



Fair Ways

FAIR WAYS in BLOOM RETURNS



We welcome back Fair Ways in Bloom 2022 (FiB 2022).

Last year we preserved with FiB and conducted virtual judging with the Residential Family Centre winning the coveted Golden Gnome.

However, there is no substitute for the real thing, to 'smell the roses' and fully experience the sensory immersion that is a beautiful garden.

So this year we are so happy to return to on-site judging and looking forward to visiting in July.

Launched in 2018 with a total of 5 entries, Fair Ways in Bloom continues to be a growing success with staff, young people and service users in Fair Ways.

In 2021, the quality of entries was far beyond the judge's expectations, and not just flowers but all sorts of vegetables, pathways, garden seats, outdoor rooms and even sensory items.

But even better than that, the involvement and passion that young people and service users brought to the event was simply amazing and far beyond any expectations!

This year will really prove how innovative we can be.

So let's make Fair Ways in Bloom 2022, a bigger and better celebration of horticultural magnificence.



HOW TO WIN

A. Plan

It's really crucial to develop a plan for your FIB2022 entry.

(Huge hint – involve young people and/or service users).

Last year saw the presentation of fully drawn out plans to judges as a paper, a diary, daily/weekly tasks and photo records of the gardens progress. In turn, judges will mark each plan, and there will be an award for the best plan, so the more articulate the plan, the better. This year think about video diaries. Why not send them into us and we can release on an ongoing basis?

B. Create

Now set about making the plan a reality!

(Huge Hint – Involve young people and/or service users).

Each service will have £100 to spend as they wish. In 2018, one home was able to supplement this budget through the sale of vegetables and eggs produced in their garden. Don't just think flowers – what about sustainability? (Composting, re-using plastic bottles as automatic watering devices).

C. Presentation

Judging Day will be held in July 2022.

(Huge Hint – Involve young people and/or service users).

Depending on the number of entries to FIB2022, judging may take more than one day, but this will be confirmed nearer the time. This year's judges will view each entry, discuss the progress and look for any year on year progress / plans. We may need to have virtual judging' – how would you do that? Be innovative in your presentations. How cool would some time-lapse photography of a growing sunflower look?

Key Dates

Entry Date	10th June	Final date for homes / services to confirm whether they are entering FIB2020.
Judging Day	w/c 11th July w/c 18th July	Judging will be held the week commencing 11th July (if a longer time period is required due to judges unavailability, a date as close as possible will be booked).

Awards

Last year there were nine awards and these will be repeated again -

- Fair Ways in Bloom Champion 2022
- Design and Planning Award
- Best Presentation Award
- Innovation Award
- Sustainability Award
- Young Person / Service User involvement Award
- Best Newcomer Award
- Tallest Sunflower Award
- Best Hanging Basket Award

There is no excuse for every department not entering into these awards, as every Fair Ways location has the space to grow sunflowers or hang a basket.

Good luck and happy gardening!

A PRACTICAL GUIDE

Scope

Fair Ways in Bloom is a light hearted, fun, gardening type 'competition' between services in Fair Ways. All homes are requested but not obliged to enter. The event runs for several weeks, between June and July and is judged by a panel of Fair Ways staff with prizes awarded to the best entries. Fair Ways provides some funds towards the project to assist funding the plans.

Aims

1. Provide additional opportunities for staff and service users to increase engagement, build relationships and have fun.
2. Provide skills and experiences which service users may not have.
3. Staff and (where relevant) service users taking pride in and improving the aesthetic appearance of their work locations.
4. To have all work locations actively participate in the competition within three years.
5. Fair Ways in Bloom helps to positively promote the image of Fair Ways.

Methodology

1. Each work location to be offered the opportunity to develop a plan and enter Fair Ways in Bloom competition.
2. A budget of £100 to be provided to each work location.
3. This is a light hearted inter service competition where a panel of judges from within Fair Ways would judge all the entries but also offer advice and feedback to all entrants. The emphasis however is to be on fun, cooperation, and participation.
4. The winners would be awarded with a trophy and prize and internal publicity.

ENTERING

Competition Entry

To enter, send an email to news@fairways.co with your name and unit name before Friday 10th June.

