## **Grange Road Greenway Permeability Link**

South Dublin County Council, in association with the National Transport Authority (NTA), aims to create more sustainable local neighbourhoods by providing direct pedestrian and cycle links to popular local destinations and amenities.

Under the NTAs Sustainable Transport Measures Grants Programme, the Council secured funding to deliver a new pedestrian/ cycle greenway in Rathfarnham, connecting Grange Road to Nutgrove via the Barton Road Extension/Grange Manor Road. This project involved working in close partnership with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, across whose boundary the Greenway extends.

This new Greenway offers easier and more comfortable pedestrian access to local facilities such as St. Enda's Park and Nutgrove Shopping Centre, as well as facilitating commuter cycling and access to additional bus routes.

Over 90,000 cyclists have cycled the Greenway since its opening in September 2014.



Corn Cockle



**Buff-tailed Bumblebee** on Corn Marigold

**Tree Mallow** 



Cornflower



**Ox-eye Daisies** 



Bird's - Foot **Trefoil** 



**Scarlet Pimpernel** 



**Kidney Vetch** 



**Common Carder Bumblebee** on Red Clover

## **Landscape Management along** the Greenway

A wildflower meadow has been cultivated along the Greenway as part of the landscape plan for the walkway/cycle route. The low fertility environment of the soils along the route lend themselves to such wildflower cover. A seed mix of cornfield and meadow flowering species was chosen in order to give maximum colour for users of the Greenway and to offer a biodiversity corridor for flowering plants, insects and birds.

The site will be managed to ensure an attractive and well-maintained wildflower display in future years. Path margins will be mown to maintain a neat, clear pathway along the walkway/cycle route. Flowering species will be allowed to set seed naturally before the entire area is cut back at the end of the season. Soils will also be scarified to aid seed germination and growth of cornfield species for next year's colourful display.

The ongoing maintenance of wildflower meadows require occasional disturbance and re-cultivation of the soil, which allows annual flowers to re-establish for the following year. This takes place in the autumn/winter period and will be part of the annual regime. Due to the low fertility of the soils along the Greenway, it also takes some time to establish a well-developed meadow with good ground coverage. South Dublin County Council would like to thank the residents for their patience during the establishment phase of the Greenway.



