

Council Partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan



Partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: Framework for Councils/Local Authorities

We all depend on pollinators and the important service they provide. Unfortunately, our pollinators are in decline. Of the 99 different types of bees on the island of Ireland, nearly one third are threatened with extinction. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a strategy that addresses this problem. It is a shared plan of action supported by more than 90 governmental and non-governmental organisations. By helping our pollinators, we are improving biodiversity across the island.

Most Councils/ Local Authorities are already taking actions to support pollinators on public land. Many are also working with local community groups, residents' associations and schools to help raise awareness of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. To better support these efforts and to better promote the work being undertaken, we have developed this framework to recognise Councils as *partners* of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan offers Councils/Local Authorities a suite of benefits in addition to biodiversity enhancement, including:

- ✓ Partnership with an internationally renowned strategy to reverse declines in biodiversity.
- ✓ A framework outlining options with the flexibility to choose from a variety of low/cost-neutral evidence-based actions that will have a positive impact.
- ✓ Access to training, guidance documents, support materials, case studies, etc. to help staff decide on appropriate actions. For more information, see: <http://pollinators.ie/councils>
- ✓ Helps demonstrate compliance with statutory requirements such as the Council's Biodiversity statutory responsibilities.
- ✓ Enhancing the local landscape for pollinators supports local food producers
- ✓ A framework to help support the delivery of key plans:
 - National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (Action 4.1.8. Implement All-Ireland Pollinator Plan)
 - Biodiversity Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020
 - County Development Plan (protecting natural habitats and plants objectives)
 - Green Infrastructure Plan (protecting and managing natural wildlife corridors and habitats)
 - Climate Change Adaptation Measures (resilience to climate change)
 - Local Biodiversity Action Plan
 - County Biodiversity Plan (pollinator actions)
 - EU Habitats Directive (ecological networks and buffer areas)
- ✓ A demonstration of your biodiversity credentials to local residents who are increasingly concerned with supporting environmentally friendly initiatives.
- ✓ Actions to support community engagement and strengthen relationships with local groups who are also working to protect our pollinators, e.g. Tidy Towns groups, Ulster in Bloom.
- ✓ Actions to support Local Agenda 21
- ✓ Actions to support the Green Schools Programme (Biodiversity Theme) (ROI) and Eco-Schools (NI)

To sign up as a **Partner** to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, please present this Framework, along with a copy of the '*Councils: Actions for Pollinators*' guidelines, to your Council for adoption. **Once agreed, simply return (by email or post) a signed copy of this page.**

In becoming an All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Partner, your Council/Local Authority agrees:

- 1. That your Council/Local Authority supports the ethos of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and will consider the Plan in their policies, plans, and management decisions where possible.
- 2. To consider the evidence-based actions in the guideline document *Councils: Actions to help Pollinators*, and to carry out one pollinator-friendly action in the first year of signing up and plan to carry out at least three more within the following five years. The guideline document lists 30 possible actions, many of which are low cost or cost-neutral.
- 3. To update the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Team (within the National Biodiversity Data Centre) on the positive pollinator actions you have planned, implemented or maintained at the end of each year, when contacted, to help us promote your work.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that our pollinators and the critical service of pollination are available for generations to come.

Council/Local Authority:

Signature(s):
.....

Print name:

Role:

Point of contact (if different to above) email:

Email to: ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie;
Postal address: Dr Una Fitzpatrick, The National Biodiversity Data Centre, Beechfield House, WIT West Campus, Carriganore, Waterford

What will happen next:

Once you have signed up, please send us a copy of your logo.

We will only use your logo to promote your support of the Pollinator Plan in the following two ways: on the 'Partners' page of our website and in our annual report.

In return, you will receive a copy of the Pollinator Plan's Council/Local Authority Partner logo, for use in Council documents/reports.



Along with the benefits that come from partnership with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, Councils/Local Authorities that sign up will receive a Certificate of Partnership, which can be displayed at your offices. You may also choose to use our artwork to erect a permanent sign.

Implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

For more information on the **All-Ireland Pollinator Plan**, please see www.pollinators.ie

To download a copy of the **Councils: Actions to help pollinators** guidelines, see www.pollinators.ie/councils