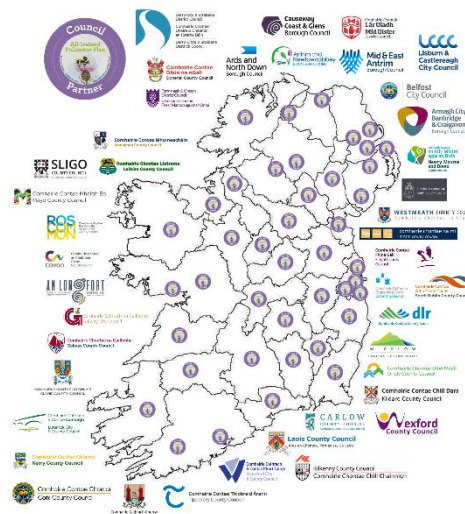


All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025



COUNCIL PARTNERS: ANNUAL REVIEW 2024



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta
agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife Service

As part of the Council Partner agreement for the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, each Council or Local Authority Partner provides a mandatory update on their activities in support of the Plan each year.

Local authorities are doing significant work to protect biodiversity and pollinators, as reflected in this 2024 Annual Review document. Now in its ninth year, the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan has gathered support from all 42 councils and local authorities on the island of Ireland, as well as over 100 governmental organisations and NGOs, and thousands of community groups, businesses, farmers, schools, sports clubs, faith communities, and individuals.

The work of local authorities has continued to grow in scale and ambition. In 2024, this work has included extensive meadow restoration, development of local provenance stock through local seed harvesting, habitat mapping projects to identify, protect, restore and establish areas for pollinators, and significant efforts to reduce pesticide use.

The 2024 All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Council Conference took place in Tallaght in June in collaboration with South Dublin County Council. Over 100 council staff attended from a variety of departments from across the island of Ireland. In response to common challenges, the focus of the conference was on meadow management and pesticide alternatives. Some presentations can be viewed on the [Council Conference homepage](#). A huge thank you to all speakers and South Dublin County Council for hosting.

Following the conference, the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan conducted an online survey into 'Pesticide Alternatives', which was sent to a range of supporters and partners, including Council Partners. The survey's aim was to gather information on pesticide alternatives currently being used on the island of Ireland, and the experiences and challenges of using them. Many Council Partners contributed to the survey, and the results will be released in 2025, to help further inform pesticide reduction plans.

Pollinating insects are still in decline on our island, but since the Pollinator Plan began, local pollinator populations have increased where actions have been taken to help them. If we keep going, and continue to do more, we can create an island where pollinators can survive and thrive.

This report demonstrates some of the excellent work being done by councils to tackle the biodiversity emergency. Each Council is different, as reflected in the varied areas of focus and the wide range of actions reported. The Pollinator Plan advocates prioritising the protection of existing natural and seminatural habitats, creating natural meadows through reduced mowing rather than using wildflower seed mixes, sustainable pollinator-friendly planting, and eliminating pesticide use. The intention of this report is to showcase the positive work being carried out by councils, and to provide a mechanism for knowledge exchange.

In the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, Objective 2 is to make public land more pollinator friendly. Over the next phase, we want to better support Council Partners by providing more and updated evidence-based resources, more technical advice, and more knowledge exchange opportunities. Taking action for pollinators benefits wider biodiversity and contributes positively to climate, green infrastructure and health and wellbeing initiatives. We want to do more to explain these connections and ensure that pollinator-friendly actions taken by Councils are fully recognised for the variety of benefits they bring.

We sincerely thank all our Council Partners for their support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in 2024.

Kate Chandler, National Biodiversity Data Centre



Background

A 15-member steering group provides oversight of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025. The Pollinator Plan is managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre and actively addresses a time-critical biodiversity challenge. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, register number 730718.

Councils can play a leading role in making the island of Ireland a place where pollinators can survive and thrive. Since the launch of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in 2015, most Councils/Local Authorities have been taking actions to support pollinators on public land in line with the evidence-based guideline document published: Councils: actions to help pollinators. Many Councils also work with local community groups, residents' associations, and schools to help raise awareness of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. To better support these efforts and promote the work being undertaken, a dedicated framework was developed in 2019 to recognise Councils as formal partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Council Partners

Partners are those councils who sign the [partnership framework](#) and return it to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. In doing so they commit to carrying out evidence-based actions to support pollinators and to reporting their activities annually. All 42 Councils across the island of Ireland have now partnered with the Pollinator Plan.

2024 annual review

Each council partner's point of contact was asked to provide short bullet point updates on their activities in 2024. They were contacted by email. Where an update was not provided, this is stated. Where updates are not provided across more than one year, the council will be approached to determine if they will remain as a partner.

Each partner was provided with a template to assist the process. Partners were requested to follow this general format. Wider biodiversity actions, not of direct relevance to pollinators, have not been included. Councils are listed alphabetically in the 2024 annual review.

Tidy Towns

Tidy Towns groups are encouraged to create a buzz in their community and enter the Local Authority Pollinator Award in the national Tidy Towns competition. The award, with a €10,000 prize fund, encourages Tidy Towns groups to implement pollinator-friendly actions as part of the Tidy Towns competition. The Local Authority Pollinator Award supports the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and is sponsored by the Heritage & Biodiversity Offices of local authorities across the Republic of Ireland, in partnership with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Although it is not always mentioned under the respective council updates, many local authorities contribute to this prize fund.



2024 updates provided by Council partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Council/ Local Authority name	Date joined as Partners	Key actions taken in support of the Pollinator Plan in 2024 (up to 5)
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our One Million tree planting campaign continues with approximately 10,000 new trees planned to be planted with native saplings, our Borough tree total is 270,000. • Green Flag Awards: 29 Green Flag Awards were awarded throughout the Borough in 2024. • Ongoing advice provision by Council’s Parks Development Officers to schools, community groups, sports clubs and businesses on how to create pollinator friendly greenspaces and where to find relevant funding pots, e.g. Keep NI Beautiful: “School Pollinator Garden” grants scheme. • A biodiversity-themed events programme was rolled out in 2024 with our key partners, in the delivery of educational walks, talks and practical conservation work at our key parks and open spaces. • Wildflower signage has been developed to support the wildflower improvement initiative, aimed at raising the awareness about the ecological benefits these signs will be added to existing Wildflower sites. • New Wildflower meadows have been created in seven sites within the Borough. • Education evenings were held throughout the Borough in May to celebrate ‘World Bee Day’ the purpose of these events was to educate people on bee health and conservation.
Ards & North Down Borough Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewilding Initiative: The area of land managed for pollinators has increased to a total area of 90,000m² across 16 council owned amenity sites. This includes six sites added to the portfolio in 2024 as well as two new wildflower meadows created in 2023. The two new wildflower meadows were created using seed harvested from a local Country Park less than 2km away. Both wildflower meadows are situated along one of Buglife’s B-lines. It is the intention that the current sites will continue to be subject to the alternative management techniques with a view to encouraging increased variety of species. A further audit of grassland maintenance across the Borough was undertaken by Parks and Cemeteries officers and operational teams with the view to extend our existing rewilding portfolio with a target total of 120,000m² of grassland being managed for biodiversity. • Pollinator friendly planting: In recent years the style of planting within ANDBC Parks has changed to reflect the need for greater biodiversity and sustainability. During 2024 planting season:

- A total of 1,636 pollinator friendly plants have been planted at various council owned bedding area locations across the Borough.
- A total of 1,876 naturalised pollinator friendly bulbs have been planted at various locations across the Borough.
- **In Bloom Initiative 2024:** This initiative encourages residents to think about their local environment and the positive impact they can have on it. Themes of community participation and environmentally sustainable processes attracted participants across a wide demographic. One of the categories of the competition focused solely on ‘Gardening for Wildlife’, the 2024 winner of this group showcased an impressive wildlife friendly garden with pollinators in mind.
- **Stand4Trees Initiative:** This ambitious yet achievable tree planting and promotion initiative aims to engage local communities to help increase and enhance the level of tree cover on Council land and that of other agencies and private landowners. One of the actions within the STAND4TREES initiative is to plant a tree for every person in the Borough, that is approximately 160,000. Through planting season 2023-2024, 18,269 new trees were planting in the borough. To date ANDBC has planted over 45,000 new trees. In addition, the council along with parks volunteers planted over 3,000 meters worth of native hedgerow as well as a total of four community orchards in the last tree planting season (2023-2024).
- **Herbicide Reduction Policy:** Following agreement on a Herbicide Reduction Policy, a Task and Finish Group was established among ANDBC Parks & Cemeteries staff to focus on the creation of herbicide free sites, evaluating them in terms of control success and also public perception. The Task and Finish Group have identified several key areas for the reduction in the use of herbicide. These include:
 - The cessation of treating kerb lines and mature tree bases as appropriate.
 - Allowing boundary edges to naturalise.
 - Increased used of weed suppressant mulching
 - Localised herbicide free zones within selected areas.
 - Overall, the above measures to date have led to a 30% reduction in chemical weed control. Going forward and to reduce the use of herbicide further, the following techniques are currently being explored and trialled:
 - Additional mechanical sweeping equipment deployed across the teams.
 - Non-Herbicide based products trialled for use on hard surfaces.
 - Exploration of Electrical Weed Control

