

**Category D Judges: Steve Palframan (UK); Yori Tashiro (Japan), Sue Flack (UK)**

Judges' comments (day 2): "It has been rewarding to see today a range of communities all with their various strengths. We have also been struck by the level of improvement that has been made in all the criteria since the inception of the competition. It is too early to say if we have seen a winning community but for those communities presenting for the remainder of the competition, they have some tough acts to follow.

"There have been some excellent examples of best practice demonstrated – especially in the environmentally sensitive practices, healthy lifestyles and strategic planning categories.

Judges comments (day 3): "The 13 finalists in this year's category D have all been of a very high standard. Many of the communities face substantial problems but in the minds of the judges, are well placed to tackle these problems with strong leadership and dedicated and committed individuals.

"Communities must take advantage of learning from the others that have presented at the 2011 finals. Many of the problems that they face have been managed by others in the past. Our advice is not to reinvent the wheel but to network with these other communities to learn how to solve these difficult problems."