

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025

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FINAL REVIEW

Update on each action 2021-2025

NOVEMBER 2025



Suggested citation: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (2025): Final Review – Update on each action 2021-2025.
National Biodiversity Data Centre, Waterford.

ALL-IRELAND POLLINATOR PLAN 2021-2025: 186 ACTIONS TO HELP POLLINATORS

FINAL REVIEW OF PROGRESS YEAR 5 (2025)

This is a report on progress with delivery of the actions under the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-25. Report compiled by Úna FitzPatrick, and agreed by the Steering Group. Updates under each of the 186 actions have been provided by the organisation responsible. For each action, the respective partner was contacted and requested to provide a short update against their action for 2021-2025. They were contacted twice by email. This was not policed. Where an update was not provided, this is stated. We thank the partners for their incredibly positive engagement with this process.

The traffic light system to quickly show progress under each action has been agreed by the Steering Group. Some actions are discrete (one off), but the majority are annually rolling actions. Where they have been completed for the 2021-2025 Plan, they are coded green.

	Agreed action was completed
	Action is in progress
	Action has not taken place

OBJECTIVE 1: MAKING FARMLAND POLLINATOR FRIENDLY

Target 1.1 Increase the amount of farmland that is managed in a pollinator-friendly way

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
1	Incorporate relevant evidence-based pollinator-friendly actions and prescriptions into agricultural and agri-environment schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporation of pollinator conservation actions into agri-environment schemes Uptake by farmers 	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	The incorporation of pollinator actions into agri-environmental schemes has seen major development since 2021. The central agri-environment scheme under the CAP Transitional Period (2021-2022) was GLAS (Green Low-Carbon Agri-Environmental Scheme) which had an uptake of approximately 50,000 farmers	

	in Republic of Ireland (RoI).			<p>and included a range of biodiversity actions which benefit pollinators.</p> <p>Several schemes and projects funded under the CAP since 2021 were aimed at piloting the implementation of pollinator conservation actions and learning from these have been incorporated into the development of ACRES. These include the Protecting Farmland Pollinators EIP (40 farmers), the Farmer Moth Monitoring Project EIP (40 farmers) and the Great Yellow Bumblebee EIP (27 farmers) and REAP (Results Based Environment Agri Pilot Programme) (approx.3,750 farmers).</p> <p>From 2022, ACRES (Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme) has been rolled out under the current CAP Strategic Plan (CSP), with an uptake of approximately 53,000 farmers. ACRES is a €1.5 billion agri-environment scheme which aims to address climate change and biodiversity decline while delivering an income support for farms Ireland. The ACRES General approach has a wide range of targeted and general biodiversity actions which benefit pollinators both directly and indirectly (approx. 33,000 participants). Payments to participants in the ACRES Co-operation approach are results-based to reward farmers for farmland habitats which are in good condition and support biodiversity including pollinators (approx. 20,000 participants). Participants in the ACRES Co-operation Project areas may also avail of non-</p>	
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				productive investments and landscape actions to support and enhance priority habitats and species in their respective areas	
2	Incorporate relevant evidence-based pollinator-friendly actions and prescriptions into existing agricultural and agri-environment schemes in Northern Ireland (NI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation of pollinator conservation actions into existing agri-environment schemes • Uptake by farmers 	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)	<p>The Environment Farming Scheme (EFS) first opened for applications in 2017, agreements under the scheme are for five years. Options that aimed to support pollinators were offered through EFS wider. There continues to be EFS Wider Agreements in place with the latest agreements due to expire in 2028.</p> <p>Between 2021-2025 there was an average total yearly uptake of 31ha and 2ha under the following options 'Creation of Pollinator Margins – Annual Wildflower' and 'Creation of Pollinator Margins – Pollen and Nectar' respectively.</p>	
3	Encourage more organic farming (which has been shown to support more pollinators).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the Organic Farming Scheme 	DAFM	<p>Organic Farming has seen a huge growth since 2020, in both its participants and the land being farmed organically; 5,600 organic farmers are currently participating in the scheme with 248,000 ha of land being farmed organically. This represents a tri-fold increase in the land being farmed organically since 2020, which is 5.5% of Ireland's total agricultural land.</p> <p>As part of the Agri Food Strategy (Food Vision 2030) targets DAFM has committed to at least 7.5% of utilisable agricultural area is targeted to be farmed organically by 2030.</p>	
4	Establish a network of stakeholders, including agri-businesses who agree to manage their	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networks of sites identified • Progress reported annually 	AIPP Farmland Officer	Many agri-businesses are currently being supported through the AIPP business supporter's framework (Action 89). These include companies like Aurivo Co-operative Society Ltd., Carbery Food Ingredients,	

own farms or test sites in a pollinator-friendly way, e.g., DAFM, AFBI, individual agri-businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites used to develop case studies which are shared within the network 		Kepak, Kerry Group, Lisavaird Co-op and Food Group and McCormack Family Farms. Around 80 agri-food companies are currently business supporters of the AIPP and have committed to taking on-site actions.	
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Target 1.2 Encourage the sustainable use of agricultural pesticides (insecticides, fungicides, herbicides)

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
5	Encourage the responsible and sustainable use of pesticides (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) in Rol.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the National Action Plan for the Sustainable Use of Pesticides, encourage farmers to minimise the impact of pesticides on pollinators 	DAFM	2025 DAFM have issued guidance notes on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which provides farmers with a tool to assist them make the most appropriate and environmentally suitable crop protection decisions. Additionally, DAFM developed a decision support document to support the responsible use of Plant Protection Products (PPP's) in garden, amenity and public areas. DAFM also liaise with all Local Authorities, Distributors, Sports Associations and Leisure, Recreational and Amenity Facilities to help support them on the requirements for the sustainable use of PPP's. A template for carrying out a risk assessment for areas of non-agriculture for specific areas is also available on DAFM's website for quantifying the use of PPP's where their use is necessary. This document helps the user to decide on whether intervention is necessary or not and if intervention is deemed necessary. DAFM continues to liaise with bodies regarding research and education. Pesticide users, advisors, distributors, and inspectors continue to be trained in the responsible and safe use of PPPs.	

6	Encourage the responsible and sustainable use of pesticides (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the UK National Action Plan for the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (Plant Protection Products) and DAERA Integrated Pest Management Guidance, encourage farmers to minimise the impact of pesticides on pollinators Support the UK-wide Voluntary Initiative on Promoting Responsible Pesticide Use 	<p>DAERA/Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI)</p> <p>Ulster Farmers' Union (UFU)</p>	<p>DAERA/AFBI: An updated UK Pesticides National Action Plan was published in May 2025, representing the approach to be taken by Defra, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government, and the Northern Ireland Executive. One key target is reducing each of the 20 metrics of the Pesticide Load Indicator (PLI) by at least 10% by 2030, using 2018 as a baseline year.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-pesticides-national-action-plan-2025/uk-pesticides-national-action-plan-2025-working-for-a-more-sustainable-future</p> <p>AFBI has established a Plant Health & Integrated Pest Management Branch in 2024, with a specific remit to encourage judicious use of pesticides, which not only has environmental benefits but prolongs the life of active ingredients. AFBI provides an aphid monitoring service for potato and cereal producers, which alerts them to aphid migration and encourages risk-based rather than prophylactic insecticide applications. AFBI have also conducted research on leatherjacket integrated pest management approaches and published a framework for managing this pest following withdrawal of chlorpyrifos.</p> <p>The UFU continue to support the UK-wide Voluntary Initiative on Promoting Responsible Pesticide Use.</p>
7	Summarise and publish annual trends in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarised trends published for RoI 	DAFM and AFBI	DAFM continues to conduct, with technical support from AFBI, pesticide usage surveys in RoI. The most recent reports can be found on DAFM's website

	agricultural pesticide use across the island.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarised trends published for NI 		<p>at: https://www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/sud/pesticidestatistics/</p> <p>Additionally, DAFM publishes the annual pesticide sales data which can be viewed in same link as above.</p> <p>Detailed pesticide usage reports are published on both the DAFM and AFBI websites.</p> <p>AFBI: NI pesticide usage reports are available at: www.afbini.gov.uk/articles/pesticide-usage-monitoring-surveys</p>
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Target 1.3 Provide clear information and training on pollinators to the farming community

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025
8	Establish an All-Ireland farming subgroup to advise and steer on pollinator actions for farmland from the farmers' perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish the subgroup Group meeting at least annually, either in person or remotely 	AIPP Project Manager, supported by Farmland Officer	A small subgroup was established and consulted on a minor number of issues across the current Plan.
9	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for the farming sector at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on the website To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations 	AIPP Farmland Officer	<p>This website was maintained at https://pollinators.ie/farmland/</p> <p>Across this phase, the following were developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pollinator friendly farming: online course - Pollinator friendly hedgerows: online course - How-to-guide on traditional orchards and fruit trees for pollinators on the farm

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flyers to celebrate hedgerows - Posters on seasonal actions for farmland pollinators - Native hedgerow themed calendar - Biodiversity on your Farm – resources on 40 farmland species to record on your farm - 18 blogs relevant to farmland 	
10	Establish a knowledge exchange programme for farmers on protecting pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge exchange programme developed and rolled out Farmer participation 	DAFM, Teagasc, College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE)	<p>DAFM: In 2021 as part of the CAP transition period DAFM allocated €1 million for Advisor CPD. This training included a module on Biodiversity Conservation with material on pollinators and their habitats. Advisors also received training through the Agri Environment Training Scheme (AETS) with presentations focusing on biodiversity and the importance of wildlife habitats. The current CSP Knowledge Transfer Programmes includes a Priority Topic on biodiversity, <i>‘Biodiversity conservation with a focus on identifying key habitats and species and associated tools and management techniques’</i> and approximately 100 KT groups selected this Priority Topic in 2024 and 2025. Local Needs are also selected by KT groups and Local Need Objective 6 (i) <i>‘Restore, maintain, and improve Ireland’s habitats and landscapes in order to halt biodiversity decline, including farmland birds and pollinators’</i> has been selected by approximately 130 groups in 2024 and 2025.</p> <p>Teagasc:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional specialist staff have been available to support biodiversity within Teagasc 	

				<p>including a researcher with specialist knowledge of pollinators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new initiative on the 120 Signpost farms is a biodiversity assessment to identify priority actions for biodiversity including pollinators. • A collaborative initiative between Teagasc and Local Authority Biodiversity Officers through The Heritage Council started in 2024. • Enhancing biodiversity and pollinators were a consideration in the Teagasc/FBD Environmentally Sustainable Farmer of the Year 2024 and included a category winner • Over 40,000 farmer clients through Teagasc client publications (Newsletter and Today's Farm) • A further 300 ACRES Biodiversity training course (ATS) for 3,500 farmers delivered by Teagasc advisors in 2024. • Farmers new to Derogation in 2023 undertook a Biodiversity module in Nitrates Derogation Course delivered by Teagasc advisors • Focus on pollinators and biodiversity at Teagasc National Events: Beef (Grange); Environment (Johnstown Castle) and Biodiversity event (Birr Castle); and Upland Symposium in Louth. • Focus on pollinators and biodiversity at non Teagasc National events including National Ploughing Championships; Bloom, Tullamore Show and Young Scientist Exhibition. 	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teagasc Hedgerow Week held in September expanded to be held in conjunction with The Heritage Council and local Biodiversity Officers. • Biodiversity knowledge exchange to all 140,000 farmers, private advisors and the Agri-environment industry through national and regional print media, tv, radio, podcasts and webinars • Biodiversity including pollinators featured in the weekly Signpost webinars with 300-400 participants from the Agri Environment industry • The Teagasc Biodiversity modules including pollinators (5 x half hour), one of the 5 Environmental Modules for DAFM FAS CPD continues to be a mandatory undertaking for new FAS (Farm Advisory Service) agricultural advisors. <p>CAFRE: Farm management for pollinators has been part of the CAFRE delivery to 400 farmers in the Environmental Business Development Groups. Hedgerow management to assist pollinators is part of an ongoing CAFRE information campaign.</p>	
11	Agricultural colleges to support training and awareness-raising in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of pollinator-friendly management within college sites as a teaching and awareness-raising tool • Incorporation of material on the identification and 	Teagasc	<p>Integration of biodiversity into the agricultural education curriculum was initiated through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of Extensive farming systems into relevant modules • Development of upland module 	

		conservation of pollinators within relevant teaching programmes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Development of Course outline, Learning outcomes and Assessments ✓ Training of teachers and Education Officers ✓ Development of training material <p>Biodiversity Plans have been developed for Teagasc agricultural colleges with habitats identified and targets agreed to increase habits and improve biodiversity management practices as a resource for training and awareness-raising of biodiversity, including protecting pollinators. To be reviewed and amended annually.</p> <p>Annual hedge planting on the ten-year demonstration sites continued on Teagasc farms in spring 2024 and Local Authority Biodiversity officers and other hedgerow and pollinator stakeholders have been invited to visit on the day of planting in spring 2025</p>	
12	Agricultural colleges to support training and awareness-raising in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of pollinator-friendly management within college sites as a teaching and awareness-raising tool • Incorporation of material on the identification and conservation of pollinators within relevant teaching programmes 	CAFRE	<p>CAFRE farm hedgerow management protocol is now in the 8th winter of a mixed hedge cutting & hedgerow sapling strategy designed to provide floral opportunity within each field or land block annually.</p> <p>Five types of arable & grassland margins are in use to pollinators and are maintained with an ongoing volunteer butterfly monitoring transect to monitor the impact of the margins.</p> <p>Farm management for pollinators is part of the CAFRE Level 3 agriculture course.</p>	

13	Farming organisations and agricultural networks to promote pollinator-friendly actions to their members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner organisations to promote pollinator-friendly actions • Those listed under responsibility agreed to this action at time of publication 	Ulster Farmers Union, Irish Organic Association, Organic Trust, others to agree	<p>Ulster Farmers Union:</p> <p>UFU has continued to promote farmland pollinator actions to members. Information and the Pollinator Farmland Guidance has been shared with members through the agricultural press, social media posts and the UFU e-bulletin. The Union referenced the importance of protecting pollinators in relation to hedges in an article in June also featured in Farming Life. The UFU ran a social media campaign with a particular focus on pollinators and their importance to agriculture on World Bee Day (20th May). Any new information or guidance that is produced by the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan project and is relevant to farmers/farming families is automatically shared with our members on social media and through the UFU e-bulletin (over 8000 recipients).</p> <p>Irish Organic Association:</p> <p>The Irish Organic Association has promoted the implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and relevant actions to our members and wider network throughout the programming period 2021-2025. This included the Association supporting the Plan through several informative articles in our Organic Matters magazine, published twice a year. In addition, during the lifetime of the plan's implementation, the Irish Organic Association introduced a dedicated section in our monthly e-newsletter called "Working with Biodiversity on Your Farm or in Your Business" to highlight relevant information and tips to organic farmers and businesses to support pollinators and</p>
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				<p>biodiversity more broadly. Both publications were distributed to all Irish Organic Association members across the island.</p> <p>All content took advantage of and signposted materials developed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) and other actors. Pollinator-friendly related actions were also promoted via our social media channels, including regular engagement with the NBDC social media channels. Many of our members are practising farming methods on their farms which enhance and encourage biodiversity, with many actively involved at a community level in a variety of projects and networks that seek to protect and promote our natural heritage. This includes initiatives such as Farming for Nature, as well as other individual events and activities.</p> <p>Organic Trust: Organic Trust CLG remains committed to making the island of Ireland more pollinator-friendly and the objective of making farmland more pollinator friendly remains at the heart of the farming endeavors which we certify. We aim to ensure crop pollination, wild plant pollination and to continue to nurture the diversity of pollinators on our island as study after study confirms that maintaining pollinator diversity keeps agricultural systems and natural ecosystems resilient – co-dependant from a singularly positive perspective. In this respect the Organic Trust continues to promote pollinator-friendly actions to</p>	
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				our members; stresses the importance of the Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 on our website and promotes the Plan to our members within our organic journal Clover and within our monthly E-Newsletter Organic Trust News. Organic Trust promoted several other initiatives on its digital platforms, these included No Mow May, Hedgerow Week and World Soil Day to name but a few.	
14	Publish a guideline document outlining evidence-based pollinator actions for forestry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of guidelines for forestry • Dissemination to all relevant bodies 	AIPP Farmland Officer and relevant partners	This guideline is in development but has not been finalised in this phase.	
15	Publish a guideline document that links pollinator/biodiversity actions to their carbon/climate benefits on farmland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collation of all relevant research necessary for this document • Publication when a sufficient evidence base is in place 	AIPP Farmland Officer and relevant partners	This was not progressed. It is an active research area, and it has been decided to wait until a more complete evidence base is in place.	
16	Publish other new evidence-based pollinator guideline documents for the farming sector as necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate which guideline documents are required and prioritise a programme for their development. May include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pollinator-friendly management of stud farms (equine industry) - Integration of pollinator-friendly guidelines into the Agricultural Catchments Programme 	AIPP Farmland Officer and relevant partners	<p>The following new guidelines were produced across this Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pollinator friendly farming: online course ✓ Pollinator friendly hedgerows: online course ✓ How-to-guide on traditional orchards and fruit trees for pollinators on the farm 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of pollinator-friendly guidelines for archaeological sites on farmland 			
17	Promote best practice in the use of imported bumblebee colonies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant organisations to disseminate the evidence-based guideline document: <i>Guidelines for users of imported bumblebee colonies</i> (AIPP, 2020) 	Teagasc, DAERA	The guidelines were promoted where relevant	
18	Promote the AIPP at key agricultural events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance at the National Ploughing Championship, ROI Attendance at the Balmoral Show, NI Attendance at other relevant agricultural events 	AIPP Farmland Officer	The following key events were attended by the Farmland Officer across the 2021-2025 phase: National Ploughing Championship, Virginia Agriculture Show, Bloom, Base Ireland 'Soil Dependence' day, Farming for Nature events, multiple Teagasc events across all sectors, including assisting with judging the biodiversity section of the Teagasc/FBD Sustainability Awards.	

Target 1.4 Raise awareness and celebrate pollinator diversity on Irish farmland

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
19	Investigate the potential for an All-Ireland farmland meadow competition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping study on a potential meadow competition to celebrate the diversity and importance of natural farmland meadows for pollinators/biodiversity 	<p>Coordinated by AIPP Farmland Officer</p> <p>Needs a funding body/sponsor</p>	Work around this action spring boarded ahead. In 2022, the NPWS launched a new project to celebrate Irish semi-natural grasslands called ' Great Irish Grasslands ' https://greatirishgrasslands.ie/ This has been supported by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, and addresses many of the progress measures identified under this action. It also creates a	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should link to future agri-environment initiatives where appropriate • Should build on learning from the Save our Magnificent Meadows project in NI (2014–2017) • To include an investigation of the potential for a green hay exchange • To include an investigation into creating a future donor site map for wildflower seed collection for local restoration projects • If funding is sourced, this should be rolled out on a gradual scale as the first building block in creating a network of flower-rich meadows across farmland 		<p>foundation to specifically celebrate farmland meadows in the future.</p> <p>In 2023, the AIPP Steering Group agreed that a ‘Grassland Trail’ would replace the ‘Pollinator Trail’ (Action 32). The initial booklet profiled nine semi-natural grassland sites across public and private land, of which one was on farmland.</p> <p>In late 2024, an additional eighteen grassland sites have been added to the Trail booklet, with efforts made to specifically include farmland sites. The updated booklet now includes eleven farmland meadows. Current Trail booklet: pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Grasslands-Trail-2024-new-WEB.pdf As of the end of 2025, the Trail booklet will contain thirty sites in total.</p> <p>This resource will be used to generate interest, with the aim of creating a network of 100+ sites in future years.</p>	
20	Investigate the potential for an annual May Hedgerow Festival.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping study on a potential Hedgerow Festival to celebrate the uniqueness and value of native hedgerows (Run in May when native hedgerows are in full flower) • Should include biodiversity as well as cultural components and bring in the wider community to celebrate and 	<p>Coordinated by AIPP Farmland Officer</p> <p>Needs a funding body/sponsor</p>	<p>Upon discussion, this action was changed into a wider initiative within the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The <i>Festival of Farmland Biodiversity</i> began in 2021 and took place each year https://biodiversityireland.ie/farmlandbiodiversity/</p> <p>Each year, saw a month long virtual ‘Festival of Farmland Biodiversity’ in May. In 2024 and 2025, it specifically focussed on the theme of native species-rich hedgerows. This included daily social media on all</p>	

		<p>appreciate farmers as protectors of this vital habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should stress the importance of hedgerows as networks for nature and for carbon capture • Should link with the Teagasc Hedgerow Week in September which promotes good hedgerow management • If funding is sourced, this should be rolled out on a gradual scale 		<p>aspects of native hedgerows, using reels, links to further information, and management advice. It placed farmers at the heart of celebrating this unique and important habitat.</p>	
21	Run a campaign to raise awareness and celebrate pollinator diversity on farmland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness-raising campaign rolled out. This to be largely social media based, but may also include newsletters, blogs, videos, etc. • This to be run in collaboration with an existing National Biodiversity Data Centre project: Protecting Farmland Pollinators EIP 2019-2023 (funded by DAFM through the European Innovation Partnership) 	National Biodiversity Data Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ This was largely carried out through the Festival of Farmland Biodiversity (above). ✓ Information sheets on native pollinator species found on farmland were developed in 2023 and released weekly via social media across 2023-2025 as part of '<i>Biodiversity on your Farm</i>'. The aim was to help farmers learn more about the species they are likely to find on their land. There was also a simple tip each week for managing the farm for biodiversity. They were shared on social media by the National Biodiversity Data Centre and DAFM. The 40 species profiled can be found here: https://biodiversityireland.ie/surveys/biodiversity-on-your-farm/ <p>Other awareness raising activities across this phase included:</p>	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Six farm walks ✓ Forty-two presentations/training events ✓ Ten radio interviews 	
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Target 1.5 Track changes in pollinators on farmland