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parks & Cemeteries service have purchased a foam stream unit to be used on various hard surfaces across the Borough. ▪ Parks & Cemeteries service have purchased two battery pedestrian type powered mechanical brushes. ▪ Parks & Cemeteries service are seeking a company in England, Kersten, to provide a demo of Electric weeders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & Awareness: In August 2024 a Bioblitz was held at one of the Councils Country Parks. Over the course of the 2-day event the public were encouraged to attend and participate in a number of workshops facilitated by 15 local naturalists with expertise in a number of different fields. Workshops included moth trapping and identification and workshops focusing on promoting the importance of our pollinators. Participants learned how to carry out a FIT count (Flower Insect Timed Count) and the importance of this citizen science survey in measuring change in our local biodiversity. The workshops also focused on a new online recording 'app' showing surveyors how to carry out a FIT Count and upload the results all in one go.
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of approx. 150 acres for wildflowers and wildflower meadows through planting or conservation grazing throughout the ABC Council area. • Continue the 'let it grow don't mow' campaign across the council ward with some 23 road verge sites left for wildflowers and grasses to flower for nature including pollinators. • Tree planting initiatives and events taking place with local communities and through grant funded projects. This includes 7km of riparian planting completed on the Tynan, Callan, and Blackwater rivers. The trees included flowering native fruit trees. • Survey work taking place such as South Lake leisure centre for the Cryptic White Wood as well as surveyed Peatlands Park along with Butterfly Conservation for Large Heath Butterfly. All species encountered at both sites were recorded. • Training for staff on peatland assessment and wildflower and grasses identification.
Belfast City Council	May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast's Buzzing: A two-year partnership project between Buglife, Belfast City Council, National Trust and other organisations has restored 16 hectares of wildflower habitat across public sites in Belfast. This has increased the area of available flower rich habitat for pollinating insects, creating habitat corridors and stepping-stones enabling insects to disperse and re-colonise sites and the surrounding landscape. Activities included scarifying and oversowing areas with locally sourced seed from existing BCC meadows, scrub removal, sowing Yellow Rattle and scything with community volunteers. Events included FIT Count training and educational talks to staff, schools and community groups. "Belfast's Buzzing" has supported threatened species including the vulnerable Buffish Mining Bee (<i>Andrena nigroaenea</i>) and the endangered Red-tailed Cuckoo-bee (<i>Bombus (P.) rupestris</i>) amongst many other insects.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Cemeteries Management – City Cemetery: Following the restoration of the wildflower meadows, the diversity of key pollinator groups increased significantly between 2016 and 2023. We recorded 2.5 times as many bees and hoverflies and four times as many butterflies in 2023 than the baseline year of 2016. There is evidence of a good population of bees on the site, with 11 species recorded during the study including two with a Vulnerable red list status and one Priority Species (<i>Andrena denticulata</i>). Several bee parasitoids were recorded. A recommendation of the report was to change the management of other areas of grassland, including within the adjacent Falls Park, which was enacted in 2024. This year two of our parks were recognised in the Green Flag Pollinator Award with Falls Park coming in as runner up and Musgrave taking the top honour. In Falls Park amenity grassland mowing was altered in parts to meadow management while at Musgrave the continuation of sensitive management and planting of species rich hedgerows was acknowledged. • Biodiversity and Climate Projects on species rich grassland, upland heath, fen and permanent pasture: Outputs include ecological data to inform existing and future site management and monitoring, identification of data gaps and risks such as invasive alien species. Recommendations for future management and enhancement including opportunities to contribute to climate resilience. • Recording: Partners such as Lagan Valley Regional Park and Belfast Hills Partnership undertake a number of Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme and UKBMS transects across the city. In 2024 Belfast participated in the City Nature challenge for the first time with over 60 participants and 3,000 observations. Activities included engagement workshops, a bumble walk and talk and site bioblitzes. • Wild Belfast Safari in the City: Belfast City Council has funded a year long programme of events to engage the citizens of Belfast to celebrate and explore the wildlife of Belfast. This was undertaken through a series of living murals aiming to contribute to the conservation of wildlife, with one mural focussed on nocturnal pollination. The activity programme included events such as moth trapping, wildflower and bee identification.
<p>Carlow County Council</p>	<p>July 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the County Carlow Green Infrastructure Strategy, the urban pollinator foraging network map was extended by surveying and mapping of the community-managed spaces in Carlow’s eight main towns. The survey, which examined 95 sites across the eight towns, sought to evaluate the context, structure, and management of urban green spaces, to establish a baseline dataset for future engagement of resident groups and local communities in allocating space for pollinators. Overall, while the survey results depict urban areas in Carlow as largely lacking in species diversity, they also underscore the potential for substantial enhancement and the willingness of communities to contribute. With a few straightforward measures, along with time and patience, the county could potentially transform 65% of the surveyed areas into refuges for pollinators. • Following completion of the Heritage Keepers programme (Carlow and Blackstairs HK programme 2024), the County Carlow Environmental Network chose to “Fill a Gap” in the Urban Pollinator Foraging Network, by selecting one of the sites identified

		<p>by the above survey in Carlow Town and enhanced the space for pollinators through both tree planting and Yellow Rattle planting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Hare’s Corner Traditional Orchards, using local varieties, were planted across Co. Carlow, preceded by an Irish Seed Savers Association training workshop and planting demonstration, highlighting their role in Climate Mitigation. • Four nature-based solution projects have been completed within Carlow town which include a suite of rain gardens/ bio retention areas. Planting in these gardens was designed to offer maximum support to our pollinators in keeping with our Green Infrastructure Strategy. • Ongoing biodiversity works at Duckett’s Grove House and Walled Gardens includes Installation of our essential Overflow Car Park. The expansion of parking arrangements at Duckett’s Grove was essential due to health and safety issues for our growing number of visitors. Careful consideration was given to this project to ensure the project was in accordance with of our commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity. Surrounded by a soil bund, our fully permeable green car park is now alive with locally harvested and sourced native flowers, enhancing the landscape and supporting local biodiversity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tree planting: as part of our sustainability journey at Duckett’s Grove, we newly planted 54 trees to enhance the grounds and help promote biodiversity. Tree species included <i>Prunus</i>, <i>Sorbus</i> and <i>Taxus baccata</i> ‘Fastigiata’.
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Carlow town rain gardens

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

August 2022

- **Don't Mow Let it Grow:** The Estates team continue to develop and manage the Don't Mow Let It Grow sites throughout the Borough, managing our grasslands for pollinators. The Estates Team has extended the Don't Mow Let It Grow scheme to include an area on the A26 Frosses Road Ballymoney. This area was cut by DFI Roads before being included in the Don't Mow Let It Grow Scheme. This increases the total area to over 13 hectares for grassland being managed as meadows for pollinators. There is currently over 12 hectares for grassland being managed as meadows for pollinators.
- **DFI partnership:** The Estates team continue to implement a pilot scheme with DFI Roads through the Don't Mow Let It Grow project. The council estates team manage the road verges and roundabouts on the outskirts of Coleraine as short-flowering meadows for pollinators, creating a wildlife corridor around the town. By cutting and lifting the grass, the Estates Team has reduced the number of schedule cuts from 10-15 days to 6-8weeks. As part of this pilot scheme, the Estates team and DFI Roads also took part in No Mow May. This allowed Cuckooflowers to develop and reseed prior to cutting in certain areas. Please see link below to more information on No Mow May.
 - [Infrastructure Minister backs No Mow May to promote biodiversity | Department for Infrastructure.](#)
 - [Minister O'Dowd visits Coleraine for 'No Mow May' launch](#)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Estates team commenced a planting project with the local primary schools. Each school received hanging baskets with plants and green compost. The school children planted the hanging baskets. The hanging baskets were returned to the Council polytunnel for nurturing and watering until ready to erect in the town centre. A pole is labelled for each school and the hanging baskets were put up in the town centres for all the communities to see. This encourages young people to get involved in planting and the environment. This has been a very positive and enlightening experience for the young people. • The Council Estates team are continuing to introduce further expansion of wildflower pollinator beds in towns and villages throughout the Borough. We have expanded our wildflowers portfolio to several more towns across the Borough. • After another hardworking year by the Estates team. They have received compliment for providing award-winning pollinator-friendly floral displays. This year the team won ‘Best Large Town’ in Ulster in Bloom. • The estates team are continually perfecting and refining their bespoke local seed mix. The Estates Team has also further increased the number of pollinator friendly shrubs into our permanent planting.
Cavan County Council	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no updates from this council for 2024.
Clare County Council	February 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening team activities: In 2024 the Gardening Team implemented ‘No Mow May’ at Áras Contae an Chláir (main Council Office Headquarters). The aim of this measure was to encourage insect pollinators and plant diversity in line with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and to publicly demonstrate how simple measures can be implemented at a local level to support insects, plants, and nature. Information signage was erected at various locations around the building to raise awareness as to the action and its benefits. This grassland management produced a flush of Daisies, Dandelions, Red and White Clover, Cuckooflower, Hawksbeard, Selfheal and Bird’s-foot trefoil. The flowers provide a nectar and pollen source for pollinators. It is intended to monitor the plant species diversity changes over time given this mowing regime. In 2024, a new section of CCC headquarters in Ennis was managed as a long-term wildflower meadow. The Gardening Team has been involved for the past four years in an ongoing review of practices to align with the various actions for Councils, as set out in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Some of the key measures are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ban on use of herbicides by Gardening Team. ○ Implementing pollinator-friendly perennial planting in place of annual bedding species at appropriate locations. This action will continue to be developed and expanded in future years. ○ Provide pollinator nesting habitat in the recently completed woodland garden at HQ. ○ Identifying and protecting existing areas for pollinators at HQ and Waterpark House. ○ Alternating mowing of grassy areas – as set out above and to be further developed in 2024.

