

Everyone's Environment: Greater Manchester Co-creating Climate Futures

Communities shaping decisions about the climate, nature, and our futures

Visual description: A textured purple page with bright pink paint strokes placed around the edges. Near the top is a wide photograph framed by torn-paper edges, showing a person with a backpack and a dog looking out across a green landscape. Large white text is centred below the image. The page uses a collage-style design with layered paper textures.

What is Everyone's Environment?

This project brings people and communities together to learn, listen, identify shared priorities, and turn ideas into action.







1. Learning together

2. Understanding our strengths

3. Prioritising what matters

4. Community listening

5. Turning ideas into action



Shared priorities emerged ✓

New relationships were built ✓

Community voices shaped the conversation ✓

Visual description: A textured purple page with pink paint-stroke accents. Three polaroid-style photographs are taped across the top half of the page and showing people taking part in workshops and outdoor activities. Below the photographs are 5 coloured cards, each containing a white graphic. Along the bottom are 3 coloured statements with large tick marks.

What this zine is about

The zine shares the journey and future plans that came from Everyone's Environment: Greater Manchester.

Over the programme, community organisations supporting racialised, Disabled, and financially insecure communities came together to explore how climate action can better reflect people's everyday lives.

Together, we:


Built an understanding of climate and nature issues


Listened to community experiences and priorities


Shared knowledge, strengths, and ideas


Developed action to take forward

Visual description: A textured brown page is ripped diagonally across the top third of the page with a pink rounded box and white text title. The bottom half of the page has four icons across from text. In order, from top to bottom the icons represent building, priorities, sharing information, and developing ideas.

What strengths do community organisations bring?



Visual description: A dark purple background features a central bright pink oval surrounded by seven light purple ovals in a circular pattern. White dotted lines connect each outer oval to the centre, creating a hub-and-spoke diagram. The layout resembles a mind map, with the central shape acting as the focal point and supporting ideas radiating evenly around it.

What emerged?



Visual description: A textured light blue background contains a simple flow-diagram design. Near the top centre, a heading branches into multiple pink dotted arrows that point toward five dark purple rounded rectangles positioned around the page.

Insights from organisations

Sustainable options often cost more, making them harder to choose without policy change

Shaping funding so it works for community organisations, and working with partners to highlight the barriers they face

Access to growing food and greening spaces is limited by cost, space, and inequality

People most affected need a real voice in decisions, not just to be consulted

collate and develop or coproduce accessible resources around climate literacy

project design and ability for organisations to understand climate change and their nature heritage through creative expressions

partnership with other organisations to raise awareness of barriers they face

Visual description:A bright pink textured background sits behind Six hand-drawn speech bubbles in pastel shades of blue, green and purple are scattered across the page. The speech bubbles vary in size and shape, with thick black outlines and subtle coloured shadows that create a layered, cut-out effect.

Priorities - Community Organisations

Emerging themes

The cost of living shapes people's ability to engage with climate action

Climate action needs to feel relevant to everyday life

Communities want practical, local solutions

Accessibility and inclusion must be built into everything we do

Accessible Transport

Climate change in everyday life

Food and affordability

Energy costs and warm homes

Community-led solutions

Visual description: A textured light blue background frames a large light green coloured sheet of paper positioned in the centre of the page. The sheet appears attached near the top with a strip of semi-transparent green tape. Several small torn-paper labels are arranged across the lower half of the page, each appearing to be taped with pieces of beige masking tape.

Organisations

Afrocats
Sow the City
GMCDP
Community Arts Northwest
Tameside Arts
Sustainable Threads
Manchester Community Central
ADES-Bellevue-Consultancy-Service
Breakthrough UK
Manchester Deaf Centre
Swap & Sew
Bury People First
Women's Voice



continues on the next page!

Visual description: A textured purple background sits behind a large white area in the centre of the page, separated by a torn-paper edge. A large pink paper is clipped near the top with a metallic clip centrally on the page. In the bottom left corner, there is an illustration of a box containing shelf-stable food and fruit. In the bottom right, there's a white curved arrow.

Organisations

Greater Manchester Combined Authority
Disabled People's Panel
Disability Stockport
Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People
T.A.P. Project C.I.C.
BLOSSOM FOUNDATION
AccessAble Learning
Womens Environmental Network
Abram Wilson (EQTY in Music)
Saheli org
Manchester Climate Ready





Visual description: A purple background frames a torn-paper panel in the centre. Decorative images of a piggy bank with coins and a leafy tree appear at the bottom corners.

Community Listening

Each delivery partner spoke with community members to ask: "Have we got this right?"

Their feedback helped to confirm, strengthen, or amend the priorities identified by community organisations in the programme.

- 40+ community members engaged
- Three community listening sessions



Visual description: A textured blue background with a purple title banner. Large wind turbines peakthe right side, while pink check marks and a curved arrow highlight key points on the left.

Priorities for communities experiencing **financial insecurity**

Food poverty



Understanding climate change locally



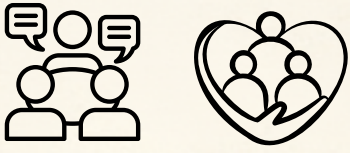
Energy affordability



Accessible public transport



Community-led action



Visual description: A pale purple background displays five paper-note panels arranged in a grid. Each note contains simple black graphics and a green highlighted heading.

Priorities for **racialised** communities

Food poverty



Intergenerational conversations



Energy affordability



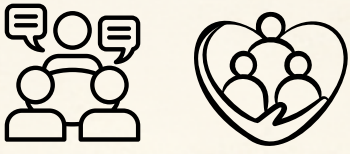
Accessible public transport



Safety



Community-led action



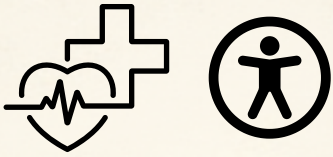
Visual description: A pale green background displays six paper-note panels arranged in a grid. Each note contains simple black graphics and a green highlighted heading.

Priorities for **Disabled** communities

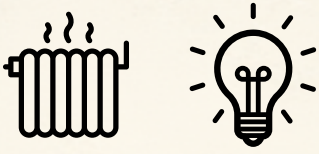
Food poverty



Healthcare



Cost of living



Accessible public transport



Housing



Information on impacts



Visual description: A pale pink background displays six paper-note panels arranged in a grid. Each note contains simple black graphics and a green highlighted heading.

From ideas to actions

Community organisations have created action groups exploring:

Two strands

Advocacy



Key Actions

- Joint advocacy letter
- Community roundtables
- Policy engagement
- Accessible communication
- Equity & inclusion
- Paid participation

Connecting communities with nature



Key Actions

- Community gardening
- Nature activities
- Climate conversations
- Wellbeing & connection
- Co-produced activities
- Accessible participation

Visual description: A white background with a pink paint-stroke accent near the top. Two large paper-style panels sit side by side, connected by hand-drawn arrows, with illustrated figures and icons supporting each section.

What's next

Two community-led action groups will take these priorities forward:



Community Voice & Influence

- Joint letter
- Roundtables
- Community advocacy

Community Garden & Nature Connection

- Gardening activities
- Nature engagement
- Local



Visual description: A cream-coloured slide featuring two torn-edge photographs and two columns of content. One photograph shows people gathered around tables indoors, while the other shows a community activity outdoors. A pink brush-stroke accent appears beneath the title.