

wildlife ways

- the story so far

After years of planning, **Wildlife Ways** is beginning to make Solihull even greener. Since February 2019 trees and wildflowers have been planted, shared paths laid, funding for further environmental projects awarded, alongside a brand new **website** which is keeping residents informed.

The £16.8 million programme, part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), is a massive project involving people from right across the Council, from a host of different teams.

The project is made up of four parts.

Wildlife

Planting hundreds of trees, thousands of square metres of wildflower areas and millions of bulbs will improve our wildlife habitats and the connections between them.

It will be a massive boost to wildlife and will see a more diverse range of plants and animals making their homes in Solihull, increasing the borough's biodiversity. Planting on this scale will also help improve our air quality and create a wildlife network more capable of adapting to climate change.

586
trees
have been planted

13
Parks & open spaces
have had new planting

Planting and seeding
has boosted the diversity of

63.15 hectares

110,000m²

of wildflowers have been planted

Business support

Alongside these other activities, colleagues are working with local businesses to encourage employees to make more sustainable travel choices – including walking and cycling. This is supported by Wildlife Ways as the project will make it easier to leave the car behind.

Working with
25 Local Businesses
and have engaged with approximately

3,300
employees

Cycling and walking

To help residents enjoy being out and about without their cars, we are creating new shared routes and improving existing footpaths and cycle networks. Wherever possible, routes will be landscaped with links to existing parks and green spaces and public transport options.

8,351m²

of shared paths have been created...

Using nearly **1,378 tons** of porous materials

Small habitats grants

Another feature of Wildlife Ways is the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) Habitats Grants Programme. This is a way of supporting smaller organisations to improve their land and areas of waterway both for people and wildlife.

£592k.

of ERDF funding has
been allocated
which will...

...Improve nearly

175

hectares of land...

...that's about

280 football pitches!

Finally, we've had **9,541** visits to the Wildlife Ways website since it went live and more than **614** people have now subscribed to the Wildlife Ways e-bulletin to get regular updates on the project. Find out more and sign up to the newsletter at www.wildlifeways.co.uk



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

This work is part-funded
by the European Regional
Development Fund.



West Midlands
Combined Authority