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
22	Publish an annual review of farmland actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an annual review outlining progress within actions under this objective • Publication on AIPP website each December 	Coordinated by AIPP Farmland Officer	The yearly annual report document provided a review of the farmland actions each year.	
23	Track progress within the farmland sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open up the online mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> to the farmland sector https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/ • Number of farms logging their pollinator-friendly actions 	AIPP Farmland Officer	This action has been moved to the next phase of the Plan, due to ongoing background research. Considerations are still being given on how best to open up the mapping system to farmers and how to integrate with the findings of the 'Protecting Farmland Pollinators' EIP project, run by the National Biodiversity Data Centre (2019-2023). A scoring tool was developed within the EIP project that enables farmers to generate a score indicating how pollinator friendly their farm is. The widespread promotion of this tool to all farmers, along with an enhanced Actions for Pollinator mapping system are planned for the next phase 2026-2030.	
24	Monitor pollinators across a network of farmland sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the framework necessary for a national pollinator monitoring scheme to include sites across 	National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme requires funding	In 2021, DAFM and NPWS granted initial funding for this scheme which is being managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in the Republic of Ireland. The project began in September 2021 and was rolled	

		<p>farmland, public and protected land. This should be in line with the European Pollinator Monitoring Scheme recommendations (2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source funding and roll out this scheme to monitor pollinators across a network of farmland sites 		<p>out as a National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme in 2022. In 2025, a total of 42 sites were monitored across farmland, semi-natural sites, and urban parks. Of these, 22 sites were on farmland, 16 are semi-natural sites and 4 are urban parks.</p> <p>An equivalent scheme is run in Northern Ireland, as part of the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme. It is managed by NIEA. Of the 20 squares in NI, 11 have been surveyed in 2025.</p>	
25	Publish annual farmland pollinator index.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the annual data from a National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme, publish annual trends as a farmland pollinator index 	National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme	This index could not be developed in this phase. It requires more data to annually feed through the National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (Action 24 above).	
26	Develop a Citizen Science recording scheme for farmland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the possibility of creating a simple, tailored Citizen Science scheme for farmers to enable them to track changes in common pollinators on their land • Pending funding, roll out this scheme nationally 	AIPP Farmland Officer & National Biodiversity Data Centre, Centre for Environmental Data and Recording NI (CEDaR)	<p>A series of initiatives have been trialed over this period:</p> <p>Forty native species were profiled across 2023-2025 as part of an initiative called '<i>Biodiversity on your farm</i>' (Action 21). Each week, farmers had the opportunity to learn more about the species they are likely to find on their land, and they were encouraged to submit sightings.</p> <p>A farmland biodiversity monitoring scheme was piloted with a small group of 24 farmers in 2025. It will be reviewed going forward.</p> <p>The most successful citizen science scheme that has been developed for farmers is the Farmer Moth</p>	

				<p>Monitoring Scheme. In 2022, the National Biodiversity Data Centre piloted a farmer moth monitoring EIP project. Twenty farmers from Kildare and neighbouring counties were able to independently operate moth traps and successfully monitor moths on their farms. It was repeated with a second group of farmers in Co Donegal in 2023. It has shown the general interest and willingness of farmers to engage in and contribute to citizen science. Moths are important nocturnal pollinators, and a nationwide and longer-term scheme would allow populational trends of moths on Irish farmland to be accurately monitored. DAFM agreed to fund the national citizen science farmer moth monitoring scheme in 2024. In 2025, almost 60 farmers monitored moths on their farms each fortnight from April-September. The aim is to increase this to 100 farmers by 2028.</p>	
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OBJECTIVE 2: MAKING PUBLIC LAND POLLINATOR FRIENDLY

Target 2.1 Increase the area of Council land that is managed in a pollinator-friendly way

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
27	Increase the number of Councils who formally agree to partner with the Plan and take actions.	✓ There are 31 Local Authorities in RoI and 11 in NI. Target of 90% of all Councils formally signed up as partners of the Plan by 2025.	AIPP Communities Officer	All 42 Councils across the island have formally partnered with the Plan as of 2023.	
28	Support relevant sections of Councils to engage with and implement the AIPP. Ensure the AIPP is integrated within relevant Local Authority policy instruments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plan promoted to relevant sections within Councils, e.g. Environment, Local Enterprise Offices, Parks Dept, Engineers, Strategic Policy Committees (SPC), Public Participation Networks (PPNs), etc. ✓ Integration of the Plan within relevant policy instruments, e.g. County Heritage Plans, County Biodiversity Plans, County Development Plans, Local Economic and Community Plans, Climate Adaptation Plans, etc. 	Coordinated by Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network; Environment Departments	Across the life of the current Plan, the Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network have supported Councils in engaging with the AIPP and in integrating pollinator actions within the relevant policy frameworks.	
29	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for the Council sector at	✓ Up-to-date resources provided on the website. To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars,	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/councils/</p> <p>The following resources have been developed for Councils during this phase:</p>	

	www.pollinators.ie/councils	<p>presentations, case studies, animations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary in consultation with Councils ✓ Council toolkit to be continually expanded to meet needs under the advice of the Heritage and Biodiversity Officer networks. May include, but not limited to: technical guidelines on meadow management, grass disposal, advice on pesticide alternatives, advice on new emerging technologies. ✓ Promote new and innovative ways for Councils to engage with the AIPP, e.g. Promotion of the successful <i>Midleton Pollinator Plan 2020</i> (Cork CoCo) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Webinar 2021 – 7 presentations available on https://pollinators.ie/councils/councils-webinar-2021/ - Council Conference 2024 (in person) – 4 presentations available on https://pollinators.ie/councils/council-conference-2024/ - Ecological Corridors for Pollinators (2024) including specific guidelines for councils and local authority-specific case studies in creating ecological corridors - Protecting Pockets of Nature (2025) in collaboration with South Dublin County Council - Protecting Nature signage (2025) - Meadow in Progress & Let it Bee signage (2023) – bilingual options, and editable versions with space to add council logo. - Pesticides Alternative Survey (2024). <p>Each Council partner is asked to provide a short update of activities to feed into the Council partner’s annual review document. It is published in parallel to this main AIPP Annual Review. The Council partners annual review is used to highlight the positive actions taking place across Local Authorities, but also to assist with knowledge exchange. All of these are available</p>
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				at https://pollinators.ie/aipp-2021-2025/annual-reviews/	
30	Provide an ongoing knowledge exchange programme for Council staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Organise annual knowledge exchange event for Council partners ✓ Continue to develop blogs, case studies and newsletters ✓ Training provided to Council staff 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>The 2024 Council knowledge exchange event took place on the 13th June 2024 at the Civic Theatre in Tallaght. It was organised in collaboration with South Dublin County Council. The day focused on sharing knowledge on managing meadows for pollinators and on alternatives to herbicide use.</p> <p>In 2022 the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan team helped facilitate a conference 'How can Local Authorities Address the Biodiversity Emergency', which was hosted by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in collaboration with Limerick City & County Council.</p> <p>The 2021 Council knowledge exchange event took place online due to Covid restrictions. It was organized in collaboration with Carlow County Council and featured talks on topics such as pollinator-friendly planting and seed harvesting.</p>	
31	Increase the number of Regional Assemblies who agree to partner with the Plan and support implementation within local government, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are three Regional Assemblies in RoI. Each to be approached on supporting the objectives of the AIPP 2021-2025. • Each has a 12 year Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) (made in 2019/2020) containing Regional Planning 	The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA), others to agree	<p>The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES) for the three Regional Assemblies promote the aims of the AIPP. More engagement with the Regional Assemblies is planned for future. To date, the most direct engagement has been with EMRA, who have provided an update on their support below.</p> <p>Over the life of the AIPP 2021-2025, EMRA has engaged with the AIPP team and has actively</p>	

		<p>Objectives (RPOs). These to support implementation of the AIPP 2021-2025 (and vice versa), where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each participates in EU projects which involve sectoral, local, regional and international engagement activities. Where thematically relevant, these to promote the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (e.g. the Interreg Europe PROGRESS project on which the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly is a partner) 		<p>promoted the AIPP across local, regional and international networks, initially in the context of the EMRA partnered Interreg Europe PROGRESS project (PROGRESS).</p> <p>Some key highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of the first AIPP as a Good Practice (GP) in the <u>1st Thematic Handbook</u> of the PROGRESS project and the expert reviewed <u>Policy Learning Platform</u> (PLP). • Development of <u>video</u> to promote the AIPP as a GP across Europe. • EIP-Agri Protecting Farmland Pollinators (PFP) was presented at PROGRESS seminars and workshops and included in the <u>3rd Thematic Handbook</u>. • A <u>feature article</u> on the AIPP and PFP included on the Interreg Europe PLP homepage. • Various project partners from across Europe took action to emulate the AIPP approach in their own regions. • EMRA created and hosted a dedicated AIPP virtual exhibition space at the Environmental Conference of the Regions of Europe 2021 (ENCORE). • Úna Fitzpatrick addressed the EPA SEA Forum event hosted by the Three Regional Assemblies titled “Bringing Nature into Local Authority Development Plans”. • Úna Fitzpatrick and Dr Owen Douglas (EMRA) jointly participated in a Webinar on ‘Societal 	
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				<p>impact of research in Natural Sciences' organised by the University of Barcelona.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By invitation from EMRA and Interreg Europe, Dr Saorla Kavanagh presented PFP at the Interreg Europe (IE) thematic Workshop 'Preserving and restoring eco-systems and biodiversity' on 'Environment and Resource Efficiency Day' of IE Policy Learning Week. PFP was subsequently included in the associated <u>policy brief</u>. • At the final PROGRESS event in Barcelona, Ms. Bridget Loughlin (then Kildare County Council) participated in a panel session on understanding the need for, and challenges related to the implementation of regional/local pollinator plans. Ms. Loughlin outlined the experience of Kildare County Council as a partner to the AIPP. • EMRA Director shared the AIPP with the ENCORE Steering Committee as a successful action for biodiversity to solve problems of sustainability at a large scale at their meeting in the Czech Republic. • EMRA launched its new website which includes <u>policy and research resources</u> relating to green infrastructure and ecosystem services. This includes policy briefs, good practice handbooks and infographics which showcase the AIPP as a transferrable good practice for regional and local government. 	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMRA participated in a brainstorming session focussing on developing the Local Authority and Public Bodies module of the AIPP for 2026-2030. 	
32	Develop an All-Ireland 'Pollinator Trail' across public land, composed of a network of sites demonstrating high quality pollinator/biodiversity-friendly management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIPP to develop criteria for the initiative Local Authorities to identify suitable publicly owned sites to form part of a trail. Begin process of developing an All-Ireland network of high-quality sites across different pollinator-friendly actions (meadows, hedgerows, orchards, perennial planting, etc.) that are branded and promoted as a Pollinator Trail and used for knowledge transfer Begin with Council sites, but develop a roadmap to expand this to other sectors, e.g. local community examples Discuss with relevant bodies how this network can be fully promoted to maximise the positive potential for human health and wellbeing and as a tourism initiative Increase in the number of sites within the Trail 	<p>Coordinated by Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network and AIPP Communities Officer</p> <p>Requires resources for branding</p>	<p>Following discussions with the Steering Group in 2023, it was decided to change this action slightly. Instead of developing a 'Pollinator Trail' we will work with partners to develop a 'Grassland Trail'.</p> <p>Collaboration with NPWS that began in 2022, has led to a new project to celebrate Irish semi-natural grasslands called 'Great Irish Grasslands' https://greatirishgrasslands.ie/</p> <p>Within this initiative, we are working to develop a 'Grassland Trail' booklet to identify and promote excellent examples of semi-natural grassland meadows, across public and private land. As meadow sites form the bedrock of important areas for pollinators as well as wider biodiversity, it was decided that this was a more strategic action.</p> <p>The first phase of the initiative was completed in late 2023, and a booklet was produced by the NPWS and the National Biodiversity Data Centre to celebrate nine grassland sites. In 2024, it was expanded to include another eighteen sites; and again in 2025 to bring the total number of sites to thirty. The plan is to increase the number of sites in coming years, to ultimately create a wide network across the island. It will help celebrate this important habitat and provide</p>	

				opportunities for knowledge exchange on correct management.	
33	Encourage the development of 'Pollinator-friendly Parks' on public land, i.e. parks that demonstrate a wide range of pollinator-friendly actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIPP to provide 'Pollinator-friendly Parks' criteria, including a template of features and minimum standards, e.g. small natural meadow, pollinator-friendly planting, nesting habitats, no pesticide use, mini orchard • Local Authorities to identify suitable areas to be managed/developed as 'Pollinator-friendly Parks' • Webpage and branding developed by AIPP to promote the location of these parks • AIPP to provide standardised signage templates for various park features and on pollinating insects • AIPP to develop associated materials and make freely available online: lesson plans and activities for school nature talks; health and wellbeing resources etc. • Where new areas are being developed, Councils to be encouraged to consider locating them within easy reach of schools in socio- 	Coordinated by Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network, other relevant sections of Councils & AIPP Communities Officer	A checklist has been developed for pollinator actions in park settings. This is based on the scoring criteria for the Green Flag Pollinator Award for parks (Action 34) and will be further developed into a published resource in the next phase. In the next phase, consideration will also be given as to how to build additional resources around this for parks.	

		economically disadvantaged areas.			
34	Promote pollinator awards for Council-owned/managed land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote and support the pollinator award in the An Taisce Green Flag for Parks initiative in RoI Investigate the possibility of an equivalent award in the Green Flags for Parks initiative in NI Investigate existing award structures and the potential to have an annual award to recognize the most pollinator-friendly Council. (RoI and NI) 	An Taisce, AIPP Communities Officer, other partners as relevant	<p>Republic of Ireland:</p> <p>The An Taisce Green Flag for Parks initiative in RoI has included a special pollinator award since 2017. Thanks to Young Nurseries who have sponsored the award during this phase. Between 2021-2025, 73 entries have been received from 31 parks, with awards across four categories: Walled Gardens, Community Parks, Town Parks and Country Parks/Demesne. The standard of applications continues to improve across the categories and in 2024 the entry form was updated to reflect the most recent evidence-based actions. The quality of work has been so high that since 2022, the award has acknowledged 'highly commended' parks in addition to the winners.</p> <p>Northern Ireland:</p> <p>From 2022-2024, Northern Ireland has run an annual Green Flag Pollinator Award, with awards for council and community parks. This award is run by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.</p>	

Target 2.2 Make transport corridors more pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
35	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for Transport Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on AIPP website To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, 	AIPP Communities Officer	This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/transportcorridors	

		<p>presentations, case studies, animations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All 2015-2020 resources to be updated where necessary ✓ Toolkit to be expanded to meet needs, under the advice of Transport Authority partners. 			
36	TII to promote pollinator-friendly management of the national road network in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of grassland management and pollinator-friendly planting across all existing motorway service areas • Grass-cutting frequency to move from condition-based maintenance to a specified programme, i.e. reduced number of cuts per year • All new roadside planting to have a significant proportion of pollinator-friendly plants • Areas of pollinator-friendly management mapped on GIS • Reduction in the use of pesticides on the network • Control and manage the spread of invasive plant species. 	Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ TII published in May 2024 a Design and Delivery of Soft Landscape Treatments in Urban Transport Environments Overarching Technical Document where planting for pollinators is one of the Planet Positive functions of any TII landscape treatments. The document gives guidance on the design and management of transport corridor landscapes with a focus on biodiversity. GE-ENV-03002 ✓ TII published in May 2024 a Guide for the Implementation of Soft Landscape in Towns and Villages on National Roads which lists the AIPP as a key reference document. GE-ENV-03001 ✓ TII is progressing work on a Biodiversity Impact Assessment Standard which will incorporate references to the AIPP- due to be published May 2026. ✓ TII is also developing a biodiversity metric tailored to Irish habitats which will allow us to quantify potential losses/gains in biodiversity on proposed linear infrastructure projects. TII's Biodiversity Metric & User Guide to be published in December 2025. 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The areas of motorway networks under TII's direct responsibility continue to implement the aims of the AIPP with lessons learnt being reviewed annually. The next set of contract document for landscape management are being prepared in 2026 to align with the actions of the AIPP Transport Guide. ✓ The AIPP guide for Transport Corridors continues to be a required reference for all TII landscape schemes. ✓ AIPP Plan is referenced as applicable when carrying out management, appraisal, design in the TII document 'Environmental Impact Assessment of Rural Cycleways (Offline & Greenway) – A Practical Guide' which was published in November 2024. ✓ Mapping of Pollinator areas is linked to a general landscape mapping strategy and a data collection process is being currently developed. ✓ The Luas Light Rail Operators new contract requirements for the Red and Green Luas Line and tram depots include actions for pollinators and a reporting requirement. Luas Finglas will require contractors to align their emerging designs in compliance with the AIPP. ✓ TII are continuing with its programme of invasive plant control and are trialling alternative methods of weed control on the Motorway Network. ✓ Key Motorway Service areas continue to manage their motorway services areas in line with the AIPP. 	
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37	<p>Department for Infrastructure NI to promote pollinator-friendly management of the national road network in NI.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review DfI Roads' environmental policies to promote pollinator-friendly practices and to encourage their inclusion on road schemes, where practicable • Review the outputs from the 'Don't mow, let it grow' pilot project to determine if grass-cutting policy could be changed to help improve the available biodiversity resource • Design of roadside planting on Strategic Road Projects to incorporate pollinator-friendly plants • Areas of pollinator-friendly management to be identified and recorded • Consider alternatives to the use of pesticides on the network • Continue to control and manage the spread of invasive plant species 	<p>Department for Infrastructure NI</p> <p>Roadside Verge Management Policy Introduced a revised grass-cutting policy 'DEM 193/22 Verge Management (Grass Cutting)' to promote rewilding and biodiversity enhancement. Reduced mowing frequency to allow native flora to flourish, improving habitat quality for pollinators. Developed in partnership with Ulster Wildlife and aligned with AIPP goals.</p> <p>Collaborative Biodiversity Projects Support 'Don't Mow Let It Grow' sites in partnership with local Councils. Increased awareness of the 'No Mow May' initiative through media campaigns with Plantlife and Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council.</p> <p>Pollinator-Friendly Infrastructure Design Embedded biodiversity obligations in contracts for major schemes (e.g., A6 dualling project). Required planting of native trees, hedges, and wildflowers. Designs informed by the NI Biodiversity Strategy 2020 and developed with NINWG.</p> <p>Pesticide Alternatives and Habitat Enhancement Trialled non-chemical weed control methods including mechanical, biological, and manual techniques. Promoted wildflower meadows to suppress invasive species and support pollinators.</p> <p>Staff Training and Knowledge Building</p>
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				<p>Delivered in-house training on invasive species control and pollinator-friendly land management. Environmental Advisory Officers completed an Environmental Management Certificate qualification to assist in the publication an implementation of a new Environmental Management System (EMS) based on the principles on ISO 14001.</p> <p>Strengthening Partnerships DfI, in partnership with TII, have arranged a NSMC Transport Sector Biodiversity Workshop for October 2025 to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss biodiversity and the associated aspects of climate mitigation in transport. The workshop brings together key stakeholders from government departments, transport agencies, and environmental organisations to explore practical pathways for climate mitigation and biodiversity protection and promotion within the transport sector.</p>	
38	Iarnród Éireann to promote pollinator-friendly management of the national rail network in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of grassland management and pollinator-friendly planting across all stations • Grass-cutting frequency to move from condition-based maintenance to a specified programme, i.e. reduced number of cuts per year • All new landscaping planting specifications to incorporate 	Iarnród Éireann	<p>We have continued to enhance both operational and non-operational areas for pollinators through the expansion of our pollinator/biodiversity focused projects. Notable initiatives in 2025 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site pollinator works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ creation of a solitary bee habitat and wildflower planting at Castlebar Station, ✓ installation of plant boxes at Howth DART Station in partnership with Howth Tidy Towns (native and ornamental pollinator-friendly plants), and 	