- **Roundabouts in Ennis town environs:** In 2024 new pollinator signs were designed and funded by Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer. The Biodiversity Officer teamed up with Ennis Tidy Towns to install pollinator signage and linked in with Ennis Municipal District Office to adopt pollinator friendly mowing regimes at Rocky Road Roundabout, the Clareen Roundabout, Cappahard Roundabout, Beechpark Roundabout, and the Tulla road. The roundabouts support wildflowers such as Ox-eye daisy, Hawksbeard, Bird's-foot trefoil and Cuckooflower.
- **Sports Complexes:** Clare County Council is implementing and managing pollinator friendly grassland management regimes at Lees Road Sports Complex (since 2019) (six-week short cut meadow) and Kilrush Sports Complex (wildflower meadow since 2023).
- **Clarecastle GAA Club** has seen the adoption of pollinator friendly mowing regimes in conjunction with Clarecastle Tidy Towns and the Biodiversity Officer.
- **Return to Nature Clare Church Biodiversity Project:** In 2024, Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer funded and project led a biodiversity initiative on 12 church grounds in Co. Clare. A pollinator plan was developed for each Church and pollinator signage was installed. Nine of the churches had adopted wildflower meadows on church grounds that include:
 - St Imys church, **Killimer**
 - St. Mary's Church, **Mullagh**
 - St. Senan's Church, **Cooraclare**
 - Church of the Immaculate Conception, **Kilkee**
 - St Senan's Church, **Kilrush**
 - St Marys Church, **Moy**
 - St Marys Church, **Inagh**
 - St John the Baptist Church, **Kilmaley**
 - SS Peter and Paul's Church, **Clarecastle**

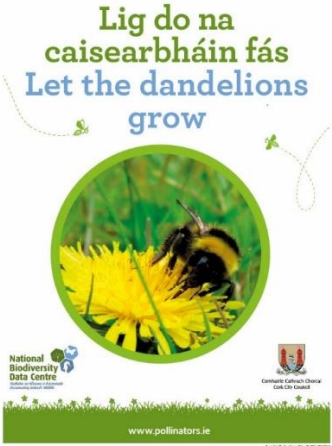

In addition, pollinator friendly fruit trees and certified organic pollinator friendly bulbs and pollinator friendly native plants were planted at the aforementioned churches and at the following churches: St Joseph's Church, **Kilnamona**, and St Peter's Church, **Broadford**.

- **Road Infrastructure Projects:** Clare County Council Infrastructure projects such as the R469 Quin Road Cycle Lane and Pedestrian Facilities project, St Flannans Roundabout and cycle lanes and the N67 Kilrush Road Ennis-off road cycle/footpath have all adopted pollinator friendly planting as part of these projects since 2017.
- **Community Climate Action Programme:** In 2024, Clare County Council’s Community Climate Action Officer supported seven communities through planting pollinator friendly native fruit trees and pollinator friendly native hedge species including: Clare GAA – Caherlohan Centre of Excellence Tulla; Carrigaholt; Lisdoonvarna; Smith O’Briens GAA Club; Clooney Spencilhill; College Green (Ennis); and Inagh.
- **Clare Schools Biodiversity Programme:** Inagh National School, Parteen National School and St. Flannan’s secondary school (Ennis) are investigating areas on school grounds to adopt pollinator friendly mowing regimes to develop a wildflower meadow following workshops funded by the biodiversity officer. Pollinator signs were provided by Clare County Council’s Biodiversity Officer.
- **Communities:** In 2024, Clare County Council’s Biodiversity Officer met various community groups to advocate for pollinator friendly management regimes to be included in their village/town local biodiversity action plans. Many of these communities are applying for funding under the Community Foundation Ireland’s Biodiversity Fund.
- **Visitor Destination Sites: Vandeleur Walled Garden, Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre and Loop Head:** in 2024, the Biodiversity Officer met with the operations section of Vandeleur gardens and Loop head to develop wildflower meadows at the visitor destination centres under the Council’s Tourism Directorate. The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre are managing wildflower meadows for pollinators.



• **Clare Church Biodiversity Project: Wildflowers meadows at Inagh Church, Clarecastle Church and Kilkee Church.**

<p>Cork City Council</p>	<p>September 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Gardening Courses and School Educational Visits: Cork City Council with Heritage Council funding provided two free sustainable gardening courses on gardening for biodiversity and climate action and on native Irish trees and how to grow trees from seeds, cutting and how to maintain trees and hedgerows. Both courses were available to Cork City community groups and Cork City Council Staff. In addition, Biodiversity Officers delivered talks to support schools undertaking the Biodiversity Flag, as part of the Green Schools programme. Visits aimed at supporting schools in implementing the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and enriching the school environment for biodiversity. • Pollinator-friendly perennial planting within Cork City. The Parks & Recreation Department continues to add new planted areas with pollinator-friendly planting throughout Cork City. Two new large areas were added in 2024. The first is along the N20 Blackpool bypass with over 1,250 plants and the second within Marina Park Phase 1 with over 1,000 plants. • Installation of Solitary bee posts in our five Green Flag Parks & City Hall. Cork City Council and The Irish Bee Conservation Project (IBCP) installed 13 solitary bee posts within our five Green Flag Parks in Ballincollig Regional Park, Fitzgerald’s Park, Shalom, Gerry O’Sullivan Park and Douglas Community Park and two posts were installed within our pollinator-friendly beds at the City Hall. To date four posts of the posts have been used by cavity nesting solitary bees. • Wildflower meadow practices and raising awareness: For the second year in a row, the Parks & Recreation Department in Cork City Council selected several open spaces within Cork City to be left uncut till the end of April and let the Dandelions and other wildflowers grow. A social media campaign was launched with our communications team. • Native tree/ hedgerow planting within Parks and Open Spaces in Cork City and Native Tree giveaway during National Tree Week. Cork City’s Parks & Recreation Department with the Tree Officer planted 3,800 native tree whips in several Cork City’s Parks and Open Spaces. Tree species included (Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Spindle, Hazel, Alder, Downy birch, Oak and Holly). During National Tree Week, Cork City Council’s Tree Officer gave away 2,500 native tree whips within an hour at Tramore Valley Park. • Pollinator-friendly Spring bulb planting with Green Spaces for Health and community gardens at The Lough, Park Owen and Ring Mahon House. Pollinator friendly bulbs (Crocus, Grape hyacinth, Winter Aconite and Snowdrops) are being planted by volunteers with community gardens and school groups at The Lough, Park Owen and Ring Mahon House in the first week of November.
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		  <p>Signage installed around Cork City to promote letting the Dandelions grow and one of our locations at Clashdub Park, Togher.</p>
<p>Cork County Council</p>	<p>November 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no updates from this council for 2024.
<p>Derry City and Strabane District Council</p>	<p>April 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Brook Park we have reduced the extent of our annual bedding and have increase pollinator friendly perennials. • Our Don't Mow grasslands continue to be managed for pollinators. • The Parks team have moved from using traditional compost to food waste compost, New World Products. • Derry City & Strabane District Councils continue to be glyphosate free, with the exception of treating invasive species. • We are currently developing Acorn Farm, at St Columns Park, for a unique urban growing space within the city, helping families take the first steps towards growing their own food. As part of the site development there will be planting for pollinators, which will raise awareness of the value and importance of pollinator in for our foods.
<p>Donegal County Council</p>	<p>January 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC continued our 'Don't Mow' and dedicated pollinator friendly areas in Buncrana covering eight hectares and increased to new areas across the County including Bundoran seafront walk, erecting AIPP template 'Let it Bee' signs. With the appointment of a Biodiversity Officer, DCC are reviewing our mowing areas at a MD level, to scope out additional areas that can be managed better for pollinators in 2025. • Pollinator surveys in four Council parks across the County to inform planting and management choices into 2025.

- **Increased awareness raising** locally on AIPP through targeted talks and workshops covering pollinators by Biodiversity Officer, reaching over 600 people
- **Funding support from Biodiversity and Heritage Office towards County Library Pollinator workshops** for Cruinniú na nÓg School workshops reaching over 200 children and for 'Wonders of the Wild' workshops as part of Wainfest reaching about 120 children
- **Bespoke advice** through site visits with Tidy Towns and other community groups on how to improve local areas for pollinators and biodiversity.



Pollinator meadow in Bundoran

Dublin City Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no updates from this council for 2024.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewilding of Churches: DLR have held events and workshops in 2024 to advise and help DLR church communities to rewild areas of their lands including for pollinators and have provided site visits and site-specific advice to encourage rewilding projects. • Local Seed Harvesting and Conservation Grazing: DLR continue to carry out more large-scale seed harvest of our local seed in our large wild meadows and conservation grazing. The seed is then stored and used locally for projects and for the creation of pollinator areas from our local seed. DLR’s Biodiversity Officer presented this project at this year’s All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Council Conference. DLR provided local seed from our harvested seed to infrastructure projects for creation of meadows this summer 2024 for Uisce Eireann project to reseed disturbed grounds in our area. DLR have provided advice and help to community projects for pollinators and biodiversity including the use of local seed. For example, Shanganagh Community gardens have used our local harvested Yellow Rattle and planted it into their pollinator area to help it develop. • Development and pollinators: DLR continue to require developers to re-use local soil and seed as part of developments and to also design wild meadows and other pollinator initiatives as part of development design. This includes encouraging development design to consider our DLR Ecological Network which includes our wildlife corridors, parks and pollinator areas and is part of our policy in the DLR County Development Plan and our DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. • DLR have committed to expanding our pollinator areas across the county: DLR Parks staff have been mapping the expansion of pollinator areas for 2024 to ensure the contractors managing our pollinator areas are provided with up-to-date pollinator areas maps. • Coill an Óg Project: This is a native tree and hedgerow planting initiative for schools and is delivered by Biodiversity in Schools in 2023 and will continue in 2024, funded by a selection of county councils including DLRCC. Trees, especially those that produce blossoms and hedgerows can provide vital areas of food for pollinators from early spring through to late autumn.
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have carried out the following activities in 2024: • Pollinator Awareness Workshops

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed Bomb Making • Apple Tree Planting • Pollinator Fit Counts • Crocus Bulb Planting • Creating Pollinator Meadow Areas • Maintaining Native Wildflower Meadows • Collaborating with Grounds Staff to Incorporate Pollinator-Friendly Plants into Bedding Schemes • "Grow Your Own" Workshops with a "Growing with Nurture" Focus—emphasizing chemical-free methods and enhancing areas for pollinators and other wildlife to support natural pest control • Sunflower Seed Sowing • Continue to Raise Awareness on the Council Website and the New Climate Website
Fingal County Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is currently mapping the entire grassland maintenance areas under its control. This will help to quantify the areas of wildflower meadow and regularly cut grass. This will also help to identify future areas of wildflower meadow as per actions 38 and 39 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan. • Fingal has significantly reduced its use of chemical herbicides in the public realm. It has completely ceased use of herbicides in parks and open spaces and public roads. There is limited use in public graveyards due to the uneven terrain conditions, particularly in the rural graveyards. • The Council is working with Hedgerows Ireland on Hedgerow management guidelines for developers and local authorities and it is envisaged that this document will be published in early 2025. • Fingal County Council hosted two butterfly identification workshops in the meadows of Newbridge Demesne in Donabate.
Galway City Council	May 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mow and Healthy Green Spaces – Galway City Council is maintaining 13.76 hectares under No Mow in the open spaces around the city. This is in line with GCC’s policy to keep expanding the meadow programme in the city every year. Galway City Council are trialling the Amazon Profi-hopper to collect grass cuttings. Half the cuttings have been diverted to local community composting areas with the remainder sent to industrial composting facilities. The Healthy Green Spaces Initiative is in its fourth year and the No Mow areas in the estates are performing beyond expectations. Residents in these areas are seeing a reduction in grass energy and their native wildflowers increasing. In some areas, these activities are being adopted by neighbouring

