

Defining a Beautiful Scotland category by maximum geographical area

Previously, to determine which category an entrant competed in, an electoral roll figure was used. This has proved very difficult for entrants to obtain an accurate figure which represents their community and has also proved difficult for the Regions and Nations which run 'Bloom' to cross check. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), which co-ordinates the Britain in Bloom campaign and runs the UK Britain in Bloom finals, and of which Beautiful Scotland is a part of, set up a sub group to look at different options.

After considering several options the sub group has recommended that a geographically based system be used. The RHS is supporting any Regions and Nations that wish to 'pilot' the new system in 2019. The RHS will then thoroughly review all feedback from the 2019 pilots when considering which approach to take for 2020 onwards.

Keep Scotland Beautiful, which runs the Beautiful Scotland campaign, would like to pilot the solution the sub group came up with, to see if it is easier to use for entrants. We will cross check all entries against the 2018 electoral roll system to ensure there are no anomalies and will deal with these appropriately if necessary:

- Each category (e.g. Small Village, Medium Town etc.) will be defined by a maximum geographical area that can be assessed by the judges, rather than the electoral roll size.
- Entrants can select their appropriate category and choose where the centre of their geographical area will be based upon the area in which the group is active.
- We recommend using this easy mapping tool which has been designed to draw a radius of an appropriate size for each Bloom UK Finals category: <https://bloommap.org>. Full instructions for how to use the tool can be found at this link. If you require any assistance please email beautifulscotland@keepsotlandbeautiful.org rather than the email address listed.

NB: In Scotland we have a number of additional categories or have different names for a couple of categories. When using the mapping tool: for Small Village – select the 'Village' option; Medium Town – select the 'Town' option; Coastal Village – select the 'Large Village' option; Coastal Town – select the 'Small Coastal' option. We currently don't have a mapping tool for Wee Village; for 2019, please use electoral roll figure as in previous years (this can be obtained from your council's Valuation Joint Board). For Residential Community – no electoral roll figure or geographical area are required.

- Entrants will be asked to include an image of the geographical area in their portfolios (not applicable for Wee Village or Residential Community) . Please see example below of a map of Spofforth, Village Category, maximum radius of 0.25 miles (this image was obtained from the mapping tool):