		<p>AIPP pollinator-friendly planting code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of pollinator-friendly management mapped on GIS • Reduction in the use of pesticides on the network. Commit to trialing alternatives to glyphosate in station carparks and platforms • Control and manage the spread of invasive plant species • Creation of pollinator-friendly habitat on non-operational lands 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ fostering a pollinator-friendly meadow at Ennis through reducing mowing, with additional native hedgerow and pollinator-friendly planting*. ✓ grassland management and pollinator planting at Inchicore Works, with participation in No-Mow May and the extension of native shrub planting on the main lawn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afforestation projects: Creation of pollinator-friendly woodlands through tree planting projects at Portlaoise Train Care Depot lands and Inchicore Works. Additional afforestation efforts on agricultural lands, alongside active applications under the Creation of Woodland on Public Lands Scheme. • Pollinator data collection: Trialling Polliknow pollinator data capturing to aid in the understanding of our sites and create baselines to determine improvement. • Mapping of all pollinator-friendly sites is scheduled for completion by the end of 2025, following the rollout of all new projects. <p>To reinforce these efforts across the network, the AIPP Pollinator-Friendly Planting Code is consistently applied and communicated to contractors, ensuring our</p>
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				<p>organisation maintains a nature-positive approach. This will be additionally supported by our Biodiversity Action Plan, which is currently in development. We continue ensure our pesticides are approved for use by DAFM and we phase out the use of certain pesticides. We remain committed prudent use of approved pesticides and identifying more sustainable treatment alternatives where possible.</p> <p>Invasive species are actively mapped and managed across our network, and Mare's Tail has recently been added to our invasives technical documentation to raise awareness and improve treatment strategies.</p> <p>*Ennis project due to begin mid-October 2025.</p>	
39	Translink to promote pollinator-friendly management of the national public transport network in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the message of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, and associated guidelines across Translink, stakeholders and contractors • Ensure increasing pollinators is a key facet within the proposed new Translink Biodiversity Strategy – including the improvement of grassland management and pollinator-friendly planting across the Translink estate 	Translink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We launched our new 7-year Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2030. 'Positive Action for Pollinators' forms one of the strategy's 5 themes, working towards the following target: By 2025, implement and deliver pollinator recording initiatives along our transport corridors, and by 2030 set aside at least 10% of our adjacent landholdings for habitat management practices. Our pollinator theme has 5 priority actions, working alongside partner eNGOs. ✓ We carried out station biodiversity workshops with leaflets educating staff and passengers about pollinators. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a suite of Translink Biodiversity Information sheets focused on pollinators • All new landscaping planting specifications to incorporate AIPP pollinator-friendly planting code • Areas of pollinator-friendly management mapped on GIS • Continue to work in partnership with employees, contractors, local communities, and environmental NGOs to promote pollinator-friendly planting. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We carried out 60 FIT counts along the Belfast-Newry line during summer 2024 focusing on station planters and displays. ✓ We have planted 3 native woodlands with 30k trees (Scots pine, Alder, Downy birch, Silver birch, Pedunculate oak, Rowan, Cherry and Hazel). <p>In 2025 we carried out additional work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pollinator planting in raised beds at halts along the Bangor Line, working with native seed supplier and contractors. ✓ We continue to sponsor Ulster in Bloom awards and are keen to promote pollinator-friendly, more sustainable perennial planting at our stations. ✓ We successfully ran 4 station biodiversity workshops, for the second year, with pollinator information leaflets to educate staff and passengers. We also distributed our Eco-Hero booklet for children. ✓ Our first pollinator signage was installed at York Street Station to highlight the newly planted wildflower embankments. ✓ We have carried out Flower Insect Timed Counts (FIT counts) at our 3 newly established native woodlands. 	
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40	Waterways Ireland to promote pollinator-friendly management of the national waterway towpath network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the message of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 within Waterways Ireland and with stakeholders. • Continued rollout of biodiversity-rich grassland management as standalone and through community partnerships. • Grass-cutting frequency to favour pollinators, i.e. reduced number of cuts per year. • Areas of pollinator-friendly management mapped on the AIPP GIS. • Control and manage the spread of invasive plant species. • Continue to ensure biodiversity and pollinator actions are core elements of the new Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2030. • Support grant applications that support biodiversity. 	Waterways Ireland	<p>Promotion and Collaboration</p> <p>Throughout the period 2021-2025 the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP) was promoted on Waterways Ireland's social media and through various channels, including a Virtual Reality Canal experience and a Virtual Open Day. The organisation continued to cosponsor and adjudicate the Tidy Towns Special Award, recognising voluntary contributions. A train-the-trainer initiative on urban canal biodiversity (including pollinators) was run in collaboration with a community group in 2021.</p> <p>Pollinator-Friendly Grassland Management</p> <p>Waterways Ireland managed numerous sites for biodiversity and pollinators, including Daingean, Pollagh, Ticknevin, Dolphins Barn, Meelick, Victoria Lock, and Ballinasloe, extending management to offices in Scarriff and Enniskillen. The majority of towpaths and trackways outside the immediate path edge are subject to pollinator-friendly management, including reduced grass-cutting frequency. Specific enhancements included establishing a heritage orchard at the Scarriff offices (2023) and a new pollinator-friendly area at Ferns Lock, Royal Canal (2023), which involved planting native hedging and fruit trees. In 2024, Marsh Fritillary Butterfly habitat management was conducted near Mullingar, with input from NPWS. Pollinator-friendly management was a significant element of ecology and environmental best practice toolbox talks delivered to staff in 2024.</p>
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				<p>Mapping Actions related to the AIPP were mapped on the AIPP GIS</p> <p>Herbicide-Free Weed Control Waterways Ireland trialled and implemented herbicide-free weed control methods. This included purchasing and operating 11 battery-operated eWeedhex units (purchased in 2022, operational from 2023 to 2025), which mechanically remove weeds and are zero GHG emission. The organisation also maintained a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Kildare County Council and other local authorities to jointly fund research into herbicide-free weed control methods</p> <p>Invasive Species Management Monitoring and management of both terrestrial and aquatic invasive species was a core aspect of work each year. Waterways Ireland staff participated in the National Invasive Species Action Group coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre</p> <p>Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2030 and Community Grant Scheme Waterways Ireland launched its Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2030 in 2025 and the plan brings together heritage and biodiversity management into a coherent strategy that recognises the waterways as living systems; places where natural habitats, historic structures and communities interconnect along over 1,200km of navigable routes.</p>
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				<p>Actions for biodiversity and pollinators were committed to being core elements of the new Plan. The Community Heritage & Biodiversity Grant Scheme continued each year to support a wide range of heritage initiatives, including projects focused solely on the protection and/or promotion of biodiversity</p>	
41	Promote pollinator-friendly management of future transport routes, e.g. future greenway cycle routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guideline document (<i>Pollinator-friendly management of Transport Corridors</i> 2019) to be applied to new projects as relevant, e.g., MetroLink and all future light rail projects • Continue to reach out to new partners and to promote the adoption of the guideline document for new transport routes. • Develop additional resources around pollinator-friendly management of greenways and new cycle routes 	AIPP Communities Officer and relevant partners	<p>Relevant partners are addressing this action (see actions above). Pollinator actions for greenways have been discussed, and can be progressed as a published resource, if deemed necessary in the next phase.</p>	

Target 2.3 Make schools and educational properties more pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
42	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on the website. To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations, etc. ✓ All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary. 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/schools/</p> <p>The following resources have been developed for schools during this phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated and redesigned pollinator Lesson Plans in collaboration with Laois County Council (2025) - A free online course ‘Managing School Grounds for Biodiversity’ aimed at school groundskeepers and caretakers, developed in collaboration with the Department of Education and with input from teachers and schools. (2025) An Irish language version of the course is in progress and uptake has been significant. Natural England have expressed interest in developing a version of the course for schools in England. - In 2025 the AIPP joined a new Schools Biodiversity Working group led by the Irish Schools Sustainability Network to further develop biodiversity resources and support for schools. <p>Advice has also been provided to others developing school resources - Gas Networks Ireland (2023), Twinkl’s ‘Gardening for Kids’ campaign (2023).</p>	

43	Green-Schools to encourage pollinator-friendly management of schools in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinators to continue to be promoted within the Green-Schools Initiative • Increase in the numbers of students, teachers, principals and caretakers exposed to pollinator information • Investigate the possibility of schools being awarded a pollinator award upon production and implementation of a School Pollinator Plan. 	Green-Schools	<p>The Green-Schools biodiversity team have continued to make support materials and new resources for schools, with specific links to pollinators. These have all contained information on the AIPP and links to www.pollinators.ie</p> <p>The Green-Schools Biodiversity team has communicated information to school communities regarding pollinators over the last 5 years in a variety of ways, including hosting webinars which focus on pollinator friendly actions schools can take, organising themed pollinator action days, featuring articles in the Green-Schools Newsletter (over 5.8k subscribers) on campaigns like Pitches for Pollinators and promoting actions on social media.</p> <p>Green-Schools host annual teacher training seminars each Autumn. For teachers attending seminars linked to the themes of “Biodiversity and “Food and Biodiversity” information is provided on the importance of pollinators and advice is given on implementing pollinator friendly actions in their school grounds. 791 teachers, each representing their respective schools, have attended a training seminar since 2021.</p> <p>Since 2021, schools who were awarded a Green Flag for Biodiversity have implemented a wide variety of pollinator friendly actions, including creating 720 “Native Wildflower Patches”, 563 “Unmanaged</p>	
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				Wildlife Areas”, adding over 4000 window boxes and planting over 18,000 trees.	
44	Eco-Schools to encourage pollinator-friendly management of schools in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinators to continue to be promoted within the Eco-Schools Initiative • Increase in the numbers of students, teachers, principals and caretakers exposed to pollinator information • Investigate the possibility of schools being awarded a pollinator award upon production and implementation of a School Pollinator Plan. 	Eco-Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini orchards/biodiversity gardens installed in a total of 116 schools as part of Danske Bank and Radius Housing projects. • Provision of wildlife support features, including insect hotels, and supporting biodiversity workshops to 62 schools as part of Radius Housing Biodiversity Project. • Inter-generational biodiversity project between schools and housing folds promoting and delivering pollinator-friendly planting, insect hotels and minibeast identification funded by Radius Housing. • Windowsill Garden social media campaign with Trócaire encourages schools to plant for pollinators. • The Rural Pollinators Grants Scheme ran in 2021 and was open to schools to apply, and the School Pollinators Grants Scheme ran in 2022. • The Hedgerow Heroes project has run from 2022 – 2026 and resulted in the planting of over 400m of native hedgerow in 22 schools, with 11 more schools taking part in 2025. Workshops delivered include minibeast and pollinator ID and surveying. 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many online and in-person workshops on biodiversity offered to schools across NI, including workshops on composting, orchards and organic gardening – which promoted AIPP signage use and “No Mow” guidance. • The biodiversity topic has consistently been one of the most popular topics chosen by school. Eco-Schools provides many resources and workshops on pollinators and biodiversity. 	
45	Run a ‘Pitches for pollinators’ summer campaign to leave school pitches unmown during the summer holidays to provide food for pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign to leave unused school pitches unmown from the end of June until mid-August to allow clovers to flower and provide food for pollinators. • Where used, encourage pitch edges to be left unmown for pollinators • Promote this campaign to schools, to include full details on what is being proposed • Increase in the number of schools taking part. 	AIPP Communities Officer	The Pitches for Pollinators campaign launched in earnest in 2021-2025. In 2022 a new Pitches for Pollinators homepage was developed, and two Pitches for Pollinators social media graphics shared with schools, partners and social media. The campaign has since received good attention through groups such as Biodiversity in Schools, GIY and An Taisce Green Schools, as well as organic engagement on social media. It continues to be a popular and accessible campaign that many schools are engaging with.	
46	Green-Campus to encourage pollinator-friendly management of third level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of third level campuses who have signed up as supporters of the AIPP and agreed to take actions 	Green-Campus	As a partner in the 2021-2025 period, the Green-Campus programme has highlighted the All-Ireland Pollinator via Green-Campus guidance documents and on the programme website, events, social media channels and blogsite. We have continued during this	

	campuses across the island.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the possibility of a 'most pollinator-friendly campus' annual award. 		period to encourage campuses to sign up to and engage with the plan including during our assessment visits to Higher and Further Education sites and in the feedback given to campuses on their green flag applications. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guidelines have proven to be very useful and accessible to campuses seeking to enhance biodiversity on their campus grounds and to engage with their campus community on pollinator friendly actions to be taken at home and in their future careers.	
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Target 2.4 Organisations with site networks on public land to manage these in a pollinator-friendly way

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
47	Maintain a network of partner organisations who agree to manage their public site networks in a pollinator-friendly way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Each organisation to provide a short annual update on activities as part of annual reporting in December ✓ Facilitate knowledge exchange between groups as appropriate. ✓ Expand the network to bring in new partners where possible 	AIPP Communities Officer	Each partner organisation has provided an update on their activities annually, helping facilitate knowledge exchange across the network.	
48	BirdWatch Ireland to adopt pollinator-friendly management within their reserves, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake monitoring through the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme at key reserves Maintain habitats for nesting bees 	BirdWatch Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Throughout the 2021-2025 period, BirdWatch Ireland have monitored, through the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme, the numbers of bumblebees at our Annagh & Termoncarragh Meadows reserves, Co Mayo. Similarly, volunteers have monitored the bumblebee numbers at our East Coast Nature 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate pollinators into reserve management plans (where appropriate and when reviewed) ✓ Support pollinator policy and advocacy work where appropriate through developing and strengthening integrated biodiversity policies and actions. 		<p>Reserve, Co Wicklow. At our Annagh & Termoncarragh Meadows reserves, nine different true bumblebee species are recorded annually, that includes Great Yellow, Red Shanked Carder and Large Carder along with their active nests. In addition, four different cuckoo bumblebee species are recorded. Numbers of bumblebees have fluctuated year-on-year and are generally lower now e.g. total numbers recorded are generally down by over 50% during the 5-year period. For the endangered Great Yellow Bumblebee, the month of August usually sees peak numbers, often with up to 75 individuals being recorded however weather conditions throughout the summers of 2023 and 2024, greatly affected their numbers with only single figures being recorded at the peak times. In 2025, a slight resurgence in numbers has been noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Throughout the recording period, habitats for pollinators have been maintained on our lands through a variety of management including applying autumn mowing regimes, reducing soil fertility to increase flowering plant diversity, maintaining open structure grass swards, maintaining earthen wall boundaries and retaining areas of 'tussock' grass overwinter. ✓ Across 2021-2025, BirdWatch Ireland has advocated for pollinators and their ecological 	
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				requirements in relevant policy documents where appropriate.	
49	Bord na Móna to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of potential pollinator-friendly habitats on cutaway bogs • Maintain pollinator actions within BnM Biodiversity Action Plans. • Number of participating sites 	Bord na Móna (BnM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Bog restoration and rehabilitation measures have now been implemented across >65 Bord na Móna PCAS sites between 2021 and 2025 to encourage re-wetting and development of wet peatland habitats. Over 21,700 hectares have been completed to date (October 2025). Re-vegetating these areas will be positive for some pollinating insects by providing new habitat over the longer term. ✓ Pollinator friendly habitats (e.g. pioneer species-rich grassland) continue to be mapped as part of ongoing baseline establishment and monitoring surveys. ✓ Butterflies were monitored on 9 sites (vis bespoke transects) in 2025 as part of the wider PCAS monitoring programme. These surveys continue to identify sites of high pollinator value. ✓ Marsh Fritillary were recorded or documented a number of sites during either targeted survey or incidental records. New Marsh Fritillary colonies were recorded at Castlegar bog in Co. Galway. Peatland restoration and rehabilitation measures will continue to support such pollinator species. ✓ Other butterflies and invertebrates of note that were recorded in 2025 included Migrant hawk dragonfly (<i>Aeshna mixta</i>) at Belmont bog, Co. Offaly, Small Heath Butterfly (<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>) at Cavemount Bog, Co. Offaly, and Buff-tip (<i>Phalera bucephala</i>) 	

				<p>caterpillar at Cloonshannagh bog, Co. Roscommon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pollinator actions continuing to be included in proposed Bord na Móna renewable energy developments. Bord na Móna have recently received planning permission and subsequently commenced the construction of several greenways in counties Offaly, Roscommon, Longford, Tipperary and Westmeath. As part of these planning applications, Habitat Management and Enhancement Plans was prepared that included actions for the protection or enhancement of pollinators. As part of these projects, over 927 linear metres of native hedgerows and treelines has been incorporated for screening, with planting already commenced at some sites. Measures were also incorporated for the avoidance of known Marsh Fritillary populations. ✓ Awareness of All-Ireland Pollinator Plan promoted at various Bord na Móna Ecology events in 2025. ✓ Pollinator-friendly management (e.g. natural grassy meadows) is still being encouraged at Bord na Móna offices. This management is continuing. 	
50	Coillte to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participating sites 	Coillte	<p>Restoration of high value biodiversity sites on the Coillte estate by Coillte Nature;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coillte Nature completed the restoration of at Hazelwood, Co. Sligo (Annex 1 Alluvial 	

				<p>woodland - 91E0) (30 hectares) by removing invasive species (i.e. rhododendron & Cherry laurel) and non-native conifers and broadleaf species. Enhancement planting of native trees and shrubs (5 hectares), fen maintenance (removal of trees and invasive species control) and the maintenance of High Nature Value flora on a section of GS4 Wet unimproved grassland present (i.e. autumn cutting/topping). These actions will benefit native fauna, especially pollinator species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coillte Nature commenced restoration management at Cornagillagh and Derrycarne Co. Leitrim (Annex 1 Old Sessile Oak woodlands - 91A0). At Cornagillagh, conifer removal enhancement planting took place (5.6 hectares) while at Derrycarne rhododendron and Cherry laurel clearance was undertaken (5.5 hectares). ✓ At Devils Glen, Co. Wicklow (Annex 1 Old Sessile Oak woodlands - 91A0) Cherry laurel and rhododendron was cleared (6.5 hectares). <p>The Nature Trust has afforested 37 hectares on five sites with native woodland tree and shrub communities, including pollinator friendly shrubs such as holly, rowan, willow and hazel.</p> <p>Coillte is currently developing a policy wrt native Irish honeybees and beekeeper stakeholder apiaries using</p>	
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				<p>a permit system on the Coillte estate. The draft policy is currently at consultation stage internally subsequent to external consultation with key stakeholders earlier this year (i.e. Conservation ENGOs, beekeepers, NPWS & the Heritage Council). A demonstration Native Honeybee Conservation Area was established under the guidance of NIHBS at Dunmore, Co. Laois, a Coillte-owned woodland.</p> <p>Felling licenses recently granted for Life Insular sites at Ards, Rinclevaun and Murvagh, Co. Donegal will allow the restoration of circa 27 hectares of sand dune habitat to commence imminently (in partnership with NPWS). This will facilitate pollinator species primarily through the removal of pine plantations which are being replaced with a diverse dune habitat flora.</p>	
51	Environmental Protection Agency to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participating sites 	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	<p>The EPA carries out various initiatives to promote biodiversity at its headquarters, including reduced mowing regimes, maintenance of a wildflower meadow and native hedgerows and trees. In addition, it promotes biodiversity awareness across its regional locations among its employees and contractors through peer learning and internal Green Team representatives.</p>	
52	Electricity Supply Board to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participating sites Delivery of pollinator awareness workshops to ESB staff 	Electricity Supply Board (ESB)	<p>ESB has found its engagement with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 to be extremely informative. On the basis of the overarching best practice measures advocated by the AIPP, ESB is endeavouring to make pollinator action a keystone of our strategic approach to biodiversity. The comprehensive guidelines from this phase of the AIPP</p>	

				<p>(namely those for Businesses, Solar Farms and Wind Farms) have all been very valuable resources for the purposes of targeting optimal actions across ESB's diverse asset base. During this phase of the AIPP, ESB Networks published its first Biodiversity Strategy 'Networks for Nature'. This includes an action to support management practices at relevant sites to improve nectar resources for pollinators, whilst promoting the retention of habitats important for pollinators and the development of physical features which support them. This has been exemplified by pro-pollinator landscape management activities undertaken at the National Training Centre in Portlaoise. Large areas of the expansive training field are now managed as long-flowering meadows, accompanied by AIPP-supplied informative signage for our staff, apprentices and visitors. In addition, ESB Generation and Trading is currently undertaking pilot studies to assess the pollinator diversity on lands associated with our hydroelectricity portfolio. Building upon this, ESB's Sustainable Leadership Plan, published in 2024, presents our goal to be 'Nature Positive' by 2030, wherein we have set ourselves the target of implementing pollinator action plans for all of our operational sites. ESB looks forward to further engagement with the AIPP and our peers in the utility and energy sectors to drive positive action for pollinators and broader biodiversity over the coming years.</p>	
53	Gas Networks Ireland to adopt pollinator-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain habitat for nesting bees 	Gas Networks Ireland	Gas Networks Ireland has taken a comprehensive and proactive approach to biodiversity conservation in	

	friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate pollinators into biodiversity strategy and guidance documents • Supporting community engagement initiatives promoting biodiversity awareness • Delivery of biodiversity & pollinator awareness training for staff & kids • Adoption of pollinator-friendly management practices in biodiversity guideline procedures 		<p>alignment with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. As a committed partner of the plan, Gas Networks Ireland has embedded biodiversity into its operations through a series of strategic actions.</p> <p><u>Asset Management:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successfully Implemented pollinator-friendly meadow management in all offices and grassed sites across our network of assets. • Reduced herbicide/pesticide use. • Maintained hedgerows at several sites. • Carried out biodiversity baseline surveys of 54 sites and developed tailored biodiversity plans. • Carried out ecological rehabilitation projects at several sites which included removing invasive species, planting native trees and hedgerows, installing bee banks, ponds, hibernacula, and orchards. <p><u>Strategy & Procedures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting pollinators has been a key action of Gas Networks Ireland’s biodiversity action plan, which is a deliverable of our Sustainability Strategy. • Gas Networks Ireland developed tools and guidance including “Landscaping for Biodiversity Guidelines”, “Carbon TreeSearch Tool”, “Tree Felling & Hedge Cutting Permit”,
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				<p>and the “Compensatory Habitat Design Tool” to ensure biodiversity is considered from design through to maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensured our main works contractors have signed up to the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. <p><u>Community:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually sponsored the Irish Examiner biodiversity month special. Sponsorship of several school biodiversity murals, held biodiversity workshops and ‘wildflower scavenger hunts’ for schools. Collaborated with local groups to plant native Irish trees in the community. <p><u>Support Staff:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training delivered to staff and contractors included biodiversity. Biodiversity-related articles have been included in our internal newsletter. Held family-friendly biodiversity events such as bat walks and bird walks, held wildflower walks and tree planting days in Dublin and Cork. Contractors given toolbox talks on biodiversity continuously. 	
54	Irish Water to adopt pollinator-friendly management across	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participating sites 	Irish Water; now Uisce Éireann (UÉ)	Uisce Éireann implements the actions of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan through the management of our sites, as outlined in Uisce Éireann’s Biodiversity	

	site network, where appropriate.			<p>Action Plan. The Uisce Éireann BAP sets out a clear set of biodiversity enhancement measures that can be implemented by our site managers, with help and guidance from our ecologists. As part of the ongoing biodiversity enhancement and protection measures, surveys of all UÉ sites have been conducted. To date a total of 2569 sites recorded the implementation of at least one biodiversity enhancement measure, out of 3,631 overall sites. This equates to 71% of sites having at least one ecologically important feature. All Uisce Éireann biodiversity enhancement measures are pollinator friendly, in line with the All -Ireland Pollinator Plan. Additionally, Uisce Éireann promote the planting of native species of local provenance across all sites and Uisce Éireann projects coupled with a complete ban on the use of herbicides and pesticides, except for the treatment of invasive alien species.</p>	
55	National Trust to adopt pollinator-friendly management across network of sites and properties, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake monitoring through the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme at key NT properties • Maintain habitats for nesting bees • Incorporate pollinators into property/land use management plans (where appropriate and when reviewed) • Promote Flower-Insect Timed Counts (Citizen Science monitoring scheme) 	National Trust	<p>Monitoring</p> <p>Continued with established Bumblebee Monitoring transects at a number of sites including Castle Ward, Crom, Castle Coole, Giant's Causeway, Minnowburn and Lisnabreeny. We carry our butterfly surveys under the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (both weekly transects and Wider Countryside Butterfly Squares).</p> <p>We carry out moth trapping at a few sites and are very fortunate to have NI's leading Lepidopterist survey at Murlough NNR. This year brought 3 new records for N. Ireland, bringing the total number of moth and butterfly species to 829 species (816 in 2024). The</p>	

