



Penrith Town Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Council welcomes new era for town centre events with a dedicated Events Officer role

Penrith Town Council is delighted to announce the appointment of Annabel Candler as its new Events Officer, marking an exciting new chapter for Penrith's events programme.

Following the success of Penrith May Day 2025, the Council has created this in-house role to organise and deliver Penrith May Day 2026 and develop a wider programme of events for the town. Feedback from residents has shown a strong appetite for the Council to continue delivering and expanding town events. Having an in-house Events Officer ensures that events are well-planned, responsive to community ideas, and provide high-quality experiences for residents and visitors alike.

Annabel brings extensive experience in event coordination and a strong track record in delivering successful community events in Penrith. She has been managing the much-loved Penrith Sparkle (Christmas Light Switch-On) for a number of years for Penrith BID after being behind other town centre events such as 'Penrith on a Plate' food festival and 'Penrith's Halloween Festival'. In her new role with the Council, Annabel will take the lead on Penrith May Day 2026 and support a wide range of other community-focused celebrations throughout the year.

Val Bowen, Chair of Penrith Town Council & Penrith Mayor, said:

"We are so pleased to welcome Annabel to the Council. This appointment puts our vision for the town as a creative and cultural place where quality of life is enhanced by a range of vibrant festivals, events and projects firmly into action."

"Her experience and creativity will help us deliver engaging events that reflect the community's interests, bring people together, and enhance the cultural life of Penrith."

Dan Harding, Vice Chair of Penrith Business Improvement District, added:

"Annabel has delivered the Sparkle event for Penrith BID exceptionally well, and I have no doubt she will excel in her new role at the Council."

"It's an exciting time for the town, and I look forward to seeing the Council build on its success of Penrith May Day 2025 with Annabel now in post."

Annabel is keen to hear ideas from the community and encourages residents to share suggestions for future events. Anyone with thoughts or ideas can contact her directly at eo@penrithtowncouncil.gov.uk