		<p>communities who want to see a wildflower meadow established in their local open space. Several dwarf apple trees and some soft fruits (Redcurrant, Blackcurrant, Loganberry and Gooseberry) were planted in number of estates across Galway City using no dig permaculture methods which protects soil organisms by reducing the need to break up the ground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainwater Planters – GCC has been working with the Shantall Men’s Shed to fabricate rainwater planters for installation at public facilities to showcase the benefits of rain gardens. A Rainwater Planter is a mini rain garden and a nature-based solution for urban runoff, reducing the overflow into storm drains that leads to the pollution of our watercourses. The planters also help local biodiversity including pollinators and are part of climate change solutions. • Buaile Bo Ballyloughane Beach Conservation Grazing Project - Galway City Council are working with a local farmer and a small herd of Irish heritage breed Dexter cattle to graze grassland managed under No Mow on a headland east of Ballyloughane Beach using small herd of Dexter cattle. The grassland had grown rank; limiting the growth of native flora. The project was initiated to reduce the grass cover and improve the grassland for pollinators and for carbon sequestration. The cattle grazed from February to April and were taken removed off site to allow the grassland to flower and set seed over the spring and summer months. From initial findings there has been a 40-60% increase in floral abundance in the grasslands, creating a more valuable habitat and source of food for our local pollinators and wildlife. Throughout 2024 over 1,000 school children visited the Project in Ballyloughane with a guided tour provided to each school group by the Biodiversity Officer. • Eyre Square Planting - Pollinator friendly planting works took place in June to ensure the raised beds in Eyre Square are looking colourful and provide much needed food for pollinating insects. • Herbicide Free Alternatives - Recreation & Amenity is using alternatives to pesticides in an ambition to reduce/ eradicate the use of chemical pesticides. These trials are part of our duty under the Sustainable Use of Herbicide Directive which sets EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030. Galway City Council is committed to establish an Integrated Pest Management Control system designed to encourage trialling alternatives to pesticides. • Wild Bee Festival – Galway City Council hosted the Wild Bee Festival in 2024, in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. A weekend of walks, talks and workshops took place in the Knocknacarra Community Centre during Heritage Week, giving communities a chance to share knowledge and learn skills about managing land for pollinators. The Wild Bee Festival was a runner up in the Sustainability and Climate Award as part of the 2024 Heritage Week Awards.
Galway County Council	October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Pollinator Management: The Palace Grounds Park, Tuam was awarded the Green Flag this year. Large areas of park are managed by one grass cut and lift in early Autumn and no herbicide is used in the park. With the support of Conservation Volunteers Galway, a new No Mow area was piloted in Rinville Park, Oranmore. Six species of orchid were recorded in the park including Autumn Lady’s-tresses, which grew in the new pilot plot and had not been recorded in the vicinity in over 80 years.

- **Large Carder Bee Project:** This Local Biodiversity Action Fund project raised awareness of the Large Carder Bee in the Clonbur - Corr na Móna area of Connemara and carried out monitoring of pollinators around the villages. The project ran outreach events during Biodiversity Week and National Heritage Week and new populations of the species were located and recorded in north Co. Galway.
- **Native Hedgerow Planting:** A new 200m hedgerow was planted during National Tree Week in March 2024. The hedgerow included over 750 local provenance native trees that support pollinators such as Willow, Bird cherry, Wild cherry, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Elder and Honeysuckle. This hedgerow will provide food and shelter to the pollinators in the park. Planting was carried out by local community groups, schools and Council staff.
- **Gardens for Pollinators:** Galway County Council launched the second Weed or Wildflower Swatch by Kay Synott highlighting many common wildflowers and detailing the wildlife they support. A talk and walk were held highlighting how to recognise these species and how to manage grassy areas to promote species diversity. Galway County Council ran free gardening courses for community groups and council staff to attend and learn about how to support biodiversity in garden settings.
- **Hare's Corners:** Galway County Council, in partnership with Burrenbeo supported landowners and community groups to make more space for nature through creation of a mini-woodland, a mini-orchard, a wildlife Pond, a 'Plan for Nature' and/or a 'Peatland Plan'. This project was delivered with the support of the NPWS through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2024. In all, over 300 actions were approved for the county.



Tree planting at the Palace Grounds, Tuam, Co. Galway



Autumn Meadow at Rinville Park, Co. Galway

<p>Kerry County Council</p>	<p>June 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>KCC have committed to expanding our pollinator areas across the county:</p> <p>Long flowering meadows are being established in various locations across the county including Tralee town park, Listowel town park, Killarney Town, Killorglin town, Dingle gardens, Tralee bay wetlands also allowed a large section of previously mown grass to go semi wild with seasonal cuts to reduce fertility and promote wildflowers, cuttings are then placed around newly planted trees as a mulch to support tree development. There is a general policy in Listowel MD area where appropriate only one meter alongside pathways is mown to allow native plants to flourish in the verges. This is also being introduced in other MD areas, including Killarney and Killorglin.</p> <p>Tree planting:</p> <p>Tralee Bay wetlands – tree planting of native flowering species such as Cherry, Elder Hawthorn, Holly, Spindle and Rowan and maintenance of 600m of willow fencing</p> <p>Tralee town park also undertook planting of pollinator friendly trees and any replacement of trees in Tralee town was done with native species appropriate to the location.</p> <p>Bumblebee surveys are carried out monthly during the survey season at Tralee Bay Wetlands, this is run as an open event allowing community members to join and increase skills. These surveys have also been used as a training platform for key staff at KCC who will in 2025 begin a monthly bee survey in Tralee Town park.</p> <p>Wild Bee Festival: KCC also supported the Kery Wild Bee Festival in Tralee Bay wetlands this year to raise awareness and share knowledge on protecting and recording wild Bees.</p> <p>Seed Collecting: At Tralee Bay Wetlands we spread the seeds of any wildflowers that have started to emerge around the centre’s grounds. Such species we have helped spread are Cuckooflower, Knapweed, Meadowsweet, Vetchling, Lesser celandine and Burdock to name a few. We also share these seeds with all our visitors to the park.</p>
<p>Kildare County Council</p>	<p>February 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Planning Dept: Maynooth Local Area Plan: Habitat Mapping and identification of local biodiversity sites have been included Maynooth LAP Policies supporting the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and pollinator friendly planting have been included in the Maynooth LAP.</p> <p>Heritage Team: Local Biodiversity Actions Plans: KCC are continuing to support the 23 Towns and Villages, that are implementing LBAPs across the county. These have been prepared by professional ecologists and landscape architects and include actions relating to the local implementation of the All-Ireland pollinator plan such as planting, reduced mowing, choice of plants, educational events.</p>


- **Biodiversity Office: Sustainable Gardening Course:** A day-long sustainable gardening course for communities was run in February to help groups design appropriate biodiversity and pollinator features into funding proposals for Climate, Community and Biodiversity grants.
- **Environment: Kerdiffstown Landfill:** Ecological Rehabilitation of Kerdiffstown Landfill has been completed. Landscaping included the following:
 - Seeds of over ten native wildflowers have been spread in the Park's Wildflower Meadow. Wildflowers including Yarrow, Meadow Buttercup and Crested Dogstail provide a habitat and food for pollinators like bees and butterflies.
 - Over 150 trees and 5500 woodland & hedgerow whips have been planted in Kerdiffstown Park including Birch, Oak, Hazel, Blackthorn and Holly. These trees not only provide food and shelter for the park's wildlife but they also improve air quality and absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- **Parks- Park Biodiversity Plans Reduced Mowing and reduced use of pesticides/herbicides**

6 Parks Selected for Development of Biodiversity Plans inclusive of recommendations for management for pollinators. Sites were selected for layered and less frequent mowing 2020/2021. 22 Pilot Sites were selected for reduced use of pesticides/herbicides were selected in the summer of 2020/2021. Parks dept partnered with other local authorities and Maynooth University to fund a 6-year research project to assess alternatives to herbicide use in amenity public open spaces.