				<p>Comma butterfly was recorded for the first time at Murlough this year. Rangers and volunteers survey Murlough NNR for Marsh fritillary butterfly larval webs.</p> <p>Our countryside teams continue to work together and with our tenant farmers to manage a variety of habitats across our protected sites, undesignated priority habitats and grasslands. Key actions in 2025:</p> <p>Positive management of pastures/meadows:</p> <p>Conservation grazing Large areas of habitat within our care are managed through conacre agreements with local farmers. Cattle are the ideal grazing animal on wildflower rich grassland with hardy breeds being preferable as they tackle coarse grass and control encroaching scrub. Dexters are used to manage species-rich ASSI grassland at Castle Ward, Rowallane Garden and Orlock Point.</p> <p>Positive management of meadows: Late cut and lift Where there is a naturally occurring wildflower-rich grassland, this is maintained through a “late cut and lift”. The method of cutting will depend on the size of the grassland. In small areas, grass is cut by scythe (silent strimming) or Allen scythe by staff and volunteers. Larger, accessible areas will be cut using a tractor with a cutting bar or using mowers / flails with collectors. On large sites we will work with the</p>	
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				<p>conacre farmer to ensure the grass is lifted and baled. In smaller, inaccessible sites, mini balers are used.</p> <p>Meadow restoration through changes to cutting and grazing regime Key sites where this takes place are found in Fermanagh (Crom, Castle Coole and Florencecourt), Mid Ulster (Springhill, Derrymore and The Argory), Belfast (Rowallane and Lisnabreeny), East Down (Mount Stewart and Barr Hall orchard), South Down (Castle Ward) and the North Coast (Cushendun and Downhill). On many of our Belfast sites meadow management is by traditional scything methods along riverbanks and meadows.</p> <p>Meadow restoration through addition of local provenance seed We continue to manage meadows across sites where we have introduced local provenance native seed / green hay in previous years: Rowallane, Downhill, Kearney, Portmuck, Lisnabreeny, Minnowburn, Springhill, Florence Court and Castle Coole.</p> <p>Management of farmland At Mount Stewart we are continuing to deliver regenerative farming practices which includes bale grazing, herbal leys, beneficial insect margins on arable land and maintenance of bare earth and earth banks for mining bee species.</p>	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible rangers conducted FIT counts and submit casual pollinator records to CEDaR. Some properties use FIT counts to engage with visitors through guided walks. <p>We are very grateful for all volunteers who help with surveys and support ranger teams with pollinator-friendly site management and monitoring!</p>	
56	Northern Ireland Water to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participating sites 	Northern Ireland Water	NI Water volunteers surveyed large numbers of WwTW sites across 2021-2025, equalling a significant total area mapped. They completed online mapping of these sites, did Flower-Insect Timed counts and described each habitat.	
57	Encouragement and, where appropriate, adoption of pollinator-friendly management on NPWS property, including Statutory Nature Reserves and National Parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number of participating sites 	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	<p>National Parks (NP) and Statutory Nature Reserves (NR) managed for pollinators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Burren NP Co Clare ✓ Wicklow Mountains NP Co Wicklow ✓ Brú na Bóinne NP Co Meath ✓ Killarney NP Co Kerry ✓ Connemara NP Co Galway ✓ Páirc Náisiúnta na Mara Ciarraí ✓ Wild Nephin NP Co Mayo ✓ Ballyteige NR Co Clare ✓ Dromore Woods NR Co Clare ✓ Coole-Garryland NR Co Galway ✓ Richmond Esker NR Co Galway ✓ Derryclare NR Co Galway ✓ Pollnacknockaun Wood NR Co. Galway ✓ Sheskinmore Co Donegal 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Inch Wildfowl Reserve Co Donegal ✓ Ardnamona NR Co Donegal ✓ Ballyarr NR Co Donegal ✓ Glengarriff NR Co Cork ✓ Scragh Bog NR Co Westmeath ✓ Ballykeeffe Wood NR Co Kilkenny ✓ Kyledohir Wood NR Co Kilkenny ✓ Garryricken Wood NR Co Kilkenny ✓ Wexford Wildfowl Reserve ✓ Raven Point NR Co Wexford <p>Management practices include: hedgerow planting, scrub control, bracken control, reduced mowing regimes, strimming/mowing along woodland paths, low intensity grazing, some marginal areas are also left uncut to provide winter cover. Larger projects include the tree planting and the restoration of coastal dune habitats. Ballycroy Visitor Centre (Wild Nephin NP) and Killarney House Gardens (Killarney NP), both NPWS visitor centres, have applied for the Green Flag Pollinator Award.</p> <p>Essex Skipper was recorded at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve in July 2024. Twenty of the 35 butterfly species that are regularly-recorded in Ireland have been recorded at the Ballycroy Visitor Centre, including Small Blue (RL- Endangered), Dark Green and Marsh fritillaries (RL- Vulnerable), Large Heath (RL- Vulnerable) and Small Heath (RL- Near Threatened).</p>	
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58	Office of Public Works to adopt pollinator-friendly management across site network, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Incorporate Pollinators into Conservation Management Plans at key sites as appropriate ✓ Support the roll out of short- and long-flowering meadows at appropriate locations throughout the country ✓ Maintain and expand on the provision of nesting habitats for solitary bees ✓ Engage with staff and the public in participating in Citizen Science Projects 	Office of Public Works (OPW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial measure is ongoing, with appropriate biodiversity and pollinator actions being incorporated into local OPW Site Biodiversity Action Plans. To date over 20 sites now have comprehensive baseline audits completed. Recommendations leading from these audits have various pollinator related suggested actions listed. A further 10 sites have since been commissioned by OPW in 2025 and will also reflect this approach. • Through the newly formed OPW Biodiversity Unit, great efforts are being made to support sites to move to short & long rotation meadows, not just at heritage sites, but throughout our wider properties. The OPW Biodiversity Team is also contributing toward a National Grassland Strategy, as currently evolved and we host 3 OPW sites on the Great Irish Grasslands publication. • It is now clear the OPW Biodiversity Unit will have to negate the genuine desire of many OPW managed sites to include 'Native Irish Black Honey Bee' conservation measures, not entirely, but to rebalance the needs of both groups to demonstrate the greater conservation needs of our wider pollinators. Some solitary bee habitats have been
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				<p>identified at OPW locations and a programme of OPW Staff recording is being supported to ensure appropriate management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a small number of very dedicated OPW staff that support pollinator citizen science monitoring, usually FIT Counts, but some others are actively recording wider pollinator species nationally, all such efforts are being supported and in 2025 we engaged 'Kirsten Wendenburg of Plan Bee' to deliver a training course directed at OPW garden sites, which is focused on our wider native bees and their role in ecosystem resilience, this programme will be rolled out across a range of other sites in 2026 and beyond. 	
59	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (NI) to adopt pollinator-friendly management within their reserves, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake monitoring through the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme at key reserves • Maintain habitats for nesting bees • Incorporate pollinators into reserve management plans (where appropriate and when reviewed) 	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB NI)	The RSPB have engaged with the AIPP to discuss evidence-based biodiversity actions for farmland. Rare pollinators have been included in the NI Species Recovery Programme, being led by the RSPB.	
60	The Courts Service of Ireland to adopt pollinator-friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participating sites 	The Courts Service of Ireland	The Courts Service, as a partner of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP), is committed to actively enhancing biodiversity across our estate to reverse	

	management across site network, where appropriate.			<p>pollinator decline and promote sustainable ecosystems. We continuously seek new ideas and partnerships to expand and improve our biodiversity efforts.</p> <p>Since 2021, the Courts Service have successfully run rewilding pilots in 4 courthouses: Carrick-on-Shannon, Nenagh, Cork, and Roscommon with further enhanced expansion of the projects adding bug hotels at Nenagh and Carrick on Shannon courthouses.</p> <p>Taking the 'no-mow let it grow' approach we carried out a review of green spaces across our extensive estate to identify rewilding opportunities and from that 6 further projects were initiated at courthouses nationwide in Carlow, Wexford, Waterford, Tullamore, Tralee & Mullingar.</p> <p>We have collaborated with local partners by preparing the grounds and scattering native seeds to create a wildflower meadow at Dun Laoghaire, Limerick, Cork, Letterkenny, Mullingar, Waterford & Wexford courthouses. Collaboration has also taken place with Co. Councils at Limerick Mulgrave Street & Cavan courthouse.</p> <p>In 2023 we launched a staff and public survey on our Biodiversity Programme. The results were overwhelmingly positive of our efforts to date and have assisted us in capturing new ideas for</p>	
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				<p>improvement and expansion of our biodiversity programme.</p> <p>In 2024, we extended the 'no-mow let it grow' approach to include an additional venue at Ennis courthouse, and in cooperation with the OPW and the Climate bar, we commenced a rewilding programme of the large rear lawn at the Four Courts complex in Dublin.</p> <p>In 2025 we arranged installation of pollinator friendly planters to Chancery Street and Four Courts complex yards.</p> <p>We are investigating the prospect of installing bird and bat boxes in suitable venues and aim to add this initiative to our growing biodiversity efforts.</p>	
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Target 2.5 Make local communities more pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
61	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for Local Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on AIPP website. To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/communities/</p> <p>The following resources have been developed for Local Communities during this phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pollinator-friendly management of sports clubs (2021) - Local Authority Pollinator Award newsletter (2022) - Helping the Large Carder bee in your local community (2022) - 3 recorded talks released for World Bee Day 2022: 1. An Introduction to Ireland's Bees, 2. Top Ten Actions to Help Pollinators and 3. Recording Pollinators. - Residents' Associations: Actions for Pollinators (2023) - Creating a Pollinator-friendly Sensory Garden (2023) - How-to guide: Creating and Restoring Meadows in Local Communities and Gardens (2023) - Let it Bee and Meadow in Progress signs, English and bilingual, developed in collaboration with community groups in South Dublin (2023) - No Mow May poster (2023) - Ecological Corridors for Pollinators (2024) <p>Partially aimed at local communities, with</p>	

				<p>specific guidelines for communities and community case studies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated guidelines: Local Communities: Actions to Help Pollinators. This new version included a voluntary scoring system (2024) - Irish language of local communities guidelines: Pobail Áitiúla: Gníomhartha ar son pailneoirí (2024) - Make a Pollinator-friendly Rainwater Planter (2024) - Create a Short-flowering Meadow flyer (2024) - Protecting Pockets of Nature (2025) - Protecting Nature Sign (2025) - Free online course: Managing Local Communities for Pollinators (2025) <p>Many workshops (in person and online) have been given to community groups during this phase of the Pollinator Plan, reaching hundreds of individuals.</p>	
62	Promote pollinator-friendly actions within the Tidy Towns network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote pollinator-friendly actions within the national Tidy Towns competition as appropriate 	Tidy Towns Unit	<p>The Tidy Towns Unit facilitated the special pollinator award from 2021-2025 (Action 63 below). They also regularly promoted pollinator-friendly actions to the Tidy Towns network.</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate a special pollinator award (below) 			
63	Support Tidy Towns groups to be pollinator friendly through the Local Authority Pollinator Award in the National Tidy Towns competition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to annually fund and administer the special pollinator award in the national Tidy Towns competition Continue to provide support and advice to Tidy Towns groups in helping pollinators Monitor the engagement with and standard of entries to the award Publication and dissemination of an annual newsletter celebrating the work of Tidy Towns groups to support pollinators 	Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network, with support from AIPP Communities Officer	<p>The Tidy Towns Local Authority Pollinator Award in Rol has gone from strength to strength in the 2021-2025 period. The National Biodiversity Data Centre administrates this Special Award in collaboration with the Local Authority Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network. The entry form aligns with recommendations of pollinator-friendly actions from the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and in 2024 was updated to match the updated AIPP guideline: 'Communities: Actions to Help Pollinators'.</p> <p>The standard of entries has been consistently high, with eight prizes in total of €1,000 each. These include an overall winner, and a large and small-town winner within each of the four Tidy Towns regions. In 2021 an award was introduced for best newcomer, to encourage Tidy Towns groups who have never applied for the award before, and who might just be starting on their journey.</p> <p>Since 2021, 124 Tidy Towns groups have entered the Pollinator Award, with many groups applying year after year and demonstrating significant improvement in their actions. €47,000 in prize money has been given or pledged to Tidy Towns groups during the phase 2021-2025, which is provided by the Local Authority Heritage and Biodiversity Officer network.</p>	

64	Promote pollinator-friendly actions within the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote pollinator-friendly actions within the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful initiative, as appropriate Investigate possible mechanisms for a pollinator award within the Live Here Love Here Volunteer Award 	Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connecting communities events have taken place over the previous few years, with the goal to connect groups in council areas with one another and promote action for biodiversity including pollinators. LHLH Adopt-a-Spot kits diversified in 2021 to include a wildlife kit, including guidance on “The right type of wildflowers”. Workshops for community groups and Translink staff on rewilding and promoting biodiversity. The Rural Pollinators Grants Scheme ran in 2021 with a total of 185 projects funded to £1,506,885 The School Pollinators Grants Scheme ran in 2022 with a total of 300 schools awarded £2,388,832.65 The Small Grants Scheme ran between 2023-2025, awarding 313 projects with a total of approximately £1,027,643. These projects are supported with biodiversity workshops and advice on planting and managing spaces for pollinators. Projects that outline the potential use of pesticides are ineligible. Pollinator awards for Green Flag spaces awarded in 2022, but not funded in future years. Schemes such as Big Butterfly Count and No Mow May promoted consistently on social media.
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity resources and guidance available on LHLH website, including signposting to schemes that support pollinators. 	
65	Deliver community-based training on Ireland's bees, bee monitoring and bee-friendly habitat creation through the IWT <i>People for Bees</i> initiative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide introductory training to support local communities and members of the public in helping pollinators Number of workshops delivered 	Irish Wildlife Trust (IWT)	<p>In 2021 and 2022 the IWT focused on the delivery of community group focused workshops both online and in-person. From 2023 to 2025 IWT ran an annual flagship People for Bees workshop for the general public in conjunction with the National Botanic Gardens, as well as a small number of community workshops. All workshops aligned with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan content and covered the ecology of Ireland's bees, bee monitoring and bee habitat creation. Overall, 32 workshops were delivered across counties Carlow, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Monaghan & Wexford.</p> <p>To complement the workshops IWT also frequently communicated All Ireland Pollinator Plan key messaging to our audience through our email newsletter and our printed magazine, <i>Irish Wildlife</i>. Magazine example here https://iwt.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/IWT-Spring-2020-The-SecretLifeOfSolitaryBees.pdf</p>	
66	Support additional communities in coming together to protect pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the possibility of using the ChangeX platform to support wider implementation 	ChangeX	ChangeX, the social innovation platform which draws together social innovations, funding partners (e.g., Accenture, AWS and Greencoat Renewables), and community/volunteer groups, partnered with the AIPP in the current phase.	

		of the Plan at the community level			
67	Better promote pollinator-friendly land management to Residents' Associations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated resources for Residents' Associations developed and added to AIPP website 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>A short new resource was launched for Residents' Associations in 2023:</p> <p>https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Residents-Association-booklet-2022-WEB.pdf</p>	
68	Promote the AIPP to other community volunteer networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore possibility of providing training to Rural Social Schemes and other similar initiatives. Connect with relevant networks and ask them to inform members about the AIPP, e.g. Men's Sheds, University of the Third Age, Volunteer Now, etc. 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>The AIPP has engaged with the following volunteer networks over this phase: Men's Sheds, The Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland, Community Gardens Ireland, Tidy Towns, the GAA, Gaisce – The Presidents' Award, Bere Island Project Group, Bruachlan Grianan Residents Association, Camphill Communities of Ireland, Dodder Action, Julianstown & District Community Association, Wexford Naturalists' Field Club, HX Grow and the Kingfisher Project, Eco-Congregation Ireland, Blarney Street Pollinator Pathway, Woodstown Residents' Association, Sustainable Skerries, Tramore Eco Group, Gort River Walk, Temple Manor/Wilkins Residents' Association, Transition Kerry.</p>	
69	Recognise those towns/villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain an online list of towns/villages 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>A blog with case studies of pesticide-free towns and villages was added to the pollinators.ie website in 2025. Most of these towns scored 20 (full marks) on the</p>	

	that are helping pollinators through eliminating pesticide use.	that have decided to go pesticide free (herbicide, fungicide and insecticide)		<p>section about pesticide elimination in the Tidy Towns Pollinator Award.</p> <p>This work will be expanded in the next phase. Within this phase, efforts have focused on collating knowledge and experiences on herbicide alternatives.</p>	
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Target 2.6 Manage protected land in a pollinator-friendly way where appropriate

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
70	Encourage pollinator-friendly management of State and public-owned Nature Reserves and National Parks and, where appropriate, Natura 2000 and nationally designated sites in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uptake where appropriate on a site-by-site basis Develop demonstration/example sites on NIEA properties and use for education and knowledge exchange 	Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)	<p>AIPP actions by NIEA regional teams include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildflower areas created for pollinators at Roe Valley CP, Scrabo CP, Castle Archdale CP, Quoile CP and Peatlands Park. Tree planting and hedge management for pollinators at Roe Valley CP (including Orchard), Ness CP, Crawfordsburn CP and Peatlands Park. Continued pollinator friendly management of established wildflower areas. All actions have been added to the AIPP Actions map. <p>Continue to support wider engagement with AIPP by DAERA Officials, Local Biodiversity Officers and Councils, other government estates, Nature Reserves, Businesses, eNGOs, etc.</p>	

71	Incorporate pollinator-friendly management on designated land in Natura 2000 and nationally designated sites in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uptake where appropriate on a site-by-site basis 	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	<p>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAs) managed for pollinators:</p> <p>Sites in Co Kilkenny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cullahill Mountain SAC ✓ Spa Hill/Clomantagh Hill SAC <p>Sites in Co Donegal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Horn Head and Rinclevan SAC <p>Sites in Co Westmeath</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garriskil Bog SAC/SPA ✓ Ballynafid Lake and Fen pNHA ✓ Lough Iron SPA ✓ River Boyne & Blackwater SAC/SPA ✓ Lough Derravaragh SPA/NHA ✓ Royal Canal pNHA ✓ Scragh Bog SAC/pNHA ✓ Split Hill and Long Hill Esker SAC ✓ Milltownpass Bog NHA <p>Sites in Co Roscommon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lough Ree (St John's Wood) SAC <p>Sites in Co Galway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lough Fingall Complex SAC ✓ Pollnacknockaun Wood NR SAC ✓ Coole-Garryland Complex SAC <p>Sites in Co Longford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Glen Lough SPA/pNHA <p>Sites in Co Tipperary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Silvermine Mountains SAC
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				<p>✓ Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA</p> <p>Management practices include scrub control, reduced mowing regimes, strimming/mowing along woodland paths, low intensity and winter grazing, no fertilizer or herbicide usage and Invasive Alien Species control. Larger projects include native tree planting, restoration of herbaceous dune habitat and bog restoration. Certain sites are managed for Marsh Fritillary and solitary bees. Marsh Fritillary bred at Glen Lough SPA/pNHA for the first time on record during the summers of 2024 and 2025.</p> <p>Some NPWS visitor centres use ornamental perennial pollinator friendly plants within the landscape-planting scheme.</p> <p>Some sites include private lands, which are managed through the NPWS Farm Plan Scheme with specific measures for pollinators and invertebrates.</p>	
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Target 2.7 Make healthcare sites more pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
72	Publish guidelines for pollinator-friendly management of hospital grounds,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of guidelines that also stress the additional benefits of pollinator actions to human health and wellbeing 	AIPP Communities Officer	This guideline was launched in early 2025 and was disseminated to relevant bodies.	

	clinics and nursing homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination to all relevant bodies • Develop a new section of the website to provide resources for healthcare sites 		https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/AIPP-Healthcare-Guide-WEB.pdf	
73	Investigate a potential nature campaign for healthcare sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss with relevant bodies the possibility of a pilot scheme 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>Contacts have been established, and this can be progressed in the next phase. In 2025, the AIPP published a new guideline for Healthcare sites: 'Pollinator-friendly Management of Healthcare Sites', developed in collaboration with the HSE, and with input from healthcare sites and providers from across the island. The guide includes a section on 'Human Health and Biodiversity', summarising recent research to draw connections between biodiversity-friendly environments and physical and mental health benefits such as reduced depression and anxiety and lower risk of type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>The HSE also recently published their Green Space Framework to create, enhance and manage green space to promote physical and mental wellbeing and biodiversity.</p>	

Target 2.8 Complete policy investigations

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
74	Carry out a critical review of how some countries established a roadside verge cutting decree (e.g. the Flemish Roadside Act '1984' means roadside verges must be left uncut until after a certain date).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish as a scoping study Include a public consultation element 	AIPP team and relevant partners	<p>This action has not formally progressed, as it is research related and hence funding dependent. It would ideally be carried out as an MSc project.</p> <p>However, there have already been changes to policy on the island. In late 2022, a Northern Ireland policy review on roadside verge cutting was publicised through a ministerial announcement which was covered by local media and can be viewed on the links below. This will result in more biodiversity friendly management of the 45,000km of verges in NI.</p> <p>https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/news/odowd-announces-new-approach-road-verge-management-protect-environment</p> <p>https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/minister-john-odowd-announces-major-25158027</p>	
75	Create a roadmap towards eliminating pesticides on certain public lands (schools, hospitals, playgrounds).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically review the evidence-base for this approach Publish roadmap in collaboration with relevant partners Consider roll out as a small pilot – supported by information on alternatives, 	AIPP team and relevant partners	<p>This has not been progressed due to lack of capacity, but some preparatory work has been carried out. Following on from the AIPP Council Knowledge Exchange event in 2024, it became clear that advice and information on herbicide alternatives across the island should be collated. This was addressed through a survey (July-September 2024). Those trialing alternatives to herbicides were asked to score their</p>	

		monitoring of impacts and social attitudes, etc.		<p>usefulness and share advice they had gained through their own experiences. The survey was promoted to all local authorities, community groups and landscape contractors, and more generally through the AIPP newsletter. A total of 85 people responded, resulting in very valuable knowledge sharing and a collated report that was published at the beginning of 2025. It is the intention that the survey be repeated at appropriate intervals to collectively gather experiences and better assist those on the journey away from herbicides.</p> <p>https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Pesticide-Alternatives-Survey-Summary-AIPP-2025.pdf</p>	
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Target 2.9 Strengthen links between the AIPP and other national initiatives

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
76	Strengthen links between the AIPP and Climate Adaptation Plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of a guideline document linking pollinator/biodiversity actions to their carbon/climate benefits on public land. Active research area so timing of guideline document should be as appropriate Establish appropriate AIPP actions as tools in nature-based climate change mitigation actions within Local 	AIPP team and relevant partners	Links have been established with Local Authority Climate Action Officers across this phase; and AIPP resources have stressed the climate benefits of pollinator actions where relevant. However, a standalone guideline document linking all pollinator actions to their climate benefits has not been produced. It was decided to delay until all Local Authority Climate Action Plans were published and will be further investigated in the next phase.	

