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# News Service

**28 August 2007**

COUNCIL RECEIVES GREEN FLAG AWARD FOR FOURTH YEAR RUNNING

## **Connaught Gardens named one of the best green spaces in England**

A RECORD 538 Green Flag Awards – the national standard for parks and green spaces – have been awarded this year to sites across the country. And Sidmouth's Connaught Gardens is among them.

The Green Flag Award scheme has been running for 11 years and this year has seen a 32 per cent rise in the number of winners. Winning parks and green spaces are judged to be welcoming, safe, well maintained and involve the local community.

Councillor Graham Liverton, who represents Sidmouth Town and is also the Council's Portfolio Holder Environment, said: "We are delighted that Sidmouth has retained the accolade after much hard work by our Parks and Gardens team.

"This award is much more than a pat on the back for a pretty garden. There are a whole range of issues, including presentation and access, that play a part in achieving success and our teams have worked extremely hard to ensure that visitors get the most out of our gardens. This is just another example of how the Council is focusing on improving the environment for residents and visitors alike."

**Ends**

The attached photograph shows Councillors Graham Liverton and Chris Gibbings, with two members of the Parks and Gardens team – Darren Cross and Alan Fowler, and the 2007 Green Flag.

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