 - Kildare County Council have continued to liaise with local communities in order improve the quality and quantity of grassland areas managed on a long rotation in support of pollinators. The total area now managed on either six-week rotation or a one annual cut basis is over 60 hectares.
 - Kildare County Council are planting over 4,000 hedging plants in December 2024 to generate new areas for a diverse range of vegetation to thrive. These native plants and the understory that they will support will provide excellent new habitats for pollinators and provide linkages and corridors connecting a variety of landscape types including long grass meadows, woodland and riparian zones.
 - Kildare County Council are planting c.500 trees including a mix of native and non-native standards with a range of sizes, crown formations, flowering and fruiting characteristics which will all contribute to providing habitat and foraging support for pollinators. Much of this tree planting will be in blocks on open space which will allow for the development of understory vegetation which will provide further supporting habitat and linkage potential.
 - Kildare County Council are continuing to reduce the use of herbicides as part of the management of amenity and sports grassland areas across the county with use restricted to exceptional circumstances where road safety or similar issues necessitate herbicide use for appropriate management taking all health and safety considerations in mind.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the Brigid 1,500 programme, a bulb planting initiative is taking place across Kildare in partnership with local Tidy Towns groups. Over 20,000 bulbs are being planted throughout the county which will increase foraging areas for pollinators within existing amenity grasslands and along verges.
Kilkenny County Council	February 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2024, Kilkenny highlighted the importance of pollinators through its series of Bugs, Bats and Bee’s Citizen Science Programme funded through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund from the NPWS. Bumblebee training was completed by over 20 participants in April in association with NBDC to encourage greater engagement in Bumblebee Monitoring Schemes in Kilkenny. Four bat walks as part of Biodiversity Week highlighted the importance of nocturnal pollinators and a series of “Gardening for Biodiversity” library talks took place in May. The active travel programme continued to include pollinator friendly initiatives across Kilkenny City. One such initiative included the planting of a length of hedgerow along a newly upgraded active travel corridor, increasing the range of pollinator planting adjacent to the Pococke Estate on the eastern environs of Kilkenny City. Kilkenny County Council collaborated with community groups to increase pollinator planting in Kilkenny City. The Closh Park was planted by volunteer of Keep Kilkenny Beautiful, creating a pollinator friendly pocket park in the city centre. Another community initiative involved the planting of crocuses at the Kilkenny Great War Memorial in the Peace Park adjacent to Michael Street. The project commenced in 2023 and continued this autumn to increase the density of crocuses along the length of the Peace Park. Next spring 26,000 crocuses will flower, providing a floral display and food for early emerging pollinators in the heart of Kilkenny City. This activity was part funded from Kilkenny County Council Amenity Fund. Leave the Long Grass Grow, a Creative Ireland funded project was exhibited throughout Kilkenny City during the summer. Large street banners were installed for Biodiversity Week and were kept in place throughout the summer. It highlighted the importance of hedgerows, leaving wild areas for nature and highlighted some of the rare plants found in Kilkenny. There were a number of workshops included as part of the project which started conversations and discussions on the actions we can take to help pollinators and biodiversity.
Laois County Council	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects 1-2 listed below were supported by LBAF (Local Biodiversity Action Fund) grants in 2024. Project 3 was funded by the Laois Heritage Office and Laois Climate Action Team. Project 1: ‘In Your Nature’ Podcast A collaboration project between Laois, Offaly and Westmeath Heritage/ Biodiversity Offices to support the ongoing ‘In Your Nature’ Podcast and the high standard information that is being shared with the public on wildlife. Project 2: Biodiversity Awareness on the Portlaoise Orbital Route

		<p>This is a multi-annual project consisting of biodiversity-friendly planting on main roundabouts in Portlaoise. This project is planned to continue for another year learning from best practice i.e. most suitable and appropriate planting mixes for the urban conditions and for maximum benefit to biodiversity and ease of maintenance. The planting treatment in this phase of works consists of pollinator friendly perennial planting on Birchgrove Roundabout (Mountrath Road), Dublin Road Roundabout, and Stradbally/Block Road Roundabout.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project 3: Continued Dissemination of the ‘Gardening For Biodiversity’ booklet <p>Together with Laois CoCo colleagues in the Climate Action Team, we have continued to share and disseminate the ever popular ‘Gardening For Biodiversity’ booklet, which was created by Laois CoCo and has been a source of inspiration for communities, schools, and individuals interested in biodiversity and pollinators in recent years.</p>
<p>Leitrim County Council</p>	<p>June 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator friendly council land management: A biodiversity enhancement project has started in the grounds of Aras an Chontae in Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim. The project will increase the area of council land that is managed in a pollinator-friendly way. In 2024, the frequency of mowing of grass areas was altered to allow more native plants to flower, a mixed native hedgerow was planted, pollinator friendly plants were planted in the ornamental beds and the use of pesticides was eliminated. • Love Where You Live Awards: Primary schools took part in the “Actions for Pollinators” category of the awards. This award celebrates and recognises schools that have made their school grounds pollinator friendly. The Biodiversity Officer visited all the schools that entered the competition, and prizes were given to two schools in each Municipal District. Pollinator friendly planting also formed part of the judging criteria for the categories of Green Community of the Year and Estate of the year • National Tree Week: 300 native tree saplings were distributed to schools and community groups in March 2024. • The Hare’s Corner: Leitrim County Council in partnership with the Burrenbeo Trust delivered The Hare’s Corner initiative in Co. Leitrim. The project offered landowners, schools and community groups support to carry out simple but impactful actions for biodiversity and pollinators. These actions included the creation of wildlife ponds, native mini-woodlands, heritage mini-orchards and plans for nature.

		 <p>Wildflowers in Leitrim County Council grounds</p>
<p>Limerick City & County Council</p>	<p>February 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended the Let it Bee areas including Mungret and Castletroy Parks and some residential green areas. • Undertook traditional hay cutting in Mungret Park in July where hay harvested for animal fodder. • New Wildflower Swatch based on flowers in Corbally Meadow. • Planting of a mini orchard of heritage apple trees for Tree Week 2024. • New active travel routes have embraced pollinator planting. • Extension of pollinator planting in our parks. • Pollinator design for an additional roundabout • URBACT Award won for go Green Routes Castletroy Greenway and its nature play, with a particular emphasis on biodiversity and pollinators. • Limerick City and County Council hosted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pollinator ID adventure with pollinator expert Áine Ni Flahatharta in Curraghchase during National Biodiversity Week. ○ An URBACT BiodiverCity workshop focusing on traditional hay meadow management and seed saving for communities and Limerick City and County Council Staff.

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

March 2019

- **Environmentally Friendly Weed Control Trial:** Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council successfully secured funding from the DAERA Environment Fund, Water Quality Improvement Strand. The funding awarded was for a biodiversity project to reduce the use of pesticides and improve water quality within Council sites located along the River Lagan. A pesticide free weed control machine using boiling water was purchased and used on weeds including invasive species as part of a research trial.



Japanese Knotweed (Young Plant)



Himalayan Balsam (Young Plant)

More research is required into next year's growing season.


- **Lady Mary Peters Woodland Walk:** As part of the 50th anniversary to mark Lady Mary Peters winning the gold medal at the 1972 Olympic games in Munich, Forthill Primary School approached the Council to work in collaboration with them to name an area after Lady Mary Peters. An existing 1.25km walk had been identified within Aberdelghy Golf course, Lambeg, Lisburn. Chair of Communities and Wellbeing Committee, the Mayor, Lady Mary Peters, and children from Forthill Primary School attended various planting days noted below, to enhance biodiversity within the site for the benefit of pollinators.
 - Planting a native hedgerow and some Rowan trees along a stretch of the 1.25km trail.
 - Planting pollinator-friendly bulbs as recommended in the pollinator plan.

- **Reduced grass cutting to one cut per year and removing the grass cuttings:** Several areas were identified to reduce grass cutting to one cut per year and removing the cuttings. The project raised public awareness of the change of grass management and the actions the council were implementing to benefit pollinators, using the pollinator plan signage and the Biodiversity Officer engaging with people on site. We trialed various machines in certain areas, considering accessibility, size of area, tree cover, and topography of the sites. Large steep bank areas were hand raked by staff.





- **The ‘Big Tree Project’:**
 - Tree planting for the “tree’s instead of tee’s” for the LCCC half marathon – Participants could opt for a native tree to be planted instead of receiving a T shirt for completing the LCCC half marathon. A total of 1,500 native species will be planted within Mclloy Park.
 - Woodland restoration project. Invasive treatment works to continue in Derriaghy Glen, Alberdelghy Wood and Hillsborough Forest Park with special focus on tackling the Cherry Laurel for maximum effect to restore biodiversity to enable natural regeneration of native trees, plants and help wildlife to thrive within these woodlands.
 - Supporting the NI Forest School Association by providing them with 2,000 of our nursery-grown seedlings.
 - Woodland creation continuing at Glenmore parkland trail with native tree planting.
 - The continuation of the ‘forget me not’ woodland at Billy Neill MBE Country Park this month where a further 13 trees will be planted.
- **Raising awareness, delivering biodiversity planting and horticulture projects to schools and the local community**
- Providing support for planting projects and providing horticultural workshops within school grounds and council parks. Giving schools pollinator friendly bulbs (recommended by the pollinator website) to educate on how to make green spaces pollinator

		<p>friendly. Attending events such as Park life, school projects, and community engagements, giving out the pollinator booklets and bee ID sheets from the pollinator website. Also Promoting on social media, World Bee Day and using the pollinator signage for areas managed for wildlife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging with local schools and summer groups to educate in tree identification, leaf identification, seed collecting and providing information on biodiversity. 
<p>Longford County Council</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion and Participation in No-Mow-May: Longford County Council engaged in radio advertisement of the No-Mow-May initiative on Shannonside Radio. The council also had poster booklets printed of a checklist of wildflowers to spot during no-mow-may. Longford County Council roads department also committed to not mow some roadside areas during the month of May. Planting of native trees: Longford County Council dispersed native trees during tree week and engaged in public planting of native trees in Alderfield in Longford town. These native trees will add to the food stock and habitats available for native pollinators. Awareness around honey bee hives: Longford County Council raised awareness around the impacts of adding honey bee hives to areas. In a series of talking given to Tidy Towns groups, general public, and other community groups, it was stressed that adding honeybee hives is not an action for biodiversity as honey bees are not in decline and adding thousands of them to an area can create competition pressures on other native pollinators that are in decline. Groups applying for the community climate action grant were told that honey bee hives were not ideal as a biodiversity action for the grant application.
<p>Louth County Council</p>	<p>July 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing Council land in a pollinator-friendly way: Grass cutting frequency was reduced from 20 cuts per year in 2023 to just one cut per year in 2024 across more than 1000m² of parks, 800m² of roadside verges and 500m² of residential green spaces. More than 120,000 pollinator-friendly bulbs and 50 mature trees were planted. Approximately 800m² of Japanese Knotweed