		<p>Authorities – repackage actions in this context so that they can easily slot into Climate Adaptation Plans (or County Development Plans, Local Economic and Community Plans, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO) and link with Local Authority Climate Action Officers. 			
77	Explore and strengthen links between the AIPP and Green Infrastructure Planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of a guideline document linking pollinator/biodiversity actions to their Green Infrastructure benefits • Repackage pollinator actions in this context so that they can easily slot into Local Authority Green Infrastructure Plans 	AIPP team and relevant partners	<p>A short resource was published in 2024: https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Ecological-corridors-booklet-WEB.pdf</p> <p>Efforts have been made across this phase to link to Green Infrastructure strategies within Local Authorities. On the AIPP side, this has focused on encouraging ecological corridors within wider Green Infrastructure initiatives. AIPP resources are also available on key features such as hedgerows and meadows.</p> <p>As existing AIPP resources have been updated, they have been edited to better stress the importance of ecological corridors and Green Infrastructure, where relevant.</p>	
78	Strengthen links between the AIPP and health and wellbeing initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of a guideline document linking pollinator/biodiversity actions 	AIPP team and relevant partners	<p>In 2025 the AIPP published a new guideline: ‘Pollinator-friendly Management of Healthcare Sites’, developed in collaboration with the HSE, and with input from healthcare sites and across the island. The</p>	

		<p>to their health and wellbeing benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repackage pollinator actions in this context so that they can easily slot into Local Authority community wellbeing initiatives • Establish a working relationship with relevant bodies such as Healthy Ireland, Sports Ireland 		<p>guide includes a section on 'Human Health and Biodiversity', summarising recent research to draw connections between biodiversity-friendly environments and physical and mental health benefits such as reduced depression and anxiety and lower risk of type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>Relationships with relevant bodies will be further developed in the next phase.</p>	
79	Strengthen links between the AIPP and existing tree planting initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links created with 2020 DAFM scheme – Woodland Creation on Public Lands • Establishment of working relationships with other existing tree planting initiatives, e.g. Tree Council of Ireland, Native Woodland Trust, Crann, Trees on the Land, Easytreesie etc. • Encourage a proportion of trees planted to be pollinator-friendly and report on numbers planted • Pollinator-friendly tree guide published in collaboration with relevant partners 	AIPP team and relevant partners	<p>A short flyer on planting trees for pollinators (right tree, right space, right place) was produced in collaboration with DAFM, The Tree Council of Ireland, The Native Woodland Trust and Trees on the Land. It has been promoted across this phase.</p>	

Target 2.10 Track changes in pollinators on public land

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
80	Publish an annual review of public land actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an annual review outlining progress within the actions under this objective Publication on AIPP website annually each December 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	The annual review documents have provided a review of the public land actions across 2021-2025.	
81	Track progress within the public sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of public land sites logging their pollinator-friendly actions on <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> mapping system, https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/. 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	As of the end of September 2025, 2,150 public land sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators'. Councils (462), Schools (251), Local Communities (1,437). https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/	
82	Monitor pollinators across a network of public sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the framework necessary for a national pollinator monitoring scheme to include sites across farmland, public and protected land. This should be in line with the European Pollinator Monitoring Scheme recommendations (2020) Source funding and roll out this scheme to monitor pollinators across a network of public sites 	National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme requires funding	<p>In 2021, DAFM and NPWS granted initial funding for this scheme which is being managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in the Republic of Ireland. The project began in September 2021 and was rolled out as a National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme in 2022. In 2025, a total of 42 sites were monitored across farmland, semi-natural sites, and urban parks. Of these, 22 sites were on farmland, 16 are semi-natural sites and 4 are urban parks.</p> <p>An equivalent scheme is run in Northern Ireland, as part of the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme. It is managed by NIEA. Of the 20 squares in NI, 11 have been surveyed in 2025.</p>	
83	Continue to manage and support Citizen Science monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme transects being 	National Biodiversity Data Centre, CEDaR	Both the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme and FIT Counts were managed and promoted by the	

	<p>schemes that track changes in pollinators across all land types, including public land.</p>	<p>carried out on public land. This is an expert-level Citizen Science scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of regular Flower-Insect Timed Counts (FIT Counts) being completed on public land. This is a beginner-level Citizen Science scheme. • Publication of annual reports on the findings of both schemes 	<p>National Biodiversity Data Centre from 2021-2025. NIEA and CEDaR also promoted both schemes.</p> <p>Data submission within the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme continues until 31st December each year. Annual reports are produced in the following year to update the trends. The 2012-2024 report is available here: Bumblebee-Monitoring-Scheme_Annual-Report_2012-2024.pdf</p> <p>Data submission with the FIT Count Scheme continues until 31st December each year. Currently ~1,500 FIT Counts have been submitted in 2025 in RoI. Numbers have been increasing year upon year. 139 FIT Counts have been submitted in NI in 2025.</p> <p>New Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme transects have been established on public land over this phase. Many FIT Counts have taken place on public land between 2021-2025.</p>	
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OBJECTIVE 3: MAKING PRIVATE LAND POLLINATOR FRIENDLY

Target 3.1 Increase the number of gardens that are pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
84	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for gardeners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on AIPP website To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations All 2015-2020 resources to be updated where necessary Investigate sustainable signage options that the public can use to indicate that they are making their garden pollinator friendly. 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/gardens/</p> <p>The following resources have been developed for gardens during this phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pledge Your Garden for Pollinators (2021) - Pots for Pollinators – English and Irish versions (2021) - Flyer: Orchards: Perfect for Pollinators (2022) - Flyer: Planting Trees for Pollinators (2022) - How-to guide: Top Ten pollinator-friendly plants for different situations (2022) - Refreshed bookmark (2023) - Sensory Garden flyer (2023) - Hedgerow infographic (2023) - Hedgerow flyer (2023) - Create a short-flowering meadow flyer (2024) - Ireland's Mason Bees (simple PDF) (2024) - Celebrating Native Wildflowers (2025) - Make a Pollinator-friendly Rainwater Planter (2025) - Gardening for Biodiversity webinar, part of the National Biodiversity Data Centre webinar series (2025) 	

85	An Taisce to promote pollinator-friendly garden actions within their Green Communities network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion to members • Uptake by community groups 	An Taisce	<p>An Taisce Green Communities has supported the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 over the last 5 years by promotion upon the programme's social media channels. During 2021 until the conclusion of the Green Communities Legacy4LIFE Project in 2023, the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 updates and news was also circulated via the Green Communities/Green Flag Award news bulletin to approximately 1,800 email recipients. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 review will be included in the News Section of the An Taisce website for November/December 2025.</p>
86	Community Gardens Ireland to promote pollinator-friendly garden actions within their network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion to members • Uptake by groups 	Community Gardens Ireland	<p>In 2025, Community Gardens Ireland have continued to support new allotments and community gardens getting established in Ireland by providing them with advice that are pollinator friendly.</p> <p>In March 2025, we held our yearly online gathering. The 2025 theme was "Growing Community" and we heard from regional community growing networks on their best practices from their regions, including about pollinator friendly initiatives from across Ireland.</p> <p>Community Gardens Ireland have made numerous submissions to consultations in 2025, again referencing how allotments and community gardens are pollinator friendly spaces by including references to bodies such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Working Group III report. This report highlighted how urban agriculture initiatives such as community gardening assist with reducing greenhouse gases, improving urban food</p>

				<p>security, improving biodiversity and adapting to climate change impacts.</p> <p>Community Gardens Ireland attended Bloom 2025 and presented on the role of community gardens in Ireland, and particularly how the new role of local authorities to create sustainable strategies will help create more allotments and community gardens across Ireland.</p> <p>Community Gardens Ireland created a pop-up community garden at Global Green at Electric Picnic 2025 and encouraged attendees to join our map and create their own community garden in their local area. Members of Community Gardens Ireland also took part in a group discussion on sustainable food production.</p> <p>In October 2025, Community Gardens Ireland will hold the third ever National Community Gardens and Allotments Week. The 2025 theme for the week was “Growing Together” and we asked community gardens and allotments from all over Ireland to highlight how they are practising efforts to grow together as a community.</p> <p>The launch of National Community Gardens and Allotments Week will take place from the 12th October 2025 in Galway City, and involves presentations from local community growers and visits to local gardens and allotments.</p>	
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				Community Gardens Ireland will be continuing our work to promote pollinators friendly & community friendly actions as part of our plans for 2026!	
87	GIY to promote pollinator-friendly garden actions within their network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion to members • Actions adopted at GIY HQ and used for demonstration purposes • Training courses offered at GIY HQ as appropriate 	Grow It Yourself (GIY)	<p>GIY have maintained strong commitments to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP) through various programmes that promoted pollinator-friendly growing and sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of grass areas to maximise habitat for pollinators i.e. leaving most areas to form informal meadows with cutting in July post-flowering. • Ensuring any ornamental areas are planted with pollinator-friendly plants. • Managing productive areas with no spraying of agro-chemicals (even ones permitted under the organic standards). • Leaving vegetable plants to flower (particularly brassicas) where possible. • Leaving hedge bottoms with rough vegetation to provide nesting areas. • regular classes and talks at HQ to demonstrate how to encourage pollinators into the garden • Monitoring biodiversity through observation, such as visible numbers of pollinators, both number of species and overall population. <p>Promotion to Members:</p>	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Communities GROW it Forward: This programme engaged over 900 households across Waterford, Donegal, and Longford in growing their own produce, incorporating pollinator-friendly practices into home gardens. The distribution of seed kits included pollinator-attracting plants, and educational resources emphasised the ecological importance of supporting pollinator species. • LEAF Programme: GIY integrated pollinator-friendly practices within community-based growing projects facilitated by 25 libraries in the South East as part of the Community Climate Action Programme. LEAF promotes biodiversity through collaborative food growing efforts and extending pollinator education into public spaces. • GROW2CEO: Over 12,000 participating students learned to incorporate pollinator-friendly practices into entrepreneurial food-growing challenges. The programme highlighted the role of pollinators in sustainable food systems and included modules on creating pollinator-friendly environments. • GROW at School (GAS): This educational programme involved over 450 schools and emphasized biodiversity, including specific lessons and resources on pollinator-friendly planting. Teacher training dedicated to biodiversity was offered, reinforcing pollinator-friendly practices as part of the curriculum.
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SuperValu Let's GROW: As part of this nationwide campaign, schools received kits that included a variety of seeds, some selected for their benefits to pollinators. The initiative educated over 50,000 children on food empathy and sustainable growing practices, supporting the pollinator plan by fostering awareness. 	
88	Raise awareness to discourage the importation of wild pollinators into gardens, e.g., Red Mason Bee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short guideline document developed explaining the dangers of imported pollinators to the health of our native species • Social media campaign to discourage gardeners from buying non-Irish Red Mason Bee colonies online 	AIPP team	<p>This has not been a significant concern in this phase, and a decision was made not to draw attention to the issue on social media. Instead, an information page, specifically on Mason Bees, was created on the website in 2024:</p> <p>https://pollinators.ie/record-pollinators/mason-bees/</p>	

Target 3.2 Increase the network of AIPP business supporters

	Action	Progress measures	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
89	Fully support and grow the network of business supporters. Currently stands at 283 (end 2020).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase the number of business supporters of the AIPP ✓ Provide day-to-day support to the large network of business supporters ✓ Organise and run an event for businesses 	AIPP business officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Since inception, the number of AIPP businesses supporters has increased and currently stands at ~360 companies. ✓ An additional 60 new businesses, joined in the period 1st November 2024 – 30st September 2025. ✓ With the new 2021-2025 phase requirement for businesses to submit an Annual Review 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide training courses for businesses ✓ Organise an annual pollinator award for businesses ✓ Run a regular webinar series for businesses ✓ Monthly digital newsletter for businesses ✓ Regularly promote the network through mainstream and social media 		<p>report and map actions on 'Actions for Pollinators', those who do not submit an annual report are removed from the business supporters list. Reporting is a mandatory requirement to support the integrity of the network. N.B. Businesses may re-engage at any point.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Annual Reviews, detailing the actions that each supporting company has taken each year are publicly available at: ~Annual Review business supporters » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan ✓ A significant update to the <i>Businesses: actions to help pollinators</i> guidelines was published in 2024. The number of evidence-based actions went from 18 in the original guidelines to 33. The new guidelines include a business self-scoring actions checklist, a car parks for pollinators scoring checklist, a pollinator-friendly procurement outline, and a pollinator-friendly <i>Recommended Sponsorship activities</i> table. Each of these has seen significant uptake by business supporters. ✓ Across this phase, day to day support to the business supporters' network has included: registering new members and short online presentations to provide a 'snapshot' of good practice from Day 1. Also help in data mapping on the 'Actions for Pollinators' unique GIS data-mapping portal. ✓ Across 2021-2025 more than 80 webinars have been delivered to the business community. 	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Across 2021-2025, the following key events were attended: Bloom, Environment Ireland Conferences, the ESG Summits, a series of Origin Green gold member events. ✓ The following initiatives were supported through judging assistance: 'Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards' and Business in the Community NI – Responsible Business Awards. ✓ An initiative called Business for Biodiversity Ireland was established in the Republic of Ireland in 2022. The National Biodiversity Data Centre has partnered with the initiative and provided support. ✓ A monthly digital newsletter has been issued to AIPP business supporters. ✓ Key updates have been posted on the AIPP's X and Instagram channels and the NBDC's Facebook (Meta) and LinkedIn. 	
90	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for businesses at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up-to-date resources provided on AIPP website To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations • All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary 	AIPP business officer (funding dependent)	<p>The business section of pollinators.ie is regularly updated: https://pollinators.ie/businesses/</p> <p>New pages provide further guidance to businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Q1-Q4 for pollinators » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan • *Raise awareness in value chain » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan • *Communications for pollinators » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan • *Client engagement for pollinators » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 	

				<p>New resources added in this phase include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated guidance document - <i>Businesses: actions to help pollinators</i> • 20 business case studies related directly to the new 33 evidence-based actions • <i>Business parks for pollinators</i> A4 leaflet • <i>Carparks for Pollinators</i> flyer 	
91	Disseminate relevant resources to the business community through existing networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of information through existing networks 	Bord Bia, Business in the Community	Both partners have promoted the AIPP business framework from 2021-2025.	
92	Establish a dedicated framework for Garden Centre supporters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish framework/charter whereby garden centres can sign up as a supporter of the AIPP • Increase the number of garden centre supporters who sign up and promote the AIPP, pollinator-friendly plants, and the pollinator-friendly pesticide code. 	AIPP business officer (funding dependent)	<p>A decision was made not to progress this action as stated. Various industry labels now exist, and Garden Centre's across the island are typically promoting pollinator-friendly plants. Discouraging the sale of pesticides falls outside the remit of this initiative.</p> <p>Instead, efforts under this action have focused on improving lists of pollinator-friendly plants and making this information as accessible as possible. This has involved ongoing discussions with the Royal Horticultural Society in the UK.</p>	
93	Publish new guideline documents with evidence-based pollinator actions that are industry-specific.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate which guideline documents are required and prioritise a programme for their development • Publish these industry-specific documents. May include, but 	AIPP team and relevant partner organisations	Guidelines for Wind Farms were published in 2021: https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Wind-Farm-Pollinator-Guidelines-2022-WEB.pdf	

		not limited to: Agri-food businesses, Developers, Wind farms, Solar farms, Quarries.		Guidelines for Solar Farms were published in 2023: https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/AIPP-Solar-Farms-2023-WEB.pdf	
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Target 3.3 Increase the number of sports clubs that are pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
94	Provide comprehensive and freely available online resources for Sports Clubs at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline document (<i>Pollinator-friendly management of sports clubs, 2020</i>) distributed to clubs Promotion and dissemination 	AIPP Communities Officer	This website was kept up to date: https://pollinators.ie/sports-clubs/	
95	Golf Course Superintendents Association Of Ireland (GCSAI) to encourage golf courses to become more pollinator friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline document (<i>Pollinator-friendly management of golf courses, 2019</i>) promoted to network Uptake by golf courses 	GCSAI	The guideline document was promoted in this phase.	
96	Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) to encourage clubs to become more pollinator friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Clubs encouraged to become more pollinator-friendly within the Green Club programme ✓ Uptake by clubs 	GAA	Biodiversity is one of the five core elements of the GAA's Green Club Programme and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Guidance for Sports Clubs is at the heart of the Green Club Biodiversity Toolkit. The Green Club Biodiversity Toolkit is used by Gaelic Games clubs around the country to take action for biodiversity, nature and wildlife.	

				<p>Since 2021, membership of the Green Club Programme has expanded from 30 to over 300 clubs and a 2024 survey showed the 80% of clubs active in the programme undertake biodiversity actions.</p> <p>GAA clubs across the country are managing non-playing grass, hedgerows and banks for pollinators and biodiversity, planning club walkways for nature, biodiversity and well-being, each year Green Clubs engage in native tree planting projects on their land and in their communities and many clubs have planted pollinator beds and boxes in club and county colours. More recent projects by Green Clubs include the planting of club orchards, the development of biodiverse and pollinator-friendly sensory gardens, the installation of mini rainwater gardens and the preservation and construction of wetlands.</p>	
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Target 3.4 Increase the number of faith communities that are pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measures	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
97	Eco Congregation Ireland to promote pollinator-friendly actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline document (<i>Faith Communities: actions to help pollinators</i>, 2018) promoted to members 	Eco Congregation Ireland	We continue to include the All-Ireland Pollinators plan in our monthly email newsletter and regularly refer to it on our social media platforms. It is also a central part of the many talks and seminars that we give to parishes all over Ireland. We also provide a link to the Faith communities document on our website and in our guidelines for churches who are getting started.	

98	Provide freely available online resources for faith communities at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date resources provided on AIPP website. To include: evidence-based guideline documents, flyers, videos, blogs, webinars, presentations, case studies, animations All 2015–2020 resources to be updated where necessary. 	AIPP Communities Officer	<p>This website was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/faith-communities/</p> <p>Since 2023, the AIPP has been supporting the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference Returning to Nature initiative, which aims to ensure 30% of church grounds are managed for biodiversity by 2030. The AIPP has supported the initiative by giving talks online and in person, having stalls at Returning to Nature conferences where the Faith Community guidelines are distributed, and speaking directly to church groups undertaking this work. Advice has also been provide to the Heritage Council who are developing additional resources to support the initiative.</p>
99	Publish a guideline document outlining evidence-based pollinator actions for graveyards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of guideline document Publication and dissemination Uptake by sites. 	AIPP Communities Officer & partner organisations	The Heritage Council are developing a biodiversity guide for faith communities. It includes a section on graveyards, and the AIPP team have inputted into this resource to ensure pollinator actions suggested are evidence-based. It will be available in 2026.