Participation

There are three elements to any Fair Ways in Bloom participation - Planning, Create and Present

Planning

1. Each unit to develop a 'gardening plan' to improve the look of the service and make it more homely.
2. This plan can be large or small, long term or a simple, one-off project.
3. The plan must involve service users.
4. The plan will form part of the presentation to the judges.

Spending time making a good plan is important. An ideal plan would be for more than one year. This would be developed and added to year after year. However one-off projects can be just as effective. What was striking from the first year was just how much ownership was taken by young people and service users in planning and they were proud to display these on judging day.

In the first year, the judges expected ideas such as homes designing and planting some flower beds, a pathway, hanging baskets or herbs for cooking. In fact, the ideas that were presented far exceeded these.

No idea is too mad. In the first year, planting was presented in a chest of drawers, car tyres, and bottles. In year two, gardens involved the use of lights, mirrors and all sorts of props.

Make sure you keep a copy of the plan to show to the judges. There is a prize for the best plan.

Create

Once a plan is agreed upon, it needs to be made into a reality.

To do this requires some commitment from all homes, managers, staff and young people/service users.

Again, what was striking about the first year was just how much ownership and perseverance was shown by young people/service users.

Think about the scheduling of the plan – what needs to be done first, second etc. Are the tools available to do the job? Who will do it? Will external assistance be required? What about ongoing maintenance? Once the planting is done, who will maintain the entry, do the watering and weeding?

Think about timing. The judging day will be the w/c 11th July 2022. If you are entering the Tallest Sunflower competition, they take about 70 days to reach their full height, so they should be planted by early-mid April.

It's a good idea to record your progress, especially this year as there is a significant possibility that we may need to do virtual judging, and use this in the presentation to the judges.

Presentation

The judges will arrive to review the project in July. This is the big day, when the entry should be looking at its best.

Each service will know in advance what the judging criteria is (see below) and the judges will mark each entry based on these criteria.

The presentation is important as this is an opportunity to really showcase what has been done and achieved and tell some good stories about the journey.

Many of our homes and services have previously involved the young people and service users when making the presentation and this proved really effective.

NEED TO KNOW

Funding

Fair Ways will provide each entry with £100 to be used at the complete discretion of the entry. In 2022, records of all expenditure are to be kept and shown to the judges.

In the spirit of the competition and to ensure fairness, entrants are requested not to exceed this amount.

There may be some exceptions:

- Individual entries can supplement their £100 budget through innovative fundraising directly related to the entry. In 2018, one entry sold vegetables and eggs and put the money back into the Fair Ways in Bloom fund. If this happens, then a record should be kept and shown to the judges at the presentation.

Marking

- Services will be marked on a simple 1-3 or 1-4 scale for each category.
- The judges will view each work location and following the presentation, collectively discuss and agree their indicative scores for that location.
- Judges must absent themselves from scoring in their own work location.
- Judges may not be able to award final scores to individual entrants until all have been visited to ensure fair and accurate comparison.
- Each entrant will receive a detailed report after the event.
- The total score for an entrant will be the aggregate of the top three judges' scores in each category, leading to a total overall score for that entry.
- The winning work location will be the one that has the highest aggregate total score.
- In the event of tied score, the lead judge has the casting vote.

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Design & Planning	<p>Design and planning are the keys to a great Fair Ways in Bloom project. All service locations are different and just because one location has a large garden area will not mean that other services with less space are disadvantaged. It's about working with the space available.</p> <p>A good plan will transform part or all of a service location. A good plan will incorporate design, features, hard and soft landscaping, consider the outdoor space across all the seasons, and generally set the framework for the future.</p> <p>A great plan will be based over the longer term and each year will build on the work of the previous year. The plan will have a long term vision of what the service wants to achieve.</p>	<p>It is understood that there will be a degree of subjectivity in marking and the following guidance is provided.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal Design and Planning - Little evidence of design or planning presented.2. Good Design and Planning - Some Design and / or planning evidenced. Rationale evidenced. End product relates to plans.3. Outstanding Design and Planning - Design and / or Planning really well evidenced and thought through. Rationale evidenced. End product relates to plans. Future plans clearly evidenced to progress into future. <p>Judges will provide the reasons for their score in the post event report.</p>

