

Case Study



Shannon Airport, situated in County Clare, Ireland, is not just a gateway to the world but also a hub of economic activity. The Shannon Airport Group, which owns and operates the airport, is dedicated to facilitating international trade and tourism by providing seamless connectivity and state-of-the-art infrastructure.

In addition to managing the airport, the Group also runs a thriving commercial property business, which offers a range of services and facilities to businesses seeking to establish or expand their operations in Shannon and across the Midwest of Ireland. Our property portfolio consists of a vast total of 3,300 acres, and a massive space of 3.5 million sq. feet that accommodates one of the largest business parks outside of Dublin.

With a focus on promoting sustainability and innovation, the Shannon Airport Group plays a vital role in driving growth and development for our region and beyond.

PIC: Arek Gdulinski—naturally re-generated wildflower meadow



‘The Shannon Airport Group has ambitious plans to support nature on its land. In appointing a new Landscape Contractor, this year, through a strict Procurement process, we used the ‘Request For Tender’ to indicate the requirement that the appointed Landscape Contractor is not only signed up to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP) but understands and is able to deliver on, the AIPP evidence-based actions.’

**Arek Gdulinski, Sustainability Specialist,
The Shannon Airport Group**

Future Plans:

The Shannon Airport Group has the following at planning stage: Invasive Species Land Surveys and hedgerow surveys, with a goal to produce management plans and integrate them with business project management procedures. We will include use of the advice/mapping platform, www.invasives.ie, as part of this process.

The Shannon Airport Group will also engage with wider nature-related stakeholders including Clare County Council and Ireland’s Business for Biodiversity platform (BFBI) www.businessforbiodiversity.ie.



www.pollinators.ie



National Biodiversity Data Centre
Documenting Ireland’s Wildlife



In line with the AIPP evidence-based ‘Businesses: actions to help pollinators’ guidelines, the Shannon Airport Group has delivered the following actions:	Evidence-based Action delivered:
We have retained a woodland area and are also retaining Bramble and Ivy as key pollinator food sources.	Action 2 Develop a plan to protect existing sources of food and shelter
We have reduced mowing across all of their sites and have specifically designated 112529m2 to create a naturally regenerated long wildflower meadow through reduced mowing (once a year).	Action 6 Create a long-flowering meadow (reduced mowing)
We are managing hedgerows to allow for bee nesting and early spring flowers.	Action 7 Maintain or plant a native flowering hedgerow
We planted a range of AIPP recommended (pollinator friendly bulbs/ shrubs in planters/pots	Action 8 Plant native, local provenance, pollinator-friendly trees and shrubs
We have designated 1 south facing earth bank (for solitary mining bees) across the site, installed 4 bee hotels	Action 15 & 16 Provide nesting habitat for mining solitary bees AND cavity-nesting solitary bees
We have eliminated pesticides on all sites except for spot-spraying when absolutely necessary.	Action 17 Eliminate pesticide use
Communication actions re ‘value chain’: Employees: Pollinator Awareness Video circulated to employees and on office screens. Staff Competition – Biodiversity Theme. Local Community: Local School Workshops, Supporting Shannon Town Community Wetlands group.	Action 26 Promote the AIPP to employees on a monthly basis Action 24 Sponsor pollinator activities in your local area
Suppliers the Shannon Airport Group included the AIPP as part of the ‘Request For Tender’ for the Landscape Contractor contract.	Action 32 Ensure the AIPP recommendations are included in procurement and tendering

AIPP Page Reference: [Resources for Business » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan \(pollinators.ie\)](#):

Action 2: Page 8 | **Action 6:** Page 10

Actions 7 & 8: Page 12 & 13 | **Actions 15 & 16:** Page 17

Action 17: Page 18 | **Actions 24 & 26:** Page 23 & 26

Action 32: Page 28

Remember with reduced mowing, you must remove cuttings.