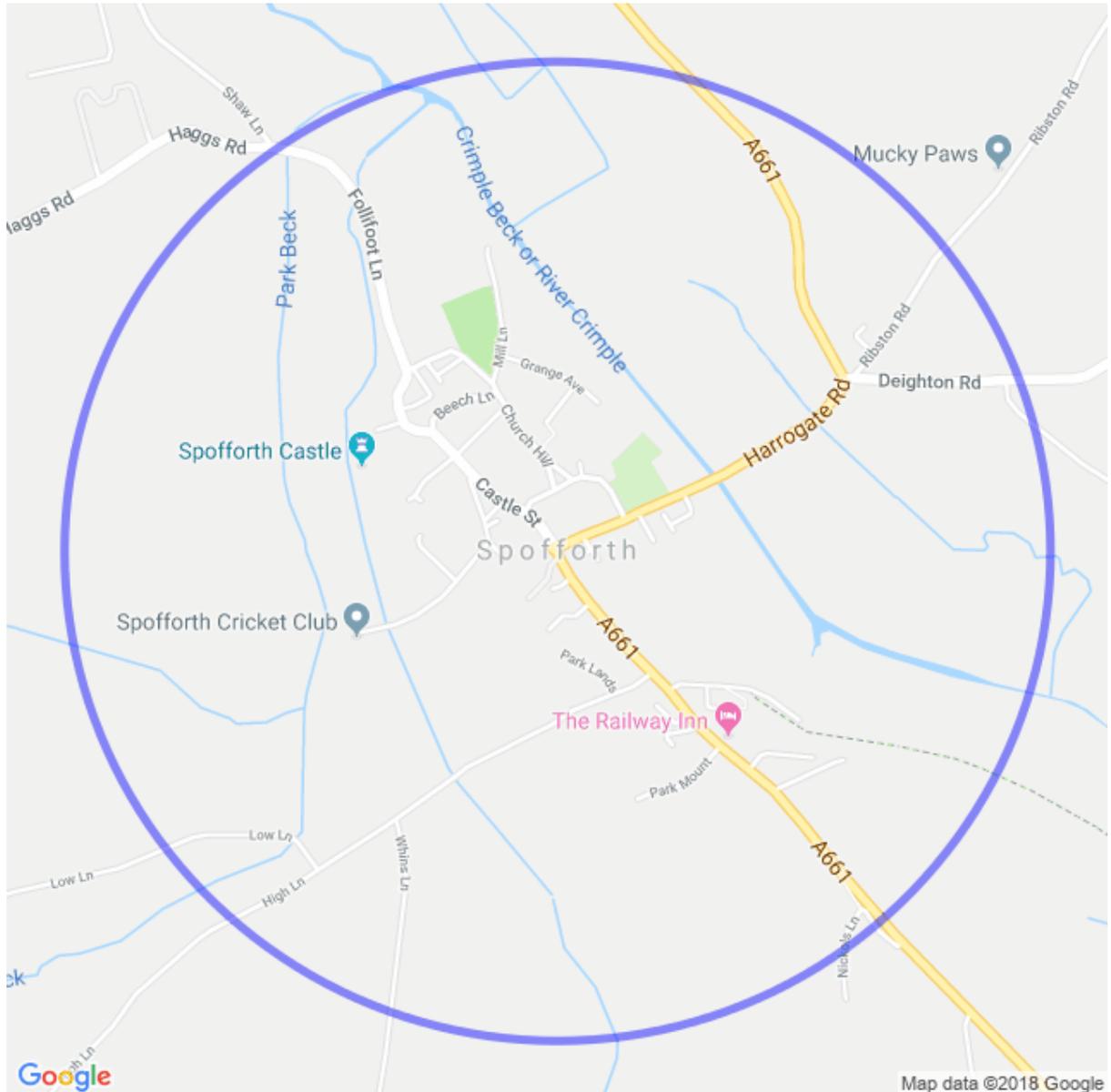


Fig 1: Spofforth, Village, maximum radius of 0.25 miles

The 2019 Beautiful Scotland Categories and Judging Allocations

Category	Geographical Area (maximum radius)	Judging time allocation (maximum – does not include presentation or press call)
VILLAGES		
• Wee Village	N/A – use electoral roll figure	1 hour
• Small Village	0.25 miles	1 hour 15 minutes
• Large Village	0.5 miles	1 hour 30 minutes
TOWNS		
• Small Town	0.75 miles	2 hours
• Medium Town	1 mile	2 hours 30 minutes

• Large Town	1.5 miles	3 hours
CITIES		
• Small City	2 miles	3 hours 30 minutes
• City	3 miles	4 hours
URBAN		
• BID, Town Centre or City Centre ^a	0.5 miles	2 hours 30 minutes
• Urban Community ^b	1 mile	2 hours 30 minutes
COASTAL^c		
• Coastal Village	0.5 miles	1 hour 30 minutes
• Coastal Town	1.5 miles	2 hours 30 minutes
RESIDENTIAL^d		
• Residential Community	N/A	1 hour

PLEASE NOTE: The above allocations **do not** include the 15-minute press call nor the 15-minute presentation.

- a. A **BID entry** must be an official business improvement district; a business improvement district is a defined area within which businesses pay an additional tax (or levy) in order to fund projects within the district's boundaries. For a list of bona fide BIDs please visit the UKBIDS website on www.ukbids.org. Town or City Centres are also welcome to enter this category.
- b. An **urban community** must be an identifiable community within a larger conurbation (sometimes described as an urban 'village or town'). It must have its own sense of identity and have its own "Bloom" group (a group dedicated to leading the "in Bloom" initiative locally). An urban community may not have its own Council, or be able to stand alone, but it will have its own 'sense of place'.
- c. A **coastal community** must be an area that actively encourages visitors with a resort, beach and/or harbour (which can be part of a commercial harbour), adjacent to or within easy and reasonable access of the local community.
- d. A **Residential Community**: residents coming together to improve their area. A 'Residential Community' could be, for example, a block(s) of flats, a Housing Association complex, sheltered housing, or a care or nursing home.