

# Swan Valley Wildlife & Ecology Project

MIDLANDS FACILITIES MANAGEMENT TEAM

Better begins now

## CLIENT

Aviva Investors

## REAL ESTATE TYPE

Retail

## LOCATION

Swan Valley Industrial Estate, Northampton

## SQUARE FOOTAGE

800,000 SF

## SERVICES

- Property Management
- Occupier Engagement
- Project & Development Services

## BACKGROUND

This project aimed to promote biodiversity through supporting local ecosystems and enhancing environmental education within our community.

This project aligns with both Cushman and Wakefield and Aviva Properties Ltd commitment to sustainability and will make a significant positive impact on our local environment.

### Objectives

- Enhance Local Biodiversity: Create habitats for insects, pollinators, and other wildlife to thrive.
- Enhance Local Pollination: Improve population and diversity of the local flora.
- Promote Community Engagement: Involve the local community in environmental conservation activities.

## CHALLENGE

To achieve the above objectives, we initiated the below:

The wildlife and ecology project implemented has made substantial strides in enhancing biodiversity within the local ecosystem.

By implementing targeted initiatives such as bird boxes, bat houses, fruit trees, and wide flower meadows, we have created a more sustainable and vibrant environment for wildlife.

The ongoing commitment to conservation and ecosystem preservation will ensure a lasting positive impact on the biodiversity of the area.

A reduction in chemical pesticide usage has reduced due to the presence of natural pest controllers on site, leading to a healthier environment and lower chemical runoff into local waterways.



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## SOLUTION

As part of our ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability and biodiversity enhancement, the project established wildflower meadows, incorporating a diverse array of native plant species. Installation of bird boxes in strategic locations to provide nesting opportunities for local bird species to attract a diverse range of avian species, contributing to the overall biodiversity of the area.

Bat houses were installed to support the local bat population. These structures provide essential roosting sites for bats, which are crucial for their survival and the control of insect populations in the area.

A variety of fruit trees were planted to provide a sustainable food source for wildlife. These trees not only support local fauna but also enhance the visual appeal of the area, creating a more vibrant and diverse ecosystem.

Wildflower meadows have been encouraged and developed, incorporating a diverse array of native plant species. These meadows serve as vital habitats for pollinators such as bees and butterflies, supporting the crucial role of pollinators in supporting the local ecosystem and promotion of plant diversity.

Various bug hotels were sourced from local contractors and housed in a variety of locations around the site in order to promote and sustain and enhance the local insect population.

Additional seating was sourced and installed around the site to encourage and allow the local community to sit, relax and enjoy the local enhanced habitat.

## RESULTS

As we are still in the early stages of the implemented structure of installing the bug hotels and the wildflower meadows etc, early success is difficult to promote, however there have been successful ventures in surrounding areas which we are looking to emulate across not only this site but others and the larger Midlands portfolio.

These contribute to our long terms goal of achieving viable sustainable ecological benefits.

1. Bat hotels will attract bats to the area, helping to control insect populations through natural cause as known to consume large amounts reducing the need for chemical pesticides and promoting a healthier local ecosystem.
2. External seating enhances the aesthetic appeal of the property, providing comfortable and calming outside space.
3. Fruit trees, when planted offer a sustainable source of fresh fruits and can assist in consumption for persons avoiding purchase from local stores reducing delivery and emission levels.

## TANGIBLE BENEFITS AND KEY TAKEAWAYS

This project was successful in winning a International Gold Standard Green Apple Award during this years awards.