3.5: Increase the number of Group Water Scheme sites that are pollinator friendly

	Action	Progress measures	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
100	National Federation of Group Water Schemes (NFGWS) to encourage all Schemes to manage their sites (sources, reservoirs, treatment plants) in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Guideline document (<i>Pollinator-friendly management of Group Water Scheme Sites</i>, 2018) distributed to Schemes ✓ Uptake by Schemes ✓ Promotion of biodiversity to wider drinking water 	National Federation of Group Water Schemes (NFGWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Guideline document (<i>Pollinator-friendly Management of Group Water Scheme Sites</i>, 2018) distributed to schemes ✓ Uptake by schemes – 16 GWSs nationwide are participating in the AIPP ✓ 22 GWSs nationwide have adopted a motion at board level to become biodiversity friendly and 	

	<p>a pollinator-friendly way.</p>	<p>catchments through dedicated initiatives with rural communities e.g. 'I've planted a tree and gone pesticide free' campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Establishment of a dedicated biodiversity category in a future Group Water Scheme excellence awards programme 		<p>have appointed a person responsible for biodiversity enhancement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 22 GWSs nationwide have also signed agreements to end the use of pesticides on GWS sites ✓ Throughout the 2021-2025 AIPP, 22 GWSs nationwide have carried out the 'All About Water' curriculum in local national schools and discussed the links here between biodiversity and the protection of their water source ✓ Biodiversity action plans have been created for 36 schemes throughout the lifespan of this AIPP ✓ Promotion of biodiversity to wider drinking water catchments through dedicated initiatives with rural communities e.g. 'I've planted a tree and gone pesticide free' campaign and the Orchards for Farmers Campaign ✓ Establishment of a dedicated biodiversity category in the Group Water Scheme Excellence Awards in 2020. Since then, 19 GWSs have won awards under this category. ✓ Gardening for biodiversity books have also been made available to all GWSs ✓ Additional resources (framework & guidance documents) are now available to guide schemes on how to minimise the effects of capital works on local biodiversity 	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The NFGWS made a submission to the Citizens' Assembly on biodiversity loss outlining the potential and work completed in the GWS sector, and made a presentation to the assembly on the 5/11/22 ✓ 14 integrated source protection plans (ISPPs) were developed in throughout the lifetime of the AIPP, with many mitigation and protection measures implemented in GWS catchments. These measures are developed with habitat retention, creation and nature-based solutions in mind to protect or improve the GWS water source quality. Plans for 50 more GWSs have been approved in the final year of the AIPP. ✓ A biodiversity enhancement and climate action work programme, known as the BECA project, involving 36 GWSs has been completed. This focused on making GWSs both biodiversity and climate friendly, not only in their own operations, but in the wider catchment. Key objectives include reduction of carbon footprint, management of sites in a biodiversity friendly manner, an elimination of pesticide usage in GWS operations as well as providing appropriate training for GWS personnel. ✓ NFGWS collaborated with the National Biodiversity Data Centre to carry out online 	
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				<p>biodiversity training for group water scheme personnel. 56 GWSs completed the training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The NFGWS European award-winning 'Let it Bee' campaign expanded to include the creation of wild bee hotels, in collaboration with organisations such as the Irish Men's Sheds Association ✓ A study was commissioned by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland to explore the well-being impact for participants of the Let it Bee project. <p>https://hdl.handle.net/10779/rcsi.25605078.v1</p>	
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3.5: Track changes in pollinators on private land

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
101	Publish an annual review of private land actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an annual review outlining progress within the actions under this objective Publication on the website annually each December 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	The annual review documents have provided a review of the private land actions across 2021-2025.	
102	Track progress within the garden sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of garden sites logged on the mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/. 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	As of the end of September 2025, 1,048 garden sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators' https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/	

103	Track progress within the business sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an annual report on the actions taken by the business supporter network • Publication of this annual report on AIPP website each December • Number of business sites logged on the mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/ 	Coordinated by AIPP Business Officer (funding dependent)	<p>The Annual Review of actions taken by business supporters each year is available here: https://pollinators.ie/aipp-2021-2025/annual-reviews/</p> <p>As of the end of September 2025, 1,847 business sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators'. Some business supporters will log multiple sites https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/</p>	
104	Track progress within the sports club sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of sports club sites logged on the mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/ 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	The 'Actions for Pollinators' mapping system opened to sports clubs in 2023. As of the end of September 2025, 28 sports club sites are logged https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/	
105	Track progress within the faith community sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of faith community sites logged on the mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/ 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	As of the end of September 2025, 30 faith community sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators'. https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/	
106	Track progress across Group Water Scheme sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Group Water Scheme sites logged on the mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/ 	Coordinated by AIPP Communities Officer	As of the end of September 2025, 34 Group Water Scheme sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators' https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/	

107	Continue to manage and support Citizen Science monitoring schemes that track changes in pollinators across all land types, including private land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme transects being carried out on private land. This is an expert-level Citizen Science scheme • Increase in the number of regular Flower-Insect Timed Counts (FIT Counts) being completed on private land. This is a beginner-level Citizen Science scheme • Publication of annual reports on the findings of both schemes 	National Biodiversity Data Centre, CEDaR	<p>Both the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme and FIT Counts were managed and promoted by the National Biodiversity Data Centre from 2021-2025. NIEA and CEDaR also promoted both schemes.</p> <p>Data submission within the Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme continues until 31st December each year. Annual reports are produced in the following year to update the trends. The 2012-2024 report is available here: Bumblebee-Monitoring-Scheme Annual-Report_2012-2024.pdf</p> <p>Data submission with the FIT Count Scheme continues until 31st December each year. Currently ~1,500 FIT Counts have been submitted in 2025 in RoI. Numbers have been increasing year upon year. 139 FIT Counts have been submitted in NI in 2025.</p> <p>Many new Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme transects have been established on private land across 2021-2025. Many FIT Counts have also taken place on private land.</p>
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OBJECTIVE 4: ALL-IRELAND HONEY BEE STRATEGY

The 2025 All-Ireland Honey bee Strategy Final Report was compiled by Dr Archie Murchie and the Honey Bee Strategy Steering Group

Target 4.1 Education and Knowledge Transfer

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
108	Conferences used as a means of disseminating good practice to beekeepers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conferences organised and used as a means of disseminating good practice 	UBKA, FIBKA, INIB, IBA CLG, NIHBS	The beekeeping organisations have a good series of conferences, exhibits, summer schools, workshops, honey shows and online talks.	
109	Expand beekeeping qualification courses to cover other environmental issues, including impacts of beekeeping on native pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses expanded and participants informed about other environmental issues Relevant fact sheets produced 	UBKA, FIBKA, INIB (via BBKA), IBA CLG	The beekeeping organisations have included greater awareness of all pollinators within their courses. In the latter-part of the project, there has been some concern expressed about the perceived conflict for resources between honey bees and native pollinators.	

Target 4.2 Communication

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
110	Establish a Steering Group to oversee the All-Ireland Honey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honey bee Strategy Steering Group established Twice-yearly meeting to discuss progress and share expertise 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group	The Steering Group was established to comprise of the main beekeeping organisation on the Island of Ireland. Meetings have taken place in May and November 2021-2025. The Group has promoted the	

	bee Strategy 2021–2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group to promote the Strategy. 		AIPP Honey bee Strategy at appropriate opportunities. There have been some changes to the personnel attending the meetings.	
111	Beekeeping associations to promote the aims of this strategy and the wider All-Ireland Pollinator Plan to members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy promoted via conferences Strategy promoted via roadshow and workshops Strategy promoted via teaching/mentoring activities Strategy promoted in Beekeeping publications and newsletters 	UBKA, FIBKA, INIB, IBA CLG, NIHBS	The beekeeping organisations have promoted the AIPP and Honey bee Strategy at conferences and other activities.	
112	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group to provide evidence-based guidelines to stakeholders as necessary to ensure healthy Honey bees and effective beekeeping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree communication strategy and provide evidence-based guidelines to relevant organisations as appropriate (e.g. Farming Unions) 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group	<p>This action was discussed at the Steering Group meeting in May 2023 and it was decided that it was too expansive and not sufficiently defined for the Group to take forward in any meaningful way. The Associations themselves are involved in many educational and knowledge transfer activities to ensure healthy honey bees and effective beekeeping. It was requested that this action was refocussed to a more specific requirement.</p> <p>The agreement was to provide details for a webpage on the pollinator.ie site, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links to beekeeping associations on the website Map with association locations Links to Coloss and ongoing bee health surveys 	

113	Beekeeping associations to continue to promote and support the wider All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in public engagement activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations to promote the AIPP as relevant 	UBKA, FIBKA, INIB, IBA CLG, NIHBS	Representatives of the beekeeping organisations have agreed in principle to support and promote the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan within their education and outreach activities.	

Target 4.3 Surveillance and Biosecurity

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
114	Prepare a paper to establish the need for Honey bee Inspectors in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of a paper establishing the need and remit for seasonal bee inspectors to support beekeepers 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group	<p>A set of bullet-points detailing the advantages of independent government bee inspectors was produced.</p> <p>In RoI, there are no bee inspectors per se, and responsibility for notifying disease cases rests with beekeepers, albeit supported by the labs in DAFM Backweston.</p> <p>Northern Ireland has bee inspectors within DAERA Forest Service Plant Health Inspectorate, who double-up as plant health inspectors. However, the situation with bee inspectors in NI is complicated following the incorporation of bees into Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases ("Animal Health Law") coupled with capacity pressures on the DAERA inspectorate following implementation of the Windsor Agreement and retirement of key staff. The question arises as to whether bee inspection is a veterinary or plant health issue. This has meant that</p>	

				apiary inspections have effectively ceased in NI, for the time being. The beekeeping organisations have highlighted the issue with DAERA (including the Minister) and in the press.	
115	DAERA to circulate the agreed NI Bee Health Contingency Plan and updated Strategy for the sustainability of the Honey bee when completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan circulated 	DAERA	<p>The NI Bee Health Contingency Plan is available on the DAERA website under bee health (www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/bee-health). The plan is reviewed and tested each year as part of DAERA and AFBI's KPIs. The current version has been updated in draft but needs to be uploaded to the website.</p> <p>The Strategy for Sustainability of the Honey bee is now unlikely to be updated until issues with Animal Health Law and EU-exit transition are sorted.</p>	
116	DAERA and DAFM to coordinate surveillance and share information on bee health, invasive species, and plant health (where relevant to bee health, e.g. pathway analyses).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North-South meetings to maximise cooperation 	DAFM, DAERA	High level meetings have restarted following the NI Assembly's re-establishment. DAFM Backweston is DAERA's National Reference Laboratory for bee health with AFBI as the Official laboratory and there is coordination for both laboratories to obtain accreditation to ISO17025 in diagnoses of foulbroods, small hive beetle and tropilaelaps mites. Data on bee health is shared on an individual basis between organisations but there is no overall repository for bee health data on the Island of Ireland.	

117	Voluntary registration to be encouraged in RoI prior to new EU legislation, which may make registration compulsory.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisations to actively encourage members to register 	FIBKA, IBA CLG, NIHBS, DAFM	<p>Agreed in principle. There have been discussions on the mechanism for voluntary registration. Some beekeepers are resistant to registration. In RoI, emphasis is placed on the food product, rather than bee husbandry. Correspondingly, DAFM Registration is as a Primary Producer of Honey, rather than as a beekeeper.</p> <p>Compulsory Registration will be a policy decision for DAFM based on the requirements of the EU 'Animal Health Law' (Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases), which has been applicable since 21 April 2021.</p>
118	Voluntary registration to be encouraged in NI through the 'DataBees' platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisations to actively encourage members to register 	UBKA, INIB, NIHBS, DAERA	<p>In NI, voluntary registration is via DataBees (www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/beekeepers-voluntary-registration). This has the following advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure record of active beekeepers and located apiaries (voluntary) Can select apiaries for inspection based on location risks e.g. proximity to ports Provides inspection lists of at risk apiaries following a disease outbreak Readily available lists of bee health inspections, due and overdue Record of previous year's disease outbreaks and trends Mapping facility to support inspections and management Specific reports to support management and provide data for research, public etc.
119	Data on overwintering losses and disease prevalence from the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information shared across the island Disseminated by beekeeping organisations 	AFBI, DAFM	<p>RoI COLOSS survey data published in An Beachaire.</p> <p>AFBI annual survey started in 2009 and published annually on the AFBI website, e.g.</p>

	COLOSS survey to be shared at an island-wide scale.			www.afbini.gov.uk/publications/honeybee-husbandry-survey-report-2023-2024 Composite data are normally published in the Journal of Apicultural Research as open access papers.
120	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group to bring associations together to discuss and agree a common policy on importations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify current rules and regulations Agree principles to be published and promoted by Beekeeping Associations 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group, DAERA, DAFM	<p>The beekeeping organisations agree that sustainability of locally produced honey bees is the correct strategy, which will be achieved through education, discouraging excessive imports and supporting local queen rearing.</p> <p>On July 24th 2023 all Irish beekeeping associations released a joint statement calling for the cessation of imports. This was signed by:</p> <p>Loretta Neary, Chairperson - Native Irish Honey Bee Society, NIHBS, John Donoghue, CEO/President - The Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations, FIBKA, Damien Mac Aodha, Chairperson - Irish Beekeepers Association, IBA, John Hill, Chairperson - Ulster Beekeepers Association, UBKA, Michael Young, Chairperson - Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers, INIB</p> <p>There is ongoing concern about post EU-Exit importations of honey bee queens to NI destined for GB.</p>
121	Complete and publish all-Ireland pest risk assessments for invasive pests and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate DAERA Asian Hornet contingency plan Publish All-Ireland risk assessments for invasive pests 	AFBI, DAFM, DAERA NIEA (invasive species)	<p>The Northern Ireland Rapid Response Contingency Plan for Asian Hornet is available on: http://invasivespeciesireland.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Northern-Ireland-AH-RR-Contingency-Plan-minus-contacts-details.pdf</p> <p>Similarly, the National Biodiversity Data Centre has published a Risk Assessment of <i>Vespa velutina nigrithorax</i> in 2023.</p>

	pathogens of Honey bees.	and existing pathogens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish All-Ireland risk assessments for unknown but emerging pests and pathogen 		<p>The risk assessments and response plans are being updated following the discovery of <i>Vespa velutina</i> nests in Co. cork in 2025.</p> <p>Risk assessments for some notifiable pests were produced by AFBI for DAERA but are not yet publicly available.</p>	
122	Investigate the feasibility of a unified approach to managing Foulbrood on the island of Ireland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify statutory rules North and South • Recognition of the diseases' importance and management options explained • Honey bee Strategy Steering Group to agree principles • Disease ID sheets on the AIPP website for both forms of Foulbrood • Education events to focus on foulbrood • Association questionnaire for options re foulbrood (South) 	AFBI, DAFM, DAERA	<p>Foulbrood cases in NI and RoI are published on the DAERA and DAFM websites respectively along with statutory rules:</p> <p>www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/bee-health</p> <p>https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-agriculture-food-and-the-marine/services/honey-bee-health-surveillance-programme/</p> <p>https://www.animalhealthsurveillance.agriculture.gov.ie/notifiablediseases/</p> <p>A unified approach to foulbrood management recognises that the Island of Ireland is a single epidemiological unit but with two jurisdictions. Progress in this action is dependent on other actions, namely beekeeping inspections (114), beekeeper registration (117) and also guidelines for healthy beekeeping (112). Whilst, we were not able to achieve this objective, considerable effort is made by the individual beekeeping organisations to highlight the dangers posed by foulbrood outbreaks, the symptoms to look for and how best to respond if foulbrood is detected in a hive.</p>	

Target 4.4 Conservation of the native Honey bee strain, *Apis mellifera mellifera*

Research has shown that Ireland has a pure population of *Apis mellifera mellifera*, the native Irish black bee. Elsewhere in Northern Europe, the original home of *Apis mellifera mellifera*, it has been severely hybridized. Ireland has a duty to conserve this genetic resource. Recent research (2024) confirmed that Ireland has a distinct and genetically diverse honey bee ecotype. However, the research also confirms it is under increased threat from hybridisation due to imported honey bees: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2024.2404297>

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
123	NIHBS to continue to promote the conservation of the native Irish Black Bee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued activities of the NIHBS 	NIHBS	NIHBS are focused on three main projects- the 'Protection of the Native Irish Honey Bee Bill' that is finished in the Seanad (5 stages) and progressing to the Dáil, the support of queen rearing group schemes and the establishment of conservation areas all of which are progressing well (please see www.NIHBS.org). Progress on the legislative front has been delayed waiting on the scientific evidence. Work has been commissioned by DAFM from an international team of scientists led by NUIG.	
124	Beekeeping sector to encourage an education process on the merits of the subspecies/strains of Honey bee including the Irish Black Bee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This to include identification of subspecies, issues of local provenance and climatic suitability across the island of Ireland The Irish strain of <i>Apis mellifera mellifera</i> encouraged where appropriate 	FIBKA, UBKA, INIB, IBA CLG, DAFM, DAERA	<p>The beekeeping associations agree in principle to this target and there are examples of educational events on the suitability of different bee subspecies/strains, including <i>A.m.m.</i></p> <p>FIBKA voted to include conservation of the native honey bee in their constitution.</p> <p>All organisations signed up to the statement (see above '120') on importation of honey bees.</p>	

125	Publication of an agreed management strategy for <i>Apis mellifera mellifera</i> on the island of Ireland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of the strategy. To include development of a roadmap towards the island of Ireland being recognised as a 'stronghold' for <i>Apis mellifera mellifera</i> 	NIHBS, NUI Galway	<p>Steering Group discussions have been on developing a strategy to recognise Ireland (or areas) as a special conservation area (stronghold) for <i>A.m.m.</i></p> <p>NIHBS have published a book "The Native Irish Honey Bee, <i>Apis mellifera mellifera</i>" with practical 'How-to' sections on bee improvement, plus real-life stories from commercial beekeepers.</p> <p>Various strategies are being developed on several fronts. Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative Approaches to Europe Educational Conservation areas 	
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Target 4.5 Data sharing

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
126	DAFM and AFBI to make results of pesticide surveys publicly available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results of pesticide surveys made available in ROI Results of pesticide surveys made available in NI 	AFBI, DAFM	<p>NI pesticide usage data available on: www.afbini.gov.uk/articles/pesticide-usage-monitoring-reports</p> <p>ROI pesticide usage data at: www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/sud/pesticidestatistics/</p>	
127	Promote <i>BeeConnected</i> in NI as a mechanism to connect beekeepers and farmers so that beekeepers can be kept informed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beekeeping Associations to encourage members to register <i>BeeConnected</i> promoted to farmers by the Ulster Farmers Union 	UBKA, INIB, UFU, NIHBS	BeeConnected (https://beeconnected.org.uk) is an up and running app supported by the beekeeping associations and the Ulster Farmers Union. The scheme was launched in NI in 2017 and continues to be promoted.	

	about spraying events in their vicinity.				
128	Investigate possible mechanisms linking farmers and beekeepers so that they can be notified of spraying events in RoI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible mechanisms identified 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group	BeeConnected is based in the UK as part of the UK's Voluntary Initiative programme. However, there is no reason why BeeConnected cannot be used in the RoI and a small number of beekeepers and farmers have already registered in the Republic.	
129	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group to develop a roadmap towards a system to capture hive density per hectad (10km ²).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road map developed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enable management of the overall pollinator resources across the island - enable implementation of alerts and action plans against new pests/pathogens - avoid selling non-native Honey bees into Voluntary Conservation Areas. Explore the possibility of testing in one specific region (e.g. Enniskillen). 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group, UBKA	<p>DAERA's 'DataBees' allows apiaries to be mapped but not hives and subject to GDPR restrictions.</p> <p>NIHBS have established <i>A.m.m.</i> conservation areas in almost 350+ areas including the Fermanagh Beekeepers Association (Enniskillen).</p> <p>A heat map of apiary density has been produced for NI and NIHBS have a map of <i>A.m.m.</i> conservation areas.</p> <p>Registration of beekeepers and hive locations/numbers is necessary to ensure that hive density estimates would be accurate.</p>	

Target 4.6 Tracking progress

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
130	Publish an annual review of the All-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual review published outlining progress against each of the actions 	Honey bee Strategy Steering Group	This document fulfils this action.	

