

Northumbria in Bloom

Marking Document 2026

OVERALL MEDAL 2026: **Bronze**

NAME OF ENTRY: Easington Village	JUDGES (INCLUDING LEAD JUDGE EMAIL) : Allannah Robinson : robbo-ap1@virginmedia.com Nicola Halford (was Dexter)
CLASS: A - Small Village / Village	
NUMBER ON YOUR ELECTORAL ROLL (UP TO DATE AND ACCURATE) : 2500	
CONTACT (INCLUDE TELEPHONE AND MOBILE NO. AND EMAIL ADDRESS) : Paul Moore 01915279360 clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk	JUDGING DATES: 15/04/2026 22/07/2026

COMMENTS (OVERALL SUMMARY):

Easington is an original mining town with a strong historical pedigree demonstrated by the town hall grade 1 listed building. Spread over a large area there is a very spacious central green which allows residents to enjoy views over the town and hills beyond. There are activities and events held in the town hall grounds for residents and the Bloom group is very active in the floral displays across the town.

Spring Judges Feedback

OVERALL MEDAL LEVEL FOR
SPRING: **Bronze**

AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENT:

It is evident that many of the current beds are being well prepared for planting. The town green is an asset and should continue to be nurtured.

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

Continue to work on creating the plans for the current and proposed beds. Increase the number of spring bulbs and the planting areas. Encourage the community by informing them of the entry benefits to the town and to participate - perhaps via a parish magazine letter..? Cooperation between the Bloom group and the Parish Council will be essential for success. The plague stone is an historical asset to Pride of Place and a notice with information on its origin will, we're sure, surprise even the residents.

Summer

Judges Feedback

OVERALL MEDAL LEVEL FOR
SUMMER: **Bronze**

Section A - Horticulture

MEDAL LEVEL

Silver

AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENT:

There is a real achievement in the increase of flower displays in front of the town hall and containers across the town with a themed coordination of colour and planting. It is evident that both Parish Council and Bloom group have worked hard to achieve this is the last few months. The areas planted are colourful, abundant and well maintained. The entrance to the town was welcoming with the flowerbed under the town sign. The containers on the green were following the plant/colour theme and strategically placed to enable ease of watering. The railing baskets are colourful and enhance the green seat area. The bed and containers at the cemetery were a good splash of colour for visitors. There is some evidence of liaison with local business to support the entry via the flower containers and the hanging basket competition is commended. The Bloom group is a asset to the Council.

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

When planning the container planting, the accepted 'rule of thumb' is thriller, filler and spiller in other words to give impact to the display, a centre structural plant in the middle, the fillers - which you already have in the lobelia and the 'spiller' trailing plants, ivy etc which soften the edges resulting in outstanding displays. Taking account of the restrictions on the green, planting areas of spring bulbs would increase interest and impact in the entry. Perhaps include the results of the hanging basket competition in the portfolio and include a calendar of events held throughout the year.

Summer

Judges Feedback

OVERALL MEDAL LEVEL FOR
SUMMER: **Bronze**

Section B - Environment

MEDAL LEVEL

Silver

AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENT:

From the content of the portfolio the town is obviously proud of its history. It is evident that there are successful litter picks to keep the town tidy and the positive increase in the purchase of litter bins and dog bins has worked. The absence of street litter and dog mess on our route was excellent.

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

In respect of pride of place e.g. the plague stone, consider contacting Historic England who apparently facilitate grants for conserving artefacts, at the least a sign giving it's historic use would be beneficial. An information board on the green would add interest for residents - perhaps located where the proposed new benches are going. To encourage children perhaps consider 'heritage trail' markers and a project to add bird boxes to some of the trees on the green.

Summer

Judges Feedback

OVERALL MEDAL LEVEL FOR
SUMMER: *Bronze*

Section C - Community

MEDAL LEVEL

Bronze

AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENT:

The hanging basket competition includes residents in town activities and recognises achievement, litter picks and events held in the town hall grounds are an opportunity for the community to blend together.

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

Consider contacting local charities eg, WI/Brownies etc, to become involved in projects and raise funds to support the Bloom group which will enhance the overall entry. Sharing elements where applicable of the 3 Year Plan with residents would encourage their interest.