		<p>was treated to control invasive species. Additionally, the use of chemical pesticides has been reduced in favour of mechanical weed control methods. Pollinator-friendly management of the land to the rear of County Hall has continued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting local communities: The Council has continued to work closely with community groups, Tidy Towns, and Resident’s Associations to help make public land more pollinator friendly. In March 2024, 400 native trees were distributed during National Tree Week to help Tidy Town Groups build wildlife corridors. In December 2023, the PPN supported a community planting of 150 native trees around Rathescar Lake to provide food and shelter for local wildlife. Funding of €80,000 was available for Tidy Towns groups under the Tidy Town Project Scheme which encourages strong biodiversity and pollinator-friendly projects. Training and workshops were also provided. Resources such as pollinator garden boxes, insect houses, and pollinator-friendly seeds have been sent to Primary Schools. The PPN Awards and Louth in Bloom competition encourage good practice in relation to pollinators and award biodiversity projects throughout the county. • The Louth Urban Food Sanctuary (LUFS): Launched in October 2023, the project aims to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, and rising living costs by promoting local food resilience. Led by Louth County Council and funded by Creative Ireland, it encourages community gardening and sustainable practices. The project highlights the benefits of growing your own produce and supports biodiversity and pollinator-friendly action through public events and educational efforts. For more information, visit the project website: https://louthurbanfoodsanctuary.com/ • The Still, Sensory Garden: As part of the EU-funded H2020 Varcities Project, Louth County Council has developed a sensory garden at the Louth County Library Courtyard, known as The Still. This initiative aims to enhance species richness and composition, focusing on pollinator-friendly planting. For more information, visit the project website: https://varcities.eu/pilot-cities/dundalk-ireland/ • Dog Enrichment Park, Dog Pound: Work has been carried out to create a biodiversity area at the Louth County Council Dog Pound. Trees have been planted, a new pond created and grass areas managed to encourage pollinators and increased biodiversity.
<p>Mayo County Council</p>	<p>June 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Castlebar Biodiversity Action Plan: In 2023-2024 a biodiversity action plan was developed for Castlebar Town, this outlines numerous actions for pollinators and will serve as a guide for practical and measurable actions for pollinators in the town. • Castlebar Town Park Biodiversity Enhancement Plan: Developed a Biodiversity Enhancement Plan for Castlebar Town Park. This included identifying and mapping areas for grassland management specifically for pollinators, and developing a mowing regime with MCC staff to increase no mow areas. The site underwent additional tree planting with the inclusion of trees for pollinators such as Rowan, Holly, Guelder rose, Hawthorn, Wild cherry and Spindle. Two large perennial pollinator beds are

		<p>undergoing development in the park, with plant species specifically chosen to be beneficial to a range of pollinators and invertebrate species throughout the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Gardening for Biodiversity” workshop: A gardening workshop on the topic of how to garden for biodiversity, targeted at specific groups within Castlebar, such as Castlebar Tidy Towns, Castlebar Community Clean Up and local Resident’s Associations within the town. This workshop focused on actions on how best to maintain areas for pollinators including birds and bats, along with advice on choosing suitable flowers and plants for pollinators. • Supported the development of An Choill Bheag, a mini-woodland project in conjunction with An Taisce and Ballyhaunis Tidy Towns in Friars Park, Ballyhaunis. • Reduce use of pesticides: MCC are continuing to look to alternative methods to pesticides in the maintenance of weeds in towns, using methods such as foam control and mechanical weeding machines. • Castlebar Library Nature Nook: Established a “Nature Nook” in Castlebar Library, providing resources in relation to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for members of the public.
<p>Meath County Council</p>	<p>November 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Biodiversity Actions Plans Grant Scheme 202: Aim is to support communities in Meath who have developed a Community Biodiversity Action Plan for their local town or village. Seven community groups received grants to deliver actions in line with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, including the purchase and planting of pollinator friendly bulbs, planter boxes, climbers and heritage orchard trees. • The Hare’s Corner: In 2024, Meath County Council partnered with the Burrenbeo Trust to deliver the Hare’s Corner project. By December 2024 this project will have supported the creation of 215 biodiversity actions: 81 woodlands (with 49 native trees per woodland including Birch, Alder, Hawthorn, Hazel, Holly, Spindle, Oak and rarer species like Burren Pine, Wych Elm, Aspen, Black Poplar), 82 orchards (5 heritage apple trees per orchard), 16 Ponds for wildlife, 13 Plans for Water and 23 Plans for Nature. Delivery of this project was supported by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Meath County Council under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund and NTR Renewables PLC. • Commons of Lloyd Grassland Management Project: Meath County Council have been trialling various forms of grassland management and conservation grazing techniques on a 5.5-hectare site on the Commons of Lloyd since 2022. Since the trial was initiated there has been a demonstrable increase in the number of herbs present in the grassland year-on-year, as the dominance of grass is reduced, and the site becomes richer in native wildflowers. • Municipal Area Actions: Trim received special recognition for their efforts in the international Communities in Bloom competition 2024, winning five Blooms – Gold and being awarded overall winner of the Communities in Bloom International Medium category. Meath County Council’s partnership approach with Trim Tidy Towns has led to the successful

implementation of actions in line with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan such as meadow management in the Porthfields, delivery of the Eco-estates initiative and pollinator friendly planting schemes throughout the town.



Figure 1. An example of pollinator friendly verge management in Kells, Co. Meath.

- **Biodiversity Detectives Schools Programme:** Working in partnership with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC) in 2024, 16 schools and 15 scout/guide groups have received a box of biodiversity educational resources, and 29 biodiversity-themed workshops have been provided to primary and secondary schools.
- **Outreach activities:** To raise awareness of pollinators and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and in celebration of World Bee Day and National Biodiversity Week, Meath County Council facilitated a 'Bumblebee Walk in the Cowpark' in Athboy and hosted an online talk on what local communities can do to support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. All-Ireland Pollinator Plan leaflets and booklets are also shared at events throughout the year where opportunities arise.



Figure 2. Bumblebee Walk in the Cowpark, Athboy.

- **Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme:** To support the All-island Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme, Meath County Council have commenced bumblebee monitoring on the Commons of Lloyd Loop Walk. Data collected from this monitoring activity is shared with the National Biodiversity Data Centre and merged with the national dataset to calculate species population trend indices.

<p>Mid & East Antrim Borough Council</p>	<p>April 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity University 2024 – During this environmental summer scheme, children learn, through fun activities how to protect our native habitats and their pollinators. Teaching kids about biodiversity can inspire them to take action to protect pollinators and their habitats. This can make a difference to their wider families and communities. Pollinators are facing many threats, such as habitat loss, pesticides, diseases, invasive species, and climate change. By learning about the challenges and solutions for pollinator conservation, kids can become more aware and responsible citizens who can make a difference in their communities. • Trees for Pollinators - Big Community Tree Giveaway – as part of Tree Week, we are giving away over 600 free tree saplings, all pollinator friendly species such as rowan, hawthorn, hazel and crab apple, to residents in the Borough. This is funded by the Woodland Trust through Emergency Tree Fund and organised through three Community Tree Giveaways which enable residents to collect up to three saplings. This campaign will also encourage landowners to engage with our Tree and Woodland Officer and Woodland Engagement Officer to plan future native and pollinator friendly tree planting. • Wild About Food Series: Eight Foraging Walks – This series of educational and family friendly walks are a great way to enjoy nature and discover the edible plants that grow around us. Foraging walks can encourage people to plant more native and diverse flowers in their gardens, balconies or window boxes. This can provide more food and shelter for pollinators throughout the year, especially in urban areas where natural habitats are scarce. Foraging walks can help people to identify and avoid invasive plants that can harm native pollinators. Foraging walks can promote sustainable harvesting practices that do not damage the plants or their pollinators. For example, people can avoid picking flowers that are rare, endangered or protected by law. They can also leave some flowers on each plant for the pollinators to feed on and for the plant to reproduce. Foraging walks include ‘Autumn Trees’, ‘Autumn Fruits’, ‘Fungi’ and ‘First signs of Spring’. • Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have worked in partnership with The Woodland Trust NI to deliver a number of large-scale woodland creation projects, totalling over 300,000 trees, including the largest area of native woodland creation in NI in 30 years. These projects have all been properly planned and designed to ensure the ‘right tree in the right place’ approach and will all be surveyed and managed going forward to ensure long term survival of the woodlands. • Community and school tree planting. Around 3,000 pollinator tree species were planted around the borough. These included Rowan, Cherry (x2), Crab Apple and Hawthorn. 50 apple trees were also planted and 45m of edible hedge using currants and gooseberries. All the above will continue to add to the AIPP throughout many years to come.
<p>Mid Ulster District Council</p>	<p>April 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator Friendly Grasslands - Mid Ulster has several sites “Managed for Biodiversity”. The focus on these sites is to incorporate appropriate grassland management (one cut & lift per year) which will benefit pollinators and a wide range of other invertebrates. In 2024, additional areas were brought into the suite of sites under this management, with 19 sites

