

## With A Little Help From My Friends



### Client Profile

Pfizer is one of Ireland's leading employers and the largest pharmaceutical sector investor and employer. One of the first pharmaceutical companies to locate in Ireland (1969), Pfizer has a rich heritage of innovation and expansion over a forty year period.

When Ringaskiddy Pfizer employees Ed O'Regan (Contractor Safety Coordinator) and Ivor Delaney (Warehouse Operator), noticed a tiny bird's nest constructed within the gravel of an onsite carpark, little did they know the impact their discovery would have. The nesting bird was a Ringed Plover, a small wader usually found nesting on exposed sandy or shingle beaches. This particular bird, however, had decided that it best preferred Pfizer's gravelled carpark.



**Ringed Plover**

After alerting Eddie O'Sullivan and Dermot Kelly, Pfizer's Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) team, that Pfizer had acquired a new resident, arrangements were quickly made to ensure the protection of the Plover. The species is of conservation concern due to decreasing numbers. Ireland has a key role in addressing this issue due to the fact that at least 20% of the European population of Ringed Plovers winter in Ireland with many remaining to breed here

## About Wild Work

Wild Work is a unique initiative with biodiversity at its heart. We support everyone committed to helping nature and our particular focus is to connect business, biodiversity and local communities. We also support the work of both local and national organisations involved in the conservation and protection of our natural environment.

With our practical expertise, we create and care for meadows, woodlands, beaches, rivers and other natural habitats, both in urban and rural settings.

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Recognising the significance of this event, the team at Pfizer opted to close off this section of its carpark where the nest was located, providing the Plover with the peace and quiet needed to care for her eggs.

Meanwhile, the Wild Work team of SECAD Partnership, spearheaded by William O'Halloran, were on-site meeting with the Pfizer EHS team to develop a Biodiversity Action Plan for the Ringaskiddy site. Having been previously informed of the presence of the Ringed Plover nest, William was excited to see it first hand, but was disappointed to be told that the mother had not been seen for days, leaving the eggs at risk. Upon his second visit that same week William decided to have a closer look at the now-abandoned nesting spot, but rather than discovering an empty nest he instead came across a number of Plover chicks scuttling around the car park! Astounded by the success before him, William quickly recorded a video of the chicks to show the Pfizer staff. The video went viral throughout the Pfizer organisation and in November 2018 Pfizer Ringaskiddy received a Pfizer Global Award, recognition by the greater Pfizer organisation for its documentation and protection of the Ringed Plover chicks born and raised on-site.

Clearly their commitment to protecting the environment, whether through reducing greenhouse gas emissions or offering a little help to a mother raising her young, ensures that Pfizer will continue to make a difference at both the local and global scale

