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Car park wins Warwick in Bloom

National Grid's green wall wins Warwick in Bloom

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- Green wall is the largest in Europe at 1,042m²
- 97,000 individual plants and 25 species make it a haven for wildlife
- Grid will now compete in Heart of England in Bloom competition

National Grid has scooped the top honour for its green wall as overall winner of Warwick's Britain in Bloom competition.

The green wall, which is the largest in Europe, covers the three storey car park at Grid's Warwick HQ ensuring the view from the surrounding area, including the top of Warwick Castle, remains a pleasant one.

Plants were chosen specifically to encourage wildlife and in particular the National Grid bees who live on site; however, the wall does incorporate a variety of Mint, Mentha, which acts a deterrent to wasps. Of the 25 species planted care was taken to insure plants would improve the local atmosphere by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen, particularly important in a car park environment.

There are 97,000 plants in the wall that bloom throughout the year ensuring birds can nest, bees are able to find nectar and employees and passers-by get a stunning view all whatever the season.

Head of corporate property Simon Carter said: "I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved for National Grid and for our home town of Warwick."



Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

1. Read more about the green wall in the Connecting blog <http://www.nationalgridconnecting.com/wonder-wall/>
2. For interviews please contact Gilly West, as below
3. Initial entry was in the 'commercial' category for Warwick in Bloom
4. National Grid will now go forward to compete in the prestigious Heart of England in Bloom competition.

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses, including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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