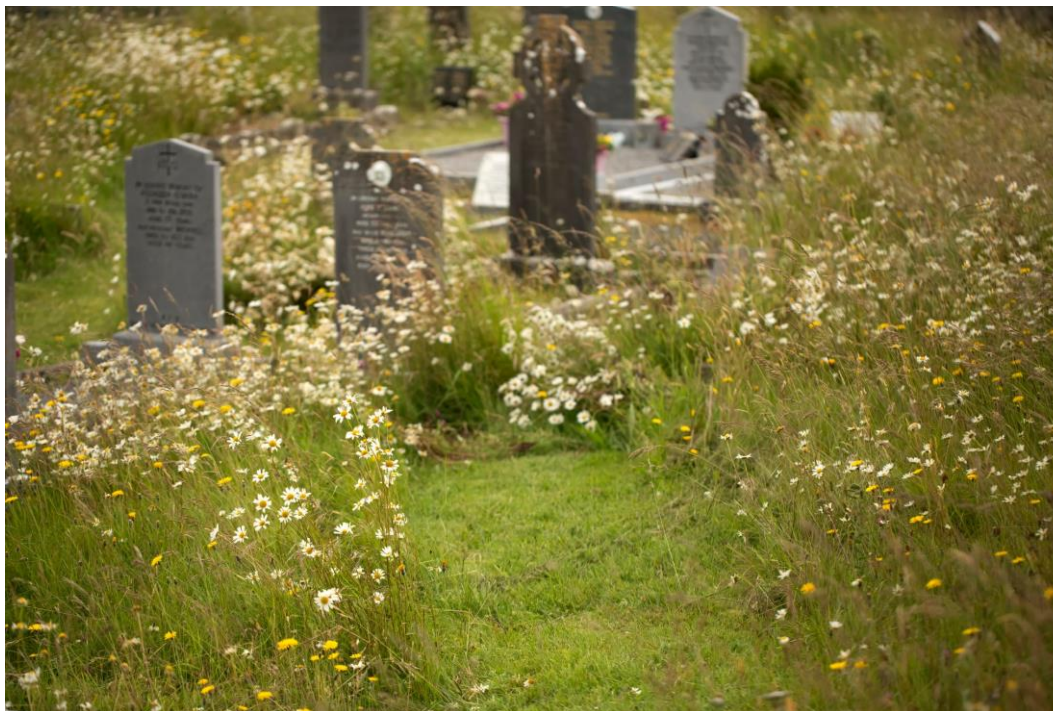
		<p>(ranging from 0.1 to 4.1 acres) totalling 18.2 acres now actively managed for pollinators. Another site has already been identified to be included for 2025. It is anticipated the number of sites will continue to increase over the coming years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage to identify pollinator friendly habitats - All pollinator-friendly grassland sites have had “Managed for Biodiversity” signage installed, identifying the areas as being actively managed for wildlife. • Training on pollinators and how to take action to protect them - Workshops continue to be delivered to youth groups, gardening clubs and the general public. These workshops explain the benefits of pollinators, encourage participants to grow pollinator friendly plants, encourage participants to provide areas for pollinators to make their own ‘natural’ homes, and a practical demonstration on making solitary bee homes. Participants make their own bee home to take away to put up in their own garden/allotment/etc. During 2024, approximately 90 people attended these workshops. <p>In addition to the above workshops, a Biodiversity Day was held at Tullyvar on World Bee Day. Over 100 pupils from four local schools took part in a range of activities and workshops, primarily focussed on pollinators. This included making solitary bee homes, with the pupils bringing back 8-10 bee homes to each school to be installed in their school grounds. Each school was also given a couple of wooden solitary bee boxes made from salvaged timber from the council recycling centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant a native hedgerow – Continuing from the success of the hedge planting with schools last year, this project has been extended to an additional two sites for 2024. Over 300 pupils from ten schools took part in a range of activities across the three sites, all focussed on enhancing the site for pollinators and biodiversity in general. Hedgerow species were selected to provide a range of pollen and nectar for our local pollinators. Native wildflower bulbs were planted at the base of existing hedgerows, and native wildflower seeds also sown in appropriate locations. It is envisaged this will continue to be an annual event at each of these sites for the next number of years.
<p>Monaghan County Council</p>	<p>June 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Tidy Towns: Monaghan Tidy Towns completed a Biodiversity Friendly Garden (BFG) - a model wildlife & pollinator friendly community garden developed in the town involving residents, migrants and National Learning Network. This resource is available for community groups and the public to experience and learn the skills to enhance their own small plots and gardens. They have also developed a "Bee Babies" and "Primary Pollinators" project supplying seeds, compost, pots, bee books etc. to five childcare facilities and five primary schools in Monaghan Town. • Coill na nÓg Tree Scheme: This is a native tree and hedgerow planting initiative for schools and is delivered by Biodiversity in Schools in 2024. Monaghan Heritage Office funded 12 packs of trees and hedgerows to be distributed to schools throughout the county. Trees, especially those that produce blossoms and hedgerows can provide vital areas of food for pollinators from early spring through to late autumn. • Sustainable and pollinator friendly gardening courses: The Climate Action Office and Libraries Team organised two gardening courses that took place in Autumn 2024. This aim of these courses was to give attendees the tools to put the All-Ireland

		<p>Pollinator Plan into practice to improve their area to benefit wildlife and pollinators and learn about sustainable gardening. Pollinator Resources were distributed to communities and libraries including signage for pollinators to Tidy Town groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide reduction: The council are actively working on pesticide reduction strategies, having trialled a number of alternatives to herbicide use such as liquids, foams and machinery over the past 18 months. • Composting Organic Waste: After a successful pilot project last year, Monaghan MD is now routinely collecting organic horticultural waste (grass clippings, leaf litter and green cuttings) and composting, and using the compost in pollinator friendly plantings.
<p>Newry, Mourne & Down District Council</p>	<p>September 2021</p>	<p>Biodiversity Strategy: A new Biodiversity Strategy has been developed for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The Strategy highlights ‘Pollinators’ as one of five key priorities for Council moving forward. An internal action plan lists actions for managing Council greenspace for the benefit of pollinators, including reducing the frequency of amenity grassland mowing in selected sites across the district and continue to work in partnership with DFI to manage key roadside verges for pollinators.</p> <p>Practical action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 250 small wildflower seeds packs to community groups and schools in the area. Worked with youth ranger group to pack the seeds and explained why native local wildflower seeds are better when planting. • Provided community groups and householders with 100 crab apple trees. • Provided 250 fruit trees to groups across the district to create community orchards. • Took part in the Big Butterfly Count 2024. <p>Raising awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Took part in the ‘Street Dreams’ project in Newry to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators ahead of ‘World Bee Day’. The project worked in partnership with Amplified Arts NI to transform utility boxes across the city into pieces of art. A local artist painted a bumblebee with the ‘save our bees’ message. PR was used to highlight the AIPP and the importance of pollinators. • Created social media posts about pollinator week. • Got 2,000 copies of the AIPP bookmark reprinted and continue to distribute at schools and public events e.g. the Green Spaces Horticultural Show in Warrenpoint.

Offaly County Council

April 2020

- **'No mow May'** initiative was continued in 2024.
- The use of **non-glyphosate herbicide** by our MD Offices continued in 2024 as part of the county policy on glyphosate use.
- **Management of Graveyards:** Cut and lift management continued at over six medieval burial grounds in Offaly. The Environment Section is also managing cut and lift in sections of modern burial grounds, plans for each site were formalised.
- Two full-day **community workshops** hosted on topics of pollinators, nature friendly gardening and seed saving.
- Three high-level **Pollinator related Actions** have been included in the draft Offaly Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 – 2030.
- Offaly County Council Climate Team together with the Community Section and Biodiversity Officer have initiated a project to create a **seed library** in the county, where locally collected seed can be swapped for other local seed.



Clonohill Cemetery, Birr. In bloom under pollinator friendly management – photo: © Tina Claffey



Community Workshop with Aoife Munn

<p>Roscommon County Council</p>	<p>May 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ‘Orchards Perfect for Pollinators’ & ‘Planting Trees for Pollinators’ programme continued in conjunction with Roscommon County Council Housing Accommodation Caretaker and Ballyforan Tidy Towns with the purchase and planting of additional trees in estates and common areas. • A number of bee hotels, nine in total built by the Ballyeague Mens Shed were erected in the Athlone, Castlerea and Roscommon areas in with the support of local Tidy Towns and community groups. Signage and information boards were erected alongside the hotel to aid as an education tool. • Additional Pollinator Plan resources and signage were distributed and erected by to area office staff and community groups around the county. Roscommon County Council supported Tidy Towns Local Authority Pollinator Awards and a revision of the programme will be developed in 2025 with enhanced awareness campaign being rolled out. • ‘Pollinator Awards’ were incorporated into the Roscommon County Council Greener Spaces 2024 Competition. Awards were offered under three categories Schools, Burial Grounds and Community, with winners of these awards to be announced this December. • Council actions for pollinators were reviewed and updated for three municipal districts by Giorria Environmental Services with all actions updated on the Actions for Pollinators online map. Actions carried out municipal district included the reduced mowing of green paces, and the management of a wildflower meadow in the town park
<p>South Dublin County Council</p>	<p>November 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildflower Meadow Establishment and Management: Since commencing our Pollinator Action Plan in 2019 we have increased our area of wildflower meadows from 90 hectares to 195 hectares in 2024. We are committed to expanding this again in 2025. • Wildflower Seed Collection In order to improve the quality of our grasslands and to ensure that only local provenance seeds: are used SDCC have commenced a programme of wildflower seed collection. We use brush harvesters to collect seed on meadows which have been surveyed and are identified as species rich. We are using the seed to create new meadows, in flood alleviation schemes, and to improve the quality of existing meadows. Much of this work is the result of recommendations from survey work carried out over previous years • Hosting of All- Ireland Pollinator Conference: On June 13th, the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan hosted its annual Local Authority Conference at the Civic Theatre Tallaght. Over 120 attendees gathered to share experiences and discuss solutions for pollinator and biodiversity challenges. The event featured presentations on meadow management, brush harvesting, and green infrastructure. This year's conference highlighted South Dublin's leadership in biodiversity efforts and provided a platform for local authorities to collaborate on enhancing pollinator-friendly practices. The conference concluded with a Q&A session, fostering a vibrant exchange of ideas and strategies for improving biodiversity.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in spraying: In 2017 SDCC committed to eliminating glyphosate-based herbicides close to public parks, public playgrounds and public gardens. Glyphosate use has dropped from 942 Litres in 2023 to 832 Litres in 2024, a reduction of 12%. • Mapping of GI pollinator sites: Sites have been mapped so we can identify gaps in our GI network and take measure to ensure corridors for nature across the County. • Public Engagement & Education initiatives: Across the year SDCC staff led biodiversity walks in our parks including during National Biodiversity Week and for Climate Action Week. This included tours of grasslands, wetlands and tree walks and all talks included information on the Councils actions for pollinators. The walks were aimed at community groups, school children and nature enthusiasts.
<p>Sligo County Council</p>	<p>July 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening for Biodiversity Training: Sligo County Council funded a Gardening for Biodiversity course in Tubbercurry for community groups and the public, with classroom and field techniques to learn about sustainable gardening practices from Horticulturalist Aoife Munn. • National Tree Week: Sligo and Leitrim County Council co-hosted an event to celebrate National Tree Week with arboriculturist and herbalist Shailagh Healy. • Awareness: The council promoted ‘No Mow May’ and ‘Let it Bloom June’ through their social media channels, encouraging residents to take part • Parks: Maintained five Community Orchards as part of the Community Orchards Project in different areas around town and in partnership with local communities at Cleveragh Park, Mitchell Curley Park, Roger Eames Road, Ash lane and within the grounds of the Regional Sports Complex. A range of fruit trees have been planted including apple, plum, cherry etc. • Parks: Planted approximately 250 native tree saplings at different locations within the Sligo urban area. Staff also worked closely with a range of schools to arrange native tree planting in locations such as O Boyle Park Forthill. • Parks: Flower beds were planted and maintained in various locations within the Sligo Urban Area with an emphasis on perennial and pollinator friendly plants. Large areas of wildflower meadow were maintained at Cleveragh Regional Park and O Boyle Park along with multiple other smaller wildflower areas. Staff worked closely with Sligo Tidy Towns to promote various pollinator friendly planting and landscaping projects. • Municipal Districts: Cutting and mowing of verges and hedgerows along the county road network was deferred/delayed until late April 2024 until after the first flush of early wildflowers had gone to seed. ‘Don’t mow let it grow’ areas retained in the urban district and housing estates.

