and we very much appreciate all the hard work.

I also want to thank our Birmingham in Bloom sponsors Engie, Wates, Fortem, Northgate Vehicle Hire, Ideal Services Group and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership for their generosity that this event is possible. I would also like to thank the judges who had the difficult task of choosing the overall city winners. I'd also like to offer a special thank you to the Resident Involvement Team and Tenant Participation Officers for organising this event.



Handwritten signature of Julie Griffin.

Julie Griffin,
Managing Director City Housing,
City Housing Directorate



New categories in 2020

- **Young Neighbour Award (under 25s)** – This award is for young people who are the pride of their neighbourhood. Someone who has overcome adversity and succeeded, either in personal accomplishments, or through giving back to their community.

- **Good Neighbourhood Award (over 25s)** – This awards tenants or leaseholders who have given back to their community, either as a volunteer (such as an HLB member, block inspector, RA member, etc.) or a neighbour who goes above and beyond to give a helping hand to those around them.

- **Tenant Led Group Award** – This is awarded to groups with a co-regulated tenant group who gets involved in

their area by making estate improvements or undertaking litter picks, putting on activities for local people, providing services to the community or running their local community centre.

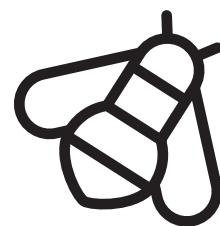
- **Safer Communities Award** – In this category we are looking for an individual or group that has been created to keep people safe, prevent crime, and/or support victims of a crime.

- **Supporting Engagement Awards** – This award is an opportunity for tenants and leaseholders to nominate a member of Birmingham City Council staff working in the neighbourhood who put tenants at the heart of what they do. *Please note – only nominations from tenants and leaseholders will be accepted

for this category which gives recognition to tenants and residents for their contribution to community involvement and tenant engagement.

A focus group was formed with previous winners of Birmingham in Bloom to add tenant engagement categories that give recognition to a wider group of residents for their contribution in transforming and caring for their neighbourhoods.

Unfortunately, there will be no citywide Birmingham in Bloom this year because we are in the process of reviewing the process for future competition.



OVERALL CITY WINNERS

Here are just a few of our Overall Gold Winners from 2020. Will you be a winner in 2022?



Mr & Mrs Hanson – Overall Gold Winners, Best Front Garden, Hodge Hill District



Mr Derek Taylor – Overall Gold Winner, Best Back Garden, Northfield District

3 Carl Barrett – Overall City Gold Winner, Supporting Engagement Award, Edgbaston District



Mrs Mariana Ababneth – Overall Gold Winner, Best Balcony, Window Box, Baskets or Pots, Hodge Hill District



Mrs Parveen Akhtar – Overall Gold Winner, Best Vegetable Patch/Container or Greenhouse, Hall Green District



Lynda Bradbury – Overall Gold Winner, Safer Communities Award, Hodge Hill District



2020 Overall City Winners' – roll of honour

Best Front Garden

WINNER	PRIZE	DISTRICT
Brian & June Hanson	Overall City Winner – Gold	Hodge Hill
Ellie Naughton	Overall City Winner – Silver	Selly Oak
Pauline & Keith Rowe	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Yardley

Best Back Garden

Derek Taylor	Overall City Winner – Gold	Northfield
Pauline Holness	Overall City Winner – Silver	Hodge Hill
Dewan Chadil	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Selly Oak

Best Balcony, Window Box, Baskets or Pots

Mariana Ababneth	Overall City Winner – Gold	Hodge Hill
Leilia Whiley	Overall City Winner – Silver	Yardley
Susan Thatcher	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Hall Green

Best Communal Garden

New Spring Street Communal Garden	Overall City Winner – Gold	Ladywood
Michael Thawe & Ian Tighe, Welsh House Farm Communal Garden	Overall City Winner – Silver	Edgbaston
Keith Dolphin, Archers Close Communal Garden	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Erdington

Best Vegetable Patch/Container or Greenhouse

Parveen Akhtar	Overall City Winner – Gold	Hall Green
Sandra Taylor	Overall City Winner – Silver	Northfield
Sam Cobourne	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Perry Barr
Shahul Chowdhury	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Ladywood

Good Neighbour Award

Sandra Fisher, Middlemore Sheltered Scheme	Overall City Winner – Gold	Northfield
Ian Tighe	Overall City Winner – Silver	Edgbaston

Safer Communities

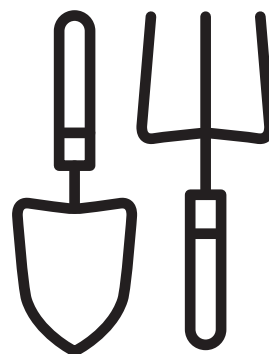
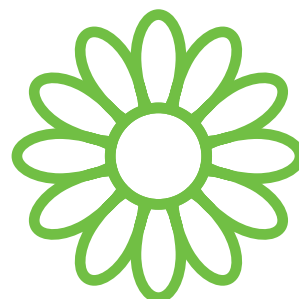
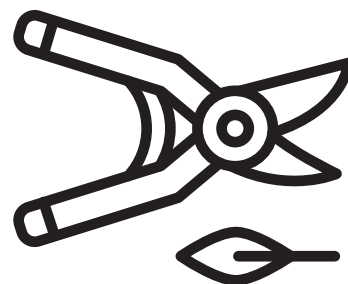
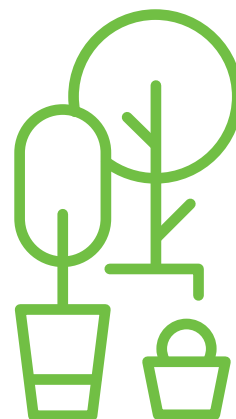
Lynda Bradbury	Overall City Winner – Gold	Hodge Hill
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Supporting Engagement Award

Carl Barrett, Neighbourhood Sheltered Officer	Overall City Winner – Gold	Edgbaston
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Tenant Led Group

Mark Broadfield	Overall City Winner – Gold	Erdington
David Wood, TMO, 4 Towers	Overall City Winner – Silver	Edgbaston
Susan Bryne	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Sutton Coldfield
Viki Taylor, Reaside Tenant Halls	Overall City Winner – Bronze	Northfield



Ian Tighe – Overall Gold Winner, Good Neighbour Award, Edgbaston District

Categories in 2020

- Best Garden (Front and Back)
- Best Balcony, Window Box, Baskets or Pots
- Best Communal Garden
- Best Vegetable Patch, Container or Greenhouse
- Good Neighbour Award (over 25s)
- Young Neighbour Award (under 25s)
- Tenant Led Group Award
- Safer Communities Award
- Supporting Engagement Award

Acknowledgements

We would like to take this opportunity in acknowledging all 10 of our District Gold, Silver and Bronze winners, and all those who participated in the Birmingham in Bloom competition, as well as our sponsors, Tenant Participation Officers and the Resident Involvement Team.

We offer a wide variety of volunteering opportunities for council and leasehold tenants to get involved and to have a voice in making a difference to housing services across Birmingham.

If you would like to get involved, you can visit Birmingham City Council's Resident Involvement webpage at [birmingham.gov.uk/getinvolved](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/getinvolved) or email residentinvolvement@birmingham.gov.uk

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