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Innovation	<p>Innovation is all about ideas brought to the plan. This can literally be anything from a themed area, (e.g. A seaside or woodland scheme), to complimentary planting, sensory planting, hidden features, organic features, water features or adapting the features already in place in the chosen space and incorporating these in an innovative way.</p>	<p>It is understood that there will be a degree of subjectivity in marking and the following guidance is provided.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal Innovation - Little or token evidence of either2. Good Innovation - Examples that Innovation have been considered and applied.3. Outstanding Innovation - Innovation really well evidenced and thought through. A number of different features have been incorporated. <p>Judges will provide the reasons for their score in the post event report.</p>

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Sustainability	<p>Sustainability covers areas such as recycling, propagation, composting, minimising pesticides attracting wildlife or insects, efficient water saving or planting that meets longer term conditions.</p>	<p>It is understood that there will be a degree of subjectivity in marking and the following guidance is provided.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal Sustainability - Little or token evidence of either2. Good Sustainability - Examples that Innovation and Sustainability have been considered and applied.3. Outstanding Sustainability - Sustainability really well evidenced and thought through. A number of different features have been incorporated. <p>Judges will provide the reasons for their score in the post event report.</p>

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Young Person / Service User Involvement	<p>The involvement of Fair Ways young people / service users is a key component of Fair Ways in Bloom.</p> <p>This can range from occasional participation to ongoing consistent participation through all stages of the project.</p> <p>To maximise marking in this category, the following will be considered -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The numbers of young people / service users engaged in the project.• The extent of the engagement of young people / service users• Young people / service users that have undertaken their own projects within the plan• Great examples of joint young people / service user and staff engagement in the project.	<p>It is recognised that this category may be very subjective and getting a particular Service user to engage even on a few occasions could be an outstanding achievement.</p> <p>Judges are offered the guidance categories below but should exercise their collective discretion to judge this.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal, young people / service user involvement2. Some, young people / service user involvement3. Good, ongoing young people / service user involvement4. Outstanding, ongoing young people / service user involvement

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Presentation	<p>Presentation is about how the area will look on the day of the judges' visit.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to show the outdoor space at its best and tell the story of behind it.</p> <p>There is no prescription for the content of that presentation as that will be left to each entrant but the judging and marking categories in this document will apply.</p>	<p>No prescription for the content of presentations is provided.</p> <p>The judge's report after the competition will make specific comment on the quality of presentations and note examples of good or outstanding practice.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal Presentation2. Good Presentation3. Outstanding Presentation

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Best Newcomer	The award is open to any home / unit entering Fair Ways in Bloom 2022 for the first time. They will have shown solid foundations to grow their garden for the follow year's entry.	<p>It is understood that there will be a degree of subjectivity in the marking.</p> <p>Judges will provide the reasons for their score in the post event report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nominal Engagement2. Good Engagement3. Outstanding Engagement

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Tallest Sunflower	<p>As the name suggests, the service that produces the tallest sunflower, up to the day of judging will be the winner of the award.</p> <p>Sunflowers that continue to grow after judging day will not be considered for this award.</p> <p>The sunflower must have bloomed.</p> <p>If a service considers that their entry has peaked before judging day they may submit an entry into this award. Entry into this award may be by photographic evidence and to be provided in centimetres (cm).</p> <p>The judges reserve the right to measure all Tallest Sunflower entries and their decision will be final.</p>	<p>The tallest sunflower will win this award.</p> <p>The measurement will be in centimetres (cm).</p>

CATEGORY GUIDANCE

Category	Description	Marking Guidance
Best Hanging Basket	<p>As the name suggests, this will be a horticultural arrangement that is suspended from a structure. Typically a wall or fence.</p> <p>The award may be given to a single basket or a group of baskets that, in the judges opinion, are the best that they have seen across all services.</p> <p>Baskets do not necessarily have to be only floral in nature, they equally can contain vegetables.</p> <p>However hanging baskets must contain growing planting.</p>	<p>The most innovative and presented hanging basket will win this award.</p> <p>The judges decision will be final.</p>

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