	Ireland Honey bee Strategy 2021–2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual reviews made available via beekeeping organisation websites. 			
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All-Ireland Honey bee Strategy Steering Group 2025

Member	Affiliation
Archie Murchie (Chair)	AFBI (deputy Ivan Forsythe stepped down 2024; Joanna Kirbas)
Susie Hill	UBKA (deputy John Hill)
Mary Montaut	FIBKA
Vacant	INIB
Aoife Nic Giolla Coda (stepped down 2024); John Greenaway	NIHBS (deputy Loretta Neary)
Caroline McDonald	IBA CLG
Thomas Williamson (retired 2024)	DAERA (chief bee inspector NI)
Mary Coffey	DAFM
Úna FitzPatrick/Jane Stout	All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Steering Group

Acronyms			
AFBI	Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute	INIB	Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers
BBKA	British Beekeepers Association	NIHBS	Native Irish Honey Bee Society
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	NUI Galway	National University of Ireland, Galway
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine	UFU	Ulster Farmers' Union
FIBKA	Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations	UKBA	Ulster Beekeepers Association
IBA CLG	Irish Beekeepers' Association CLG		

OBJECTIVE 5: CONSERVING RARE POLLINATORS

Target 5.1 Ensure rare pollinators are protected by legislation where appropriate

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
131	Protect rare pollinators through the Wildlife Act in RoI when warranted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species added to Schedule 5 of Wildlife Act 	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	The Wildlife Act revision process has started and is aimed for completion in 2026. The issue of protecting Rare species will be addressed through that legislative process.	
132	Ensure rare pollinators are protected by legislation in NI where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included on Priority Species list, under The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act 	Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), Centre for Environmental Data and Recording NI (CEDaR)	<p>The First Tranche of the NI Priority Species List Review was published in January 2023. Updated species groups in this tranche included Bees (20 species) and Macro moths (66 species). Second Tranche of NIPS review has been finalised, it is anticipated this will be published over the next few months. This tranche includes Butterflies (11), Micro-moths (46), Sawflies (26), Soldierflies and Allies (3).</p> <p>Pollinator friendly actions funded through the Environmental Farming Scheme (Wider) included Pollinator Margin Creation, Wildflower Area Creation, Tree and Hedge Planting. The Environmental Farming Scheme is being replaced with Farming with Nature under the new Sustainable Agriculture Programme. Work is underway to develop pollinator friendly land management options withing this new grant funding mechanism. Environment Improvement Plan, strategic objective (3) to deliver 'Thriving, resilient and connected nature and wildlife'</p>	

Target 5.2 Raise awareness of rare pollinators

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
133	Work to develop initiatives to assist recovery of the endangered Great Yellow Bumblebee (<i>Bombus distinguendus</i>).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline document (<i>Protecting rare pollinators: Great Yellow Bumblebee</i>, 2019) promoted and distributed to all relevant stakeholders Awareness raising within local communities in remaining Great Yellow Bumblebee strongholds (Mullet Peninsula, Mayo) Development of a species recovery plan for the Great Yellow Bumblebee Continued management of BirdWatch Ireland reserves in the Mullet Peninsula to also support the Great Yellow Bumblebee. Investigation into funding mechanisms to increase the area of land that is managed to support the Great Yellow Bumblebee. 	National Biodiversity Data Centre, NPWS, BirdWatch Ireland, Mayo County Council, Belmullet Tidy Towns, University College Dublin (UCD)	BirdWatch Ireland: The management of our reserves on the Mullet Peninsula continues to be sympathetic to the ecological needs of the Great Yellow Bumblebee. Using this knowledge, and working closely with Belmullet Tidy Towns, Mayo County Council, UCD and others, then the Great Yellow Bumblebee Conservation Group was formed. The Group successfully received funding, through the European Innovation Partnership, to develop a pilot results-based project which was implemented across the Mullet Peninsula and Erris mainland, Co. Mayo during 2022.	
134	Work to develop initiatives to assist recovery of the near	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor its status - data from the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring 	AIPP team in collaboration with relevant partners	The 2012-2024 All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme data continues to show the Large Carder Bee in strong decline.	

	threatened Large Carder Bee (<i>Bombus muscorum</i>).	<p>Scheme (2012-2019) shows an ongoing decline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a network of key locations where healthy populations remain Work with local authorities and local communities to raise awareness of the Large Carder bee in these areas and to encourage pollinator-friendly actions to support it 		<p>Work has been ongoing with local communities who have populations of this bee within their local area. Within this phase, these have mainly focused on Skerries (Co Dublin), Tramore (Co Waterford) & Fenit (Co Kerry). In each case, the communities have worked with the relevant Local Authorities to create new habitat corridors. Where actions are taken, the bee responds and has been expanding its range.</p> <p>The AIPP ran a weekend 'Wild Bee Festival' of workshops and walks from 2021-2025. Three of these were focused on the Large Carder Bee: Skerries (2022), Tralee (2023) and Galway City (2024). Each event included peer-to-peer knowledge sharing on creating meadows to better support the Large Carder Bee, along with other talks and identification workshops.</p> <p>Work also took place to identify a network of other communities across the island who could be encouraged to take similar action around the Large Carder Bee in future years e.g., inland Mayo communities.</p>	
135	Develop resources on rare pollinators and make freely available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As resources are developed, all collated and added to the website: https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/ 	AIPP team in collaboration with relevant partners	<p>Resources, including posters and signage templates, continued to be developed and added to the website: https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/</p> <p>Five evidence-based guidance documents on rare pollinator species are now available: Great Yellow Bumblebee (2019), Large Carder Bee (2022), Northern</p>	

				Colletes (2022), Shrill Carder Bee (2024) and Forester Moth (2024).	
136	Promote rare pollinator species through social media campaigns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media campaign to raise awareness on the status, identification, and ecology of one rare pollinator species each year Great Yellow Bumblebee, Large Carder Bee and Northern Colletes bee to be prioritised initially. Others to be finalised in future years. 	AIPP team in collaboration with relevant partners	Across 2021-2025, rare species were promoted on social media at appropriate times to raise awareness and encourage positive action.	

Target 5.3 Publish best practice information on protecting rare pollinators

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
137	Publish how-to-guides on protecting rare pollinator species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New species-specific guides published within the <i>Protecting rare pollinators</i> series when a sufficient evidence-base is available. 	AIPP team in collaboration with relevant partners	<p>Across 2021-2025 an additional four evidence-based guidelines on rare pollinators were produced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting Rare Pollinators: Great Yellow Bumblebee https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/great-yellow-bumblebee/ This was in collaboration with BirdWatch Ireland (2019). Protecting Rare Pollinators: Northern Colletes https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/northern-colletes/ This was in collaboration with the National Trust (2022). 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting Rare Pollinators: Helping the Large Carder Bee in your local community https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/large-carder-bee/ This was in collaboration with Sustainable Skerries and Fingal County Council (2022). Protecting Rare Pollinators: Forester Moth https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/forester/ This was in collaboration with Butterfly Conservation and MothsIreland (2024). Protecting Rare Pollinators: Shrill Carder Bumblebee https://pollinators.ie/helping-endangered-pollinators/shrill-carder-bee/ This was in collaboration with national experts (2024). 	
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Target 5.4 Publish and update All-Ireland conservation assessments for pollinating groups (Red Lists)

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
138	Publish an All-Ireland Hoverfly Red List.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of an All-Ireland Red List outlining the conservation status of Ireland's hoverfly species. 	NPWS, NIEA	This is being drafted at present – all-Ireland database has been created, and first iteration of the list is completed with all Least concern species identified.	

139	Develop a roadmap towards updating the All-Ireland Bee Red List (2006).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of an updated checklist of Irish Bees • Development of a roadmap outlining necessary data collection that would allow updating of the 2006 Bee Red List. 	NPWS, NIEA, National Biodiversity Data Centre, CEDaR	<p>An updated Irish checklist was published in 2024: Nelson, B., FitzPatrick, Ú., Beckett, O. and Paxton, R.J. (2024) A critical update to the checklist of Irish bees (Hymenoptera, Anthophila). <i>Irish Naturalists' Journal</i> 41.</p> <p>The National Pollinator Monitoring Schemes (Action 24) are generating important new datasets that will allow updating of the Bee Red List during the next phase of the AIPP.</p>	
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Target 5.5 Track change in rare pollinators

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
140	Conduct dedicated surveys to establish the status and distribution of the Northern Colletes bee and the Red-shanked Carder bee in NI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIEA to investigate whether surveys could be delivered through grant funding by partner organisations, e.g., Buglife • Surveys successfully completed. 	NIEA and funded partners	<p>Delivering NIEA Environment Fund grant to Butterfly Conservation and Buglife for 5-year projects (2023-2028).</p> <p>The Buglife Coastal Invertebrates NIEA funded project work includes coastal site net surveys for rare and threatened bees along with searches for beetles and caterpillars.</p> <p>Under NIEA grant aid, Butterfly Conservation carried out Marsh Fritillary monitoring on All-Ireland MF Monitoring framework sites and additional new sites where MF have been recorded. The grant also supported dedicated work on Scarce Crimson and Gold, Forester and Large Heath.</p>	

				<p>A new programme of Common Standards Monitoring of designated ASSI's has now been established and rolled out. This contract will carry out a programme of invertebrate species surveys on ASSI designated sites with important invertebrate assemblages or Marsh Fritillary as a feature. This will give us increased data and a better understanding of species distributions, populations and threats and support Conservation Management Plans.</p> <p>NIEA are supporting new dedicated Species Recovery work area in partnership with RSPB, Buglife, Bumblebee Conservation and Butterfly Conservation. Species Action Plans are now being drafted for 9 pollinator species, including Bilberry Bumblebee, Moss Carder Bee, Cryptic Wood White, Large Heath, Marsh Friillary, Chimney Sweeper, Northern Colletes, Scarce Crimson and Gold and Small Eggar. Species Action Plans will include monitoring and tracking species along a Species Recovery Curve.</p>	
141	Attempt to increase the number of volunteers tracking rare species within the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pending resources, identification workshops on the following rare bumblebee species, run in areas where they occur: Great Yellow Bumblebee, Shrill Carder Bee, Mountain Bumblebee • Attempts made to encourage Citizen Science volunteers to walk specific routes to 	National Biodiversity Data Centre	<p>Efforts have focused on the declining Large Carder Large Carder Bee (<i>Bombus muscorum</i>). The 2-day 'Wild Bee Festival' took place in Skerries (2022), Tralee (2023) and Galway City (2024). Each had a focus on the Large Carder Bee and included talks and identification workshops to encourage new participants in the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme.</p>	

		monitor these rare bumblebees.			
142	Organise field meetings with volunteer recording networks to search for rare species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rare species hunts organised in appropriate areas, where funding allows. This will have to be limited to species that can be easily identified in the field. 	National Biodiversity Data Centre, CEDaR, BugLife	In 2022, a dedicated rare species survey was organised by the National Biodiversity Data Centre on the Ivy Bee in Wicklow. In 2023, an event was held around the Hairy-footed Flower Bee in Dublin. In 2024 and 2025, the National Biodiversity Data Centre held a recorders event in the Burren, where attempts were made to search for the rare Shrill Carder Bee.	

OBJECTIVE 6: STRATEGIC COORDINATION OF THE PLAN

Target 6.1 General awareness raising

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
143	Continually maintain and update AIPP website to provide stand-alone toolkit for those who want to help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued management and updating of website pollinators.ie 	AIPP team	https://pollinators.ie/ has been maintained and regularly updated	
144	Maintain Twitter and Instagram accounts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth in the number of followers Run dedicated annual campaigns on both platforms. May include, but not limited to: Let Dandelions Be, No Mow May 	AIPP team	<p>As of the 14th October 2025. The number of X/Twitter followers is 10,035. Followers on this platform have grown by 3,434 over the period 2021-2025 (a growth of 41%), though growth has slowed in recent years due to wider changes on the platform.</p> <p>The number of Instagram followers has increased to 7,171 – a growth of 4,284 since 2021 (an increase of 85%). This is due to significant work on this platform producing new content, especially short form video content.</p> <p>Social media campaigns Let Dandelions Bee, No Mow May, Let it Bloom June & Help Them Fly July were run during the period 2021-2025 to encourage reduced mowing across the summer.</p> <p>In 2024, a new social media campaign 'Pollinator, Plant, and Action of the Week' ran between February</p>	

				<p>and October to highlight weekly plants, pollinators and actions, and raise awareness of their connectivity. These posts were accompanied by new web pages on monthly pollinator actions and information.</p> <p>Investigations are underway on how best to utilise social media in future years.</p>	
145	Promote the AIPP in national and local media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain up-to-date media toolkit, to include bank of photographs • Publish press release for key events • Development of a range of promotional materials to promote pollinators • Track numbers of published media articles and other engagements 	AIPP team	<p>From 2021-2025 the AIPP has been widely covered in the National media:</p> <p>473 mentions in print and online articles 42 radio interviews 4 TV/documentary interviews 256 talks</p> <p>In 2023 the AIPP collaborated with An Post on a No Mow May campaign, which centered around a postcard campaign encouraging people to take part. This campaign reached 2.3 million homes and resulted in widespread media coverage. A new 'No Mow May' webpage was created to support the campaign.</p>	
146	Focus engagement efforts on new audiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of engagement efforts with new sectors who have not heavily engaged with the 2015–2020 Plan 	AIPP team	<p>Specific efforts were made to target new audiences in the second phase. These have included the following: GAA, Irish Science Teachers Association, Gaisce, Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland, Hospitals, NI Housing Executive, Aviation sector, NI Education Authority, Architects, Financial Institutions, Developers.</p>	
147	Distribute a monthly digital newsletter to the mailing list.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital newsletter distributed to the mailing list each month 	AIPP team	<p>A digital newsletter was produced each month from 2021-2025. It is distributed to the AIPP mailing list and made available at https://pollinators.ie/newsletters/</p>	

148	Organise an annual AIPP conference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual event organised to provide a forum for knowledge sharing and reporting on progress within the Plan • Meeting venue to rotate around Provinces 	AIPP team	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan ran annual events from 2021-2025 aimed at councils and local communities. Running these events separately allowed the programme and approach to be more bespoke for each sector with its unique needs. These meetings have taken place in all four provinces across the 5 years of this phase of the plan.</p> <p>2021 The 2021 Council knowledge exchange event took place online due to Covid restrictions. It was organized in collaboration with Carlow County Council and featured 7 talks on topics such as pollinator-friendly planting and seed harvesting.</p> <p>2022 In 2022 the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan team helped facilitate a conference 'How can Local Authorities Address the Biodiversity Emergency', which was hosted by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in collaboration with Limerick City & County Council.</p> <p>2022 also saw the first Wild Bee Festival take place in Skerries from the 26th-29th August. It was organized by the AIPP in collaboration with Fingal County Council and Sustainable Skerries. This inaugural festival was a mixture of talks, walks, workshops and family-friendly events raising awareness of pollinator-friendly actions and celebrating the work of Sustainable Skerries in protecting the rare Large Carder Bee.</p>
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				<p>2023</p> <p>In April 2023, the AIPP ran a workshop for community groups in Dublin ‘How Urban Communities can Help Pollinators’ in collaboration with Dublin County Council and HX Grow. This workshop took place across two days and included talks and workshops and a guided walk of Harold’s Cross where the new Hairy-footed Flower Bee had appeared, as well as the biodiversity-friendly community garden run by the Kingfisher Project.</p> <p>The 2023 Wild Bee Festival took place in the Tralee Bay Wetlands Eco & Activity Centre in Kerry, an area where populations of the Large Carder Bee have been found. This festival was organized by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in collaboration with Kerry County Council, the Tralee Bay Wetlands Eco & Activity Centre, Transition Kerry, Tralee Tidy Towns and the Kerry branch of the Irish Wildlife Trust. Guided tours took attendees through the town and around the centre to see many positive examples of pollinator-friendly actions. Talks and workshops were given by the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan team and community groups including Sustainable Skerries who had been invited to attend and share peer to peer knowledge with communities in Kerry about protecting the Large Carder Bee.</p>	
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				<p>2024</p> <p>A Community Action workshop took place in CAFRE Greenmount, Co. Antrim in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Environment, and Rural Affairs, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, and the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording.</p> <p>The 3rd annual Wild Bee Festival took place in Galway City on the 17th and 18th August in collaboration with Galway City Council. The festival included a guided tour of Barna Woods and Galway City's first rain garden, talks and workshops led by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, Galway City Council staff, Fenit's Changing Tides and the Friends of Merlin Woods. The festival was a runner up in the Heritage Council's Heritage Week Climate & Sustainability Award.</p> <p>The AIPP Council Conference took place in June in Tallaght in collaboration with South Dublin County Council. A series of talks and a panel discussion covered meadow management and pesticides in response to common council challenges. C. 100 attendees including Biodiversity Officers, council staff, Climate Officers, gardeners, engineers, and technicians. The conference received excellent feedback and slides and pre-recorded talks were made available on the council pages of the pollinators.ie website</p>	
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				<p>2025</p> <p>The 2025 Wild Bee Festival took place in Abbeyleix in collaboration with Laois County Council and Abbeyleix Tidy Towns. It was a mixture of talks, workshops and guided walks led by members of Abbeyleix Tidy Towns taking in areas of the town managed for biodiversity. It included a demonstration of different mowing equipment, and we also gathered footage here for two new videos raising awareness of pollinator-friendly actions in communities and meadow management.</p>
149	Run an annual programme of engagement around World Bee Day (20 th May).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme of engagement organised • Activities listed on a dedicated page on pollinators.ie. 	All partners	<p>2021</p> <p>The documentary Plean Bee aired on TG4 for World Bee Day 2021. The documentary by filmmaking Deaglán Ó Mocháin, was in Irish and English, and explored the plight of bees in Ireland and the work of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. It included interviews with Úna Fitzpatrick and Jane Stout. The documentary is permanently available on the TG4 player.</p> <p>The Irish Examiner ran a 40-page A5 booklet on the AIPP, 'Working Together for Biodiversity', sponsored by Gas Networks Ireland. The booklet included AIPP resources and recommendations for different sectors, and case studies on pollinator conservation.</p> <p>Launched a new poster: 'What Can You do on World Bee Day to Help Save the Bees' – this poster was made freely available to download on the pollinators.ie website.</p>

				<p>2022</p> <p>A series of short freely available videos were created to mark World Bee Day 2022, following the theme of 'the basics of bees'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Introduction to Ireland's Bees • Top Ten Actions for Pollinators • Recording Pollinators <p>The videos were shared on social media, on the World Bee Day web pages on pollinators.ie, and are on the National Biodiversity Data Centre YouTube channel.</p> <p>The AIPP worked with RTÉ Learn to update their biodiversity pages to include the new content for World Bee Day.</p> <p>Two new blogs were also released, targeted at a specialist and general audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Providing the Evidence: an update from the Irish Pollinator Research Network' ▪ 'The joy of making your garden pollinator-friendly' <p>2023</p> <p>The AIPP Contributed comms content to the World Bee Day campaign at the Aviva Stadium.</p> <p>World Bee Day: New meadow resources released for World Bee Day:</p>	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How-to guide: Creating and restoring meadows in local communities and gardens • Flyer: Celebrating Ireland's Meadows • Sign: Let it Bee • Sign: Meadow in Progress, showing a meadow at different stages of development. <p>Guest blog: Pollinator research continues to flourish, updates from the Pollinator Research Network by Jane Stout</p> <p>2024 Three new resources released on the Shrill Carder bee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting Rare Pollinators: the Shrill Carder Bee • Shrill Carder Bee poster • Shrill Carder Bee signage template <p>2025 New online course launched for community groups on World Bee Day: Managing Communities for Pollinators. This free course is aimed at community groups who are interested in making their community pollinator friendly.</p> <p>The World Bee Day homepage was updated with top actions for pollinators and up to date information, based on increased web traffic to this page in previous years.</p>	
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				New social media content was developed to celebrate World Bee Day including a reel summarising threats to wild bees and key actions to help them.	
150	Run an annual programme of engagement around international Pollinator Week (late June).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme of engagement organised • Activities listed on a dedicated page on pollinators.ie. 	All partners	<p>2022</p> <p>To mark Solitary Bee Week 2022, the AIPP released a new set of resources on protecting the rare Northern Colletes Bee. These were produced in partnership with the National Trust, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and Buglife. The resources included a new guideline document, a sign and a poster. The AIPP collaborated with the National Trust on a press release for the new resources and wrote a blog which was included in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan newsletter.</p> <p>2023 - 2025</p> <p>It was noticed in 2022 that Solitary Bee Week as an organized event had limited reach and impact, with the organisers focusing on content from Britain. It was decided for 2023 – 2025 to focus on other key dates such as World Bee Day, Pollinator Week, and Biodiversity Week. For solitary bee week during this period, the NBDC solitary bee poster was reshared on social media – a key resource for raising awareness of solitary bees. This was the most effective and efficient way to engage with Solitary Bee Week.</p>	
151	Recognise the contribution of local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2017, we have recognized a small group of individuals annually (approx. 	AIPP team	Where relevant, individuals were recognised each year in December/January. Champions are not publicly recognised, but personal thanks were sent.	

	pollinator champions.	<p>six). This to continue. These are local influencers who make the plan happen on the ground, largely in a voluntary capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate and personal thanks are sent to new pollinator champions. Awardees are not publicised, as these are most often people who do not wish to be personally promoted 			
152	Raise awareness of an additional pollinating insect group annually. (The main focus of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is on bees.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media campaign to raise awareness of one non-bee pollinating insect group annually. May include, but not limited to: hoverflies, nocturnal pollinators, day-flying moths, wasps, beetles 	Butterfly Conservation NI, BugLife, others as appropriate	<p>The AIPP has promoted other pollinating insects across social media between 2021-2025, particularly hoverflies and moths.</p> <p>An initiative to promote a 'pollinator of the week' ran across 2024. It included a series of wild bees, hoverflies, and day-flying moths.</p>	
153	Raise awareness to promote the use of appropriate grass management in preference to planting with wildflower seed and, where this is necessary, the use of native, local provenance wildflower seed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued messaging through social media and other online platforms 	AIPP team	<p>This expanded into a significant action in its own right. The use of 'wildflower' seed mixtures fails to address and even aggravates the real issues of biodiversity loss.</p> <p>To address this issue, a wildflower seed action group was established in May 2021 with representatives from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, National Biodiversity Data Centre, National Botanic Gardens, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,</p>	

				<p>Teagasc, TCD, UCD, as well as some independent ecological consultants.</p> <p>The group met regularly from 2021-2025 to discuss measures that could be taken to help tackle concerns.</p> <p>Across this phase, the group worked to encourage natural regeneration and the return of semi-natural grasslands, rather than inappropriate wildflower seed planting. This was boosted in 2022, by the launch of a new project by NPWS to celebrate Irish semi-natural grasslands called 'Great Irish Grasslands' https://greatirishgrasslands.ie/ This has been supported by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. It creates a foundation to better celebrate meadows and manage expectations around what they should look like.</p>	
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Target 6.2 Researching the evidence base for action

Updates under Target 6.2 have been compiled by Prof. Jane Stout with contributions from Irish Pollinator Research Network members.