Tipperary County Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator Friendly Planting: Planting of 20,000 native bluebell bulbs in Mulcahy Park, Clonmel and 200 native trees planted in Clonmel borough • Grass management: Trialling of six week and long flowering meadows where suitable (with plans to increase). Some sites are exclusively managed for Pollinators e.g. Inch Field, Cahir • Municipal Districts: Grounds of Thurles-Templemore MD district office is now managed as a long-flowering meadow. Trial of alternative to herbicides in Tipperary, Cahir, Cashel MD. • Biodiversity Week: Held a talk on pollinators for World Bee Day and a moth identification workshops • Training and Awareness: A series of free workshops on gardening for biodiversity were held for Tidy Towns and members of the public. All Ireland Pollinator resource were distributed to the public at events. • Pollinator Plans: A pollinator plan for Thurles town has been commissioned by TCC and is nearing completion.
Waterford City & County Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator habitat: specified areas alongside roads on the fringes of Dungarvan and Waterford are managed for pollinators by the WCCC Presentation teams. There is further potential for areas to be extended to create urban pollinator corridors to connect existing habitat. Herbicide application has been reduced across Dungarvan and the ground flora in Fr. Twomey's Wood is enabled to grow. • Kilbarry Nature Park and Parks management: the meadow at Kilbarry Nature Park continues to be managed by WCCC as a long-flowering meadow along with further incorporation of practices as recommended by the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in city parks management. • GAA Green Clubs: through the funding mechanism administered by WCCC, clubs identified priority action areas within five thematic areas; Energy, Water, Waste, Biodiversity and Travel. WCCC Biodiversity Officer provided talks to Waterford clubs in collaboration with the Climate Action Team to discuss the possibilities for biodiversity measures on sports grounds. Four clubs took this route and have worked with the Biodiversity Officer to create bespoke plans to create pollinator habitat, hedgerow and orchard areas. One club had an existing bank of solitary bee habitat on bare mud which was protected as part of the pollinator trail, and all have committed to using AIPP signage in pollinator areas to further engage communities. • Community Climate Action Fund: 17 community groups partaking in the fund through WCCC had the opportunity to include biodiversity as an output of their projects. One example: installation of 12 wild bee habitat posts, bat boxes and bird houses at Ardmore GAA Club, both approach roads and Ardmore Cliff Walk. • Science Communication through the Not Stopping Now! Nature's Resilience series: this webinar series created in collaboration by WCCC Biodiversity, An Taisce Climate Ambassadors and the Biodiversity Officer Network was produced and

		<p>launched in 2024. The first episode which aired in July 2024 focused on Pollinators with Kate Chandler of the NBDC as the guest speaker. Engagement reached a nationwide audience with 180+ registrations for the session and upward of 90 attendees. The recorded session will be further used for engagement with Green Schools, Tidy Towns groups and the general public. All episodes are available here.</p>
<p>Westmeath County Council</p>	<p>February 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a Pollinator Trail along the Greenway at Streamstown: A pollinator trail created along the greenway used as knowledge transfer identifying bumblebee species and flowers on posts with QR codes linking to the National Biodiversity Data Centre for citizen science and awareness of pollinator friendly actions. • Pollinator Friendly Park- Mullingar Town Park: An Taisce Green Flag for Parks Award 2024 a range of pollinator friendly actions including a small natural meadow planting, and managing a mini orchard, no pesticides used, AIPP signage for wildlife area, pollinator friendly and pesticide free zones. • Biodiversity Week Events – National Bee Day was celebrated throughout the county libraries with resources for pollinator gardening and communities with free sunflower seeds and resources for gardening. • Management of open spaces for Pollinators: Roundabouts, verges, approach verges, junctions; manual control of weeds on roundabouts no spraying. All planting with pollinator friendly annuals, strimming around lamppost. Greenway managed for pollinators, verge strip cut and lifted, remaining verge left for pollinators and no pesticides used, Kilmartin Roundabout, Garrycastle Roundabout, Church Steet Junction, and Bonnavalley and Creggan Upper. • Developed Pollinating areas: All Pollinator friendly native hedging sowed at Fore near Nancy to Nelly walk at Ardmore Road Pollinator friendly beds at Irishtown road/old Longford road junction along the wall at St Finian’s Old Longford road roundabout sowed with rose bushes, various roundabouts on approaches to Mullingar sown with pollinating species. • Grassland meadows at Belvedere Estate: Meadows are actively managed for pollinators. The estate has incorporated sustainable land management practices, with a focus on enhancing biodiversity for pollinators. This includes promoting the growth of wildflowers, reducing pesticide use, and allowing natural processes like seasonal one cut and lift to take place. • Westmeath have committed to expanding our pollinator areas across the county: We have also carried out planting of native trees along the Thomastown/Killucan cycleway, various green spaces in Mullingar housing estates replacing trees which have been removed. Athlone -Battery Heights– provision of bespoke Pollinator Friendly Sensory Gardens. Killucan– provision of a 700m native species hedgerow along a pedestrian/cycles way that links the village and school to the canal.
<p>Wexford County Council</p>	<p>April 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain gardens – A number of rain gardens were installed as part of Active travel schemes. These are at Grogan’s Road, The Faythe and at Trinity Street, all in Wexford town. These rain gardens were planted with pollinator friendly perennials which

		<p>have not only enhanced the streetscape but increased the food source for pollinators in the town. Going forward on many of our urban active travel schemes planting of rain gardens or SuDS features will include pollinator planting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min Ryan Park – Large areas of this town park are managed for pollinators with grass in the meadow areas cut annually at the end of the growing season. This is a wet area of ground so it can be challenging to cut and remove the cuttings at the end of the season if the weather is against us. Five acres of land are included in this project. Species are typical of wetter ground such as Cuckooflower and Meadow buttercup but we expect the diversity to increase in time as cuttings are removed off site and the grasses weakened. • Redmond Square - Our horticulturalist Barry O’Neill planted large areas of pollinator friendly planting in Redmond Square – a public square by the train station in Wexford town centre. The plants were planted as part of a town wide improvements for the Fleadh. Planting is pollinator friendly perennials and comprises an area of approx. 80m². Similar planting schemes at Peter Square have also focused on pollinator friendly planting. • County Hall Grounds – County Hall grounds in Carricklawn, Wexford are now being managed for pollinators. Plans involve allowing the main grounds to the front of County Hall to be uncut during the growing season. Area is approximately 1.6 hectares. In addition the rooftop at County Hall which has a roof garden was replanted with a large variety of perennials chosen for their pollinator friendly attributes. Even in this harsh urban rooftop environment there has been a noticeable increase in pollinators visiting the flowers. • Tenant Liaison Engagement – Through our tenant liaison officers we are working on a pilot project in each Municipal District to encourage residents of Council estates to undertake Biodiversity Actions in their own estates. A resident’s day was held to provide information on Biodiversity and encourage participation. A number of groups joined up and have had one to one consultations with the Biodiversity Officer.
<p>Wicklow County Council</p>	<p>November 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator resources – Advice and a range of resources distributed free of charge by the Biodiversity Officer including the ‘Gardening for Biodiversity’ booklets and multiple Wicklow biodiversity leaflets. Over 100 ‘managed for wildlife’ and ‘Don’t mow let it Grow’ outdoor signs distributed to MDs and members of public. Distributed pollinator resources at ‘Best of Wicklow’ stand at the Tinahely Agricultural Show in Aug and at Wicklow County Council stand at Ashford Honey Festival in September. • Public Biodiversity Awareness Events Including: Biodiversity Treasure Hunt (including pollinators and their food plants) at Brittas Bay in July, Coastal Habitats talk in Brittas in June, Establishing a Wildflower Meadow talk at WCC’s meadow at Clermont in August, Gardening for Biodiversity talk during Climate Action Week in October.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator friendly mowing in Municipal Districts: Each Municipal District expanded on selected ‘pollinator friendly’ areas for management on six weekly cut and lift mowing regime and included pollinator friendly species in new planning schemes on roundabouts, verges and other areas. • Avoidance of chemical use by Municipal Districts: In response to the Glyphosate policy adopted by Wicklow County Council outdoor areas in each MD are being managed on a chemical free or reduced chemical basis. Alternative weed control techniques involving metal brush sweepers and increased use of strimmers are being used along with ‘Foamstream’ equipment which uses steam, biodegradable plant oils and sugar as an alternative to chemical cleaning and weed control on streets and paved areas. • Removal of invasive species. Extensive habitat management works carried out to facilitate recovery of native floral communities at Brittas Bay (Sea Buckthorn removal) and Clermont (Cherry Laurel removal).
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We were unable to make contact with Dublin City Council as part of this review process. More complete attempts will be made in 2025, as it may be a result of staff changes.

The 2024 report was compiled by Kate Chandler, Communities & Engagement Pollinator Officer, National Biodiversity Data Centre.



Implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 is being coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Register Number: 730718.



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
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Local Government and Heritage



An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta
agus Fiadhúlra
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