NOTE: Research actions are dependent on both funding and availability of appropriate researchers

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Progress by October 2025	
	Dissemination and communication				
154	Maintain the Pollinator Research Network to discuss ongoing research, and to build collaborations for future research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Pollinator Research Network meetings held Annual updates of researchers/research projects disseminated via pollinators.ie 	Pollinator Research Network – Trinity College Dublin (TCD), University College Dublin (UCD), Maynooth University (MU), Dublin City University (DCU), National University of Ireland, Galway, and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual meetings held each year. In January 2025 it was held at Maynooth University. Next meeting in January 2026 in UCD. Annual update to research outputs https://pollinators.ie/research/publications/ Across this phase of the AIPP, IPRN researchers have been involved in more than 75 publications. 	
155	Maintain bee health research-policy-practice dialogue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Bee Health meetings between researchers, decision-makers, and practitioners. 	MU, TCD, DAFM, Teagasc, AFBI, DAERA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Bee Health Meeting has not taken place regularly across this phase. 	
	Pollinator and pollination ecology				
156	Expand knowledge of Ireland's wild bee populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into genetic differentiation/distinction among populations at different scales, linking with 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research completed on genetic differentiation of <i>Bombus terrestris</i> (Irish, British, commercial) (Sarah Larragy & Jim Carolan, MU; Jane Stout, TCD) Research ongoing into population genomics of the Great Yellow Bumblebee (Lydia Thompson, Julia Jones, Dara Stanley UCD) 	

		<p>ecological/behavioral differences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into nesting and floral requirements of solitary bee species • Continue to investigate the prevalence, health and longevity of honeybee colonies that exist in the wild. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research ongoing into solitary bee nesting and floral preferences (Colm O’Leary, PhD student; Simon Hodge, UCD; Steph Maher, Teagasc; Daire O’hUallachain, Teagasc; Jane Stout, TCD) • Ongoing research on diversity and adaptation in Irish wild honeybee population (Grace McCormack, NUIG) • SFI Pathway Project commenced in UCD focusing on Andrena mining bee comparative and ecological genomics (2024-2028). PhD student recruited (Niamh Kennedy, supervisors - Darren O’Connell and Julia Jones)
157	Improve understanding of hoverfly populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into hoverfly abundance/diversity across different land uses, microhabitat use, and/or service provision (bio-control, pollination, nutrient cycling). 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into hoverfly abundance and richness in relation to farmland feature quantity and quality completed (Steph Maher, Teagasc; Jane Stout, TCD; Simon Hodge, UCD; Farm Ecos team) • Research into hoverfly diversity in crop fields and contributions to pollination services completed (Arrian Karbassioon, Alison O’Reilly, Dara Stanley, UCD) • Data from the Protecting Farmland Pollinators EIP researching hoverfly species richness and abundance in different farmland habitats, paper in prep (Saorla Kavanagh Teagasc, Jane Stout TCD, Una Fitzpatrick NBDC).

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research investigating farmland, town parks and roundabouts to evaluate hoverfly abundance and diversity ongoing, PhD with Kildare Co. Co. (Sophia Couchman & Jim Carolan, MU, Jane Stout TCD, Una Fitzpatrick NBDC) Research into Ponds for Pollinators commencing. PhD Walsh Scholarship (Clementine Sitoleux, Saorla Kavanagh Teagasc, Jane Stout TCD)
158	Improve knowledge of rare and at-risk pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research to inform conservation of extinction-risk species in the Irish context Provide evidence base for conservation of specialized habitats in which rare/at-risk species live. 	Researchers, NIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into Great Yellow Bumblebee (<i>Bombus distinguendus</i>) ecology, habitat preference and population genetics ongoing (Lydia Thompson, Julia Jones, Dara Stanley, UCD)
159	Expand knowledge of urban pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research to determine value of urban greening to pollinator populations. 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research evaluating which of the current management approaches is resulting in improved pollinator abundance and diversity undertaken across a variety of public urban sites ongoing, PhD with Kildare Co. Co. (Sophia Couchman & Jim Carolan, MU, Jane Stout TCD, Una Fitzpatrick NBDC)
160	Expand knowledge of plant-pollinator interactions and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue research into farmland pollinators, how 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research on impacts of pesticides on plant-pollinator interactions and on pollination service delivery by

	dynamics, and pollination service delivery.	<p>they respond to changes in floral availability within and between seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research linking changes in pollinator communities with ecosystem function and service provision in wild plant species. 		<p>solitary bees (Megan Reilly, Dara Stanley UCD; Alison O'Reilly Lund University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research on weather, pollinator communities and crop visitation (Arrian Karbassioon & Dara Stanley, UCD) completed RestPoll- (Jane Stout, Jessica Knapp, Sarah Larragy, Fernanda Azevedo, TCD) field surveys of pollinators (bees, butterflies hoverflies) on tillage and beef farms around Kildare to look at effects of restoration actions on pollinator populations. Research investigating soil biodiversity loss on plant-pollinator interactions ongoing (Tara Dirilgen MU & Dara Stanley UCD) ProPollSoil (Dara Stanley, Simon Hodge, Julia Jones, Lena Deck, Tirza Moerman): Large Horizon project understanding links between soils and soil-dependent pollinators commencing.
161	Expand understanding of interactions between managed and wild pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate optimal placement of honeybee apiaries – how do honeybee hives affect availability of floral resources for other pollinators and how many hives 	Researchers, Beekeepers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into how placement of honeybee hives in heathland habitats in the Dublin mountains affects wild bumblebees completed (Katie Burns and Dara Stanley, UCD) Data from the Protecting Farmland Pollinators EIP researching honeybee and wild pollinator species richness and abundance in different farmland habitats to be analysed (Saorla Kavanagh Teagasc).

		should be located in different habitat types (e.g., forests, urban areas, farmed landscapes).		
162	Expand knowledge of bee diseases and health risks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Generate baselines of disease prevalence in honeybees and investigate potential for disease transfer ● Determine whether promotion of managed honeybee colonies in the wild poses a disease risk to wild pollinators ● Undertake new research into Chalkbrood disease in honeybees. 	Researchers, DAFM, AFBI, DAERA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFI funded project at NUIG collected approx. 90 samples from wild and managed colonies for screening for pathogens. ● The next iteration of the DAFM National Apicultural Programme (PROBEE, 2024-2028) commenced, with Julia Jones (UCD) as PI, including Grace McCormack (UoG), Darren O'Connell (UCD), Dara Stanley (UCD) and others. PROBEE will have a particular focus on honey bee disease risks. PhD student recruited (Egehan Onat Özfén, supervisors Julia Jones and Darren O'Connell UCD). First phase of a large field experiment on Varroa treatments completed in 2025, second phase to be completed in 2026. Experiments with a foulbrood focus also planned. ● Research ongoing as part of PROBEE, assessing the impact of pathogens and pesticides on honey bee colony mortality, and on worker honey bee gut microbiota (PhD student Marcela Díaz; Darren O'Connell; Julia Jones, UCD). Metagenomic sequencing of samples from 150 apiaries completed and analyses underway.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global meta-analysis of treatments for the honey bee pathogen <i>Varroa destructor</i> carried out as part of PROBEE published (Darren O'Connell and Julia Jones UCD). 	
	Drivers of decline and conservation measures				
163	Understand extent of exposure to pesticides and other pollutants across ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine exposure routes for multiple pesticides/pollutants and pollinator taxa Quantify pesticide residues in plants, soil, water, bee products Improve understanding of impacts of environmental pollution, e.g. heavy metals on bee health and bee products. 	Researchers, DAFM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research ongoing as part of PROBEE, assessing the impact of pathogens and pesticides on honey bee colony mortality, and on worker honey bee gut microbiota (PhD student Marcela Díaz; Darren O'Connell; Julia Jones, UCD). See above for progress. Research commenced as part of PROBEE, which involves screening all commercially available beeswax which can be sourced in Ireland for chemical contaminants (PhD student Egehan Onat Özfen; Darren O'Connell; Julia Jones, UCD). Wax samples obtained, lab work optimisation and sample processing commenced. Research on differing pesticide resistance in wild versus commercially reared bumblebees in submission (led by Ed Straw, Jane Stout TCD, with species ID by DNA barcoding led by Darren O'Connell, Julia Jones UCD). 	

164	Research impacts of climate change and climate action policies on pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research into how climate change affects pollinators ● Research into how policies to tackle climate change affect pollinators. 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research complete into how weather affects pollinator activity, and creating a bee thermoregulation model to predict future responses to changing temperature (Arrian Karbassioon, Sarah MacQueen, Dara Stanley UCD) completed ● Glasshouse experiment completed by UCD in coordination with Teagasc, outlining honey bee responses to a temperature gradient in a controlled setting. Higher temperatures were shown to disrupt typical foraging behaviour, though time in glasshouse also had an impact (Darren O’Connell, Bronte Baker and Julia Jones, UCD, David Atauri University of Valladolid, Spain).
165	Assess effectiveness of conservation measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research effectiveness of conservation actions for pollinator populations and communities ● Develop a simple tool to assess quality of conservation actions (e.g. meadows, parks, designated sites, no-mow lawns, Buglife’s B-lines) in 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research to investigate chemical and non-chemical control methods for plants on open public lands. PhD ongoing with Kildare Co. Co. (Sophia Couchman & Jim Carolan, MU, Jane Stout TCD, Una Fitzpatrick NBDC) ● Research into agri-environmental measures (delayed grazing and delayed mowing) and impacts on rare and common bumblebees ongoing (Lydia Thompson, Dara Stanley UCD) ● Research into effects of flower strips and pesticide use (and their interaction) on pollinator populations and pollination services are ongoing (Jess Knapp TCD). ● RestPoll- (Jane Stout, Jessica Knapp, Sarah Larragy, Fernanda Azevedo, TCD) field surveys of pollinators (bees, butterflies hoverflies) on tillage and beef farms

		terms of provision of floral resources		around Kildare to look at effects of restoration actions on pollinator populations.
166	Determine effectiveness of Pollinator Trail sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research to monitor the network of Pollinator Trail sites to specifically assess the impact of different pollinator actions versus control sites 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This action was changed (Action 32), so the associated research component could not be progressed.
167	Investigate the role of specific plants in supporting pollinators to determine best ones to plant for bees in different habitat types.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into role of trees to inform tree-planting initiatives Research into replacements for invasive plants used by beekeepers to provide forage for honeybees (e.g. Himalayan Balsam) 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Importance" of various taxa determined by investigation of Irish plant-pollinator networks https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.9347 Research into forage use of solitary bees (Colm O'Leary, UCD) and forage use of bumblebees (Lydia Thompson, UCD) ongoing
168	Review publicly managed land in terms of suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct review Develop a plan to prioritise the restoration of pollinator habitat, 	Researchers, National Biodiversity Data Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PhD ongoing with Kildare Co. Co. (Sophia Couchman & Jim Carolan, MU, Jane Stout TCD, Una Fitzpatrick NBDC) to investigate the correlation between biodiversity management practices and pollinator

	for key pollinator populations.	based on those areas that will yield the greatest expected net benefits		<p>abundance and diversity on open public spaces and roundabouts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research contributed to the development of practical guidelines for commercial landscapers and land managers. 	
	Multiple benefits and widening engagement				
169	Research multiple co-benefits of pollinator conservation for other elements of biodiversity and ecosystem service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into co-benefits of pollinator conservation actions 	Researchers	RestPoll (Jane Stout, Jessica Knapp, Sarah Larragy, Fernanda Azevedo, TCD, with MSc student Michalis Christou) field surveys of beetles on tillage and beef farms around Kildare to look at effects of restoration actions on other ecosystem service providers.	
170	Expand understanding of why people engage with pollinator conservation and how to reach those who are not yet engaging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-disciplinary research into engagement with pollinator conservation action. To include studies of behaviour change, attitudes, perceptions, etc. 	Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into the social (and ecological) values associated with pollinator conservation, including attitudes and perceptions to encourage behaviour change, are ongoing (Fernanda Azevedo, TCD). EU Horizon project RestPoll aims to restore habitats for pollinators in agriculture by engaging with stakeholders via 'Living Lab' workshops. The TCD RestPoll team held first Living Lab Workshop for stakeholders involved in the project in 2024. See here for a summary of this workshop. The next workshop will be held in November 2025. 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizon Europe project FarmBioNet has established Farming and Biodiversity National Networks (NNs), consisting of farmers/foresters and other relevant AKIS actors. FarmBioNet will use these NNs to gather and disseminate knowledge and information on biodiversity-friendly farming practices to include actions for pollinators (Saorla Kavanagh, Teagasc).
171	Test methods for non-lethal monitoring across habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot studies and ground truthing of novel non-lethal monitoring technology, compatible with European Pollinator Monitoring Scheme 	Researchers, DAFM, National Biodiversity Data Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Biodiversity Data Centre ran a non-lethal moth sampling project on EIP farms in 2022-2023 (funded by DAFM). https://biodiversityireland.ie/projects/farmer-moth-monitoring-project/ Research ongoing on impacts of non-lethal sampling of genetic research on bumblebee behaviour and foraging potential (Lydia Thompson, Dara Stanley. UCD) Novel methods for pollinator surveying being tested by ANTENNA – Biodiversa + project (Moya Owens, Jane Stout, Jess Knapp, TCD)

Target 6.3 Establishment and maintenance of supporting databases

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
172	Continue to manage and maintain the online mapping system <i>Actions for Pollinators</i> , where all those who have taken pollinator-friendly actions can log their location and the action(s) taken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and maintain the GIS based mapping system • Open it up to all sectors • Improve reporting by increasing the number of sites logged • Where funding is available, work to expand the functionality of the system • Use this emerging map of pollinator-friendly habitat to direct future actions to the most appropriate areas 	National Biodiversity Data Centre	<p>The mapping system has been maintained from 2021-2025, with the numbers of sites logged continuing to increase annually https://pollinators.biodiversityireland.ie/</p> <p>As of the end of September 2025, 5,400 sites are logged on 'Actions for Pollinators'. Just over 14,000 individual actions have been logged. The most popular action is pollinator-friendly planting (2,793), followed by reducing mowing (2,115) and reduced pesticide use (1,993).</p> <p>The system is used to help create connections and to encourage people to work together across sectors to make their local areas more pollinator friendly.</p>	
173	Maintain data on wild pollinator distribution and make available through an online Atlas of Irish pollinators and the NBN Atlas for Northern Ireland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and manage databases. Ensure that as much data is open access as possible • Make available through online Atlases of wild bees and hoverflies • Increase the number of active recorders who can accurately identify pollinator species • Where funding is available, continue to develop and publish online identification courses for pollinator identification 	National Biodiversity Data Centre; CEDaR	<p>Bee data submitted online is validated in quarters. As of September 2025, the National Bee Database, managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre contains 122,954 validated records. It is fully open access: https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Dataset/5</p> <p>Hoverfly data submitted online is validated in quarters. As of September 2025, the National Hoverfly Database, managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre contains 52,729 validated records. It is fully open access: https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Dataset/159</p> <p>The number of active recorders continues to increase across both datasets.</p>	

				The National Biodiversity Data Centre currently has free online identification courses for bumblebees, hoverflies and solitary bees (with more in development). https://biodiversityireland.ie/online-training/
174	Maintain and grow Citizen Science pollinator monitoring networks and databases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support and grow the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme (expert volunteer Citizen Science scheme) Continue to support and grow the Flower-Insect Timed Count monitoring scheme (general public Citizen Science scheme) 	National Biodiversity Data Centre	Both the All-Ireland Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme and the Flower-Insect Timed Count Scheme were fully supported from 2021-2025. The numbers of volunteers participating in both schemes continues to grow annually.
175	Maintain a database on plant-pollinator interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain database Add new data as it becomes available 	National Biodiversity Data Centre	This database continues to be maintained within the National Biodiversity Data Centre. It is updated quarterly in line with bee data validation within the Centre. Currently, there are just over 20,000 wild bee species records that also include foraging information.
176	Maintain an online database of Irish Pollinator research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and populate database Make available via www.pollinators.ie Update annually 	Pollinator Research Network	<p>This is available at https://pollinators.ie/research/</p> <p>The list of published papers by Irish researchers is updated annually and is available here: https://pollinators.ie/research/publications/</p>
177	Develop a digital database of pollinator collections in the National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate funding mechanisms that would allow the national bee collection to be fully curated by the Natural History Museum. This should 	National Museum of Ireland (Natural History)	A preliminary survey conducted by the NMI entomology curator has estimated that there are approx. 25,000 Irish bee specimens in the Natural History collection.

	Museum of Ireland (Natural History).	include image, accession number, specimen - all digitally linked and searchable		Suitable imaging systems have been identified and costed and can be readily purchased pending identification of an appropriate funding source. Protocols for efficient collation of geographic and temporal information from historical Museum specimens have been developed and published in scientific literature.
178	Collate and maintain data on scientific engagement polls/surveys, so that the initiative can continue to learn from this feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a database of the findings of all engagement polls since the AIPP began in 2015. Some of these were run by the Plan itself through social media, others by third parties Use this information to improve engagement with all stakeholders 	AIPP team	This database is maintained within the National Biodiversity Data Centre and used to improve our understanding of how to best engage with stakeholders. The most recent national poll was carried out in April 2025 (findings are summarised in the accompanying document: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (2025): <i>Final Review – Overview of progress 2021-2025</i>).

Target 6.4 Maintenance of a network of supporting organisations

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025
179	Maintain a network of organisations who agree to help promote or otherwise assist the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a framework, whereby organisations can sign up as a supporter of the Plan and indicate what actions they are willing to take in support Maintain a list of all supporting organisations on the website Maintain this network of supporting organisations and 	AIPP team	<p>A list of all supporting organisations for 2021-2025 was maintained at: https://pollinators.ie/about/partners/supporters/</p> <p>As of the end of September 2025, there are 88 supporters of the AIPP 2021-2025</p> <p>Each year, these supporters were given the opportunity to report on their activities to the AIPP team as part of the annual review process.</p>

		provide support as resources allow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate knowledge exchange where possible • Provide supporters with an opportunity to report on their activities each year as part of the annual review process 			
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Target 6.5 Overall coordination

	Action	Progress measure	Responsibility	Final summary October 2025	
180	Promote the Plan to new organisations and sectors as relevant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan promoted to new organisations and sectors • Increase in the number of organisations supporting the Plan • As appropriate, continue to explore possibilities to grow the reach of the Plan e.g. investigations into whether the planning process could include stipulations for pollinators 	AIPP Project Manager and Steering Group	<p>This occurred across 2021-2025 with efforts made to engage with new organisations and sectors.</p> <p>The number of supporting organisations continues to increase.</p>	
181	Ensure that the Pollinator Plan is compatible with other biodiversity initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with other partners to ensure land management advice for promoting biodiversity is joined up and is not contradictory 	AIPP Project Manager and Steering Group	Oversight was continually maintained on this action. Discussions and consultations occurred with many partners over 2021-2025 but primarily with BirdWatch Ireland and Bat Conservation Ireland.	
182	Ensure the incorporation of the Pollinator Plan into	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the Plan to relevant organisations and 	AIPP Project Manager and Steering Group	Oversight was continually maintained on this action. The AIPP is currently included in Ireland's 4th National	

	future relevant national strategies, where appropriate.	those working on national strategies/planning		Biodiversity Action Plan 2023–2030. Discussions are ongoing around the future National Restoration Plan in Rol.	
183	Develop an online toolkit, based on lessons learned from the AIPP 2015–2020 to ensure knowledge sharing at the EU level and beyond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop materials on lessons learned from the first phase of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015–2020 • Make available as an online toolkit for other countries interested in doing something similar • Include templates and resources that can be shared 	AIPP Project Manager	<p>Key lessons have been shared https://pollinators.ie/toolkit/</p> <p>Over the last five years, the AIPP has continued to engage and provide advice directly to other countries who reach out and are interested in replicating our activities. The Plan has operated an ethos that all resources are freely available to be used and adapted by others, and many countries have taken advantage of this.</p>	
184	Publish an overall annual review of the 186 actions in the Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a collated annual review, outlining progress on all actions within the Plan • Publication of this review on the website each December 	AIPP Project Manager	<p>This document has fulfilled this action each year. All five annual reviews are available at: https://pollinators.ie/aipp-2021-2025/annual-reviews/</p>	
185	Annually review the Steering Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the Steering Group annually and restructure as required 	AIPP Steering Group Chair	<p>This process took place annually. It was agreed that the size remain constant (max 16 members) but that expertise on the group reflect the key tasks that are being undertaken in any given year. The current Steering Group (2025) is below. This Group will be disbanded at the end of the year and a new Group established for the next Plan.</p>	
186	Renew the Plan in 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new version of the Pollinator Plan to be developed for 2026–2030 	Steering Group	<p>A new and more ambitious Plan for 2026-2030 is in development.</p>	

2021-2025 Final Report compiled by Dr Úna FitzPatrick

AIPP Steering Group 2021-2025

The Steering Group provided oversight of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, with implementation coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The group met biannually across 2021-2024 and more frequently in 2025, to plan for the next phase.

Member	Affiliation
Dr Úna FitzPatrick (chair)	National Biodiversity Data Centre
Prof Jane Stout (deputy chair)	Trinity College Dublin
Mr Ken Bradley	DAERA; Environmental Policy Division
Ms Pauline Campbell	DAERA; Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Ms Niamh Carmichael	Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR)
Ms Hannah Denniston	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Ms Eimear Fox	Local Communities, Tidy Towns Adjudicator
Ms Susie Hill	Ulster Beekeepers Association
Dr Catherine Keena	Teagasc
Ms Annette Lynch; Dr Brian Nelson; Dr Chris Peppiatt	National Parks and Wildlife Service
Dr Mary Montaut	Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations (FIBKA)
Dr Archie Murchie	Agri-Food and Biosciences NI
Ms Anne Murray	Local Authorities: Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council
Ms Sarah Jane Phelan	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Ms Melina Quinn	National Trust



**An tIonad Náisiúnta
Sonraí Bithéagsúlachta**
**National Biodiversity
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