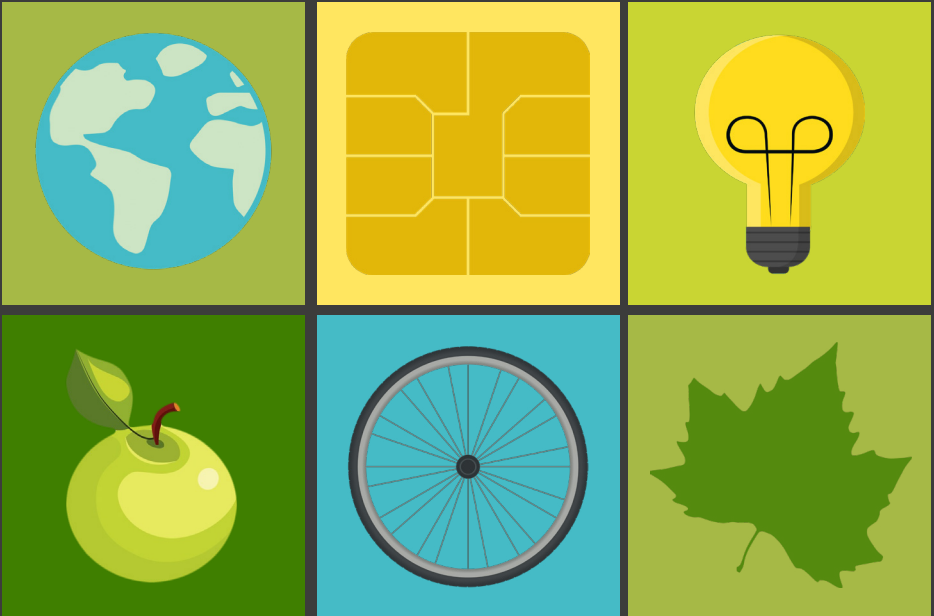


Planet Chorlton

Tips and info for a cleaner,
greener life and loving where we live.



Reducing emissions starts with us

Working together

Chorlton is a place where people connect and pull together.

We help our neighbours, we take pride in our community and we love where we live. We can build on those strengths to help combat climate change – the most important issue facing us all. This booklet has been produced by residents, councillors and businesses who want to do their bit – and to do it together.

Together, we're stronger

Across the city, the public and private sectors are working hard to reduce carbon emissions.

The [Manchester Climate Change Partnership](#) was formed in 2018 and includes the City Council, the NHS and the universities, as well as big companies like Bruntwood, Deloitte and Electricity North West. They have already taken some positive steps towards reducing the city's carbon footprint, but there is much more work to do.

While there is a lot happening at citywide level, on its own, it's not enough. We need to ask ourselves what can we do locally.



We can all do our bit and that's more than you might think. We need to consider our actions and we need to work together.

What's the urgency?

Fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas, petrol) used in our transport, industry and homes create carbon dioxide. This is making our planet warmer, leading to potentially disastrous results. If Manchester is to do its share, we must reduce emissions by a challenging 13% a year. Climate change has massive implications for every person and animal on Earth. The situation is urgent: we MUST act now.

What can we do locally?

Go to [Carbon Footprint](#). Answer just a few lifestyle questions and the site will calculate your personal carbon footprint – as well as giving you advice about the fastest and easiest ways to make it smaller!

Reducing our waste

Buy a little less and share a little more.

Chorlton has lots of charity shops and some great bargains – save items from landfill and help a good cause at the same time.

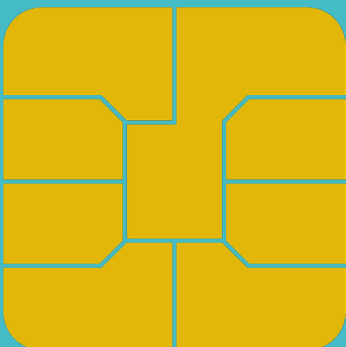
Local WhatsApp street groups were set up all over Chorlton during the pandemic. They're great places to swap, lend and borrow – if you're not a member, ask a neighbour or start one yourself! No road needs 47 lawnmowers.

Make, do and mend

Learn to make things that have real value. Crafting is a great stress reliever and it's very rewarding. There are lots of books and online videos, as well as local groups where you can learn among friends.

Do donate saleable goods to charities, or use [Freecycle](#), social media and WhatsApp street groups to find new homes for pre-loved items. Chorlton has its own Facebook groups for reuse and recycling too.

The **Stitched Up** co-operative runs a regular Repair Café in Stretford Mall, where an expert will help you to fix those broken treasures.



Stay smart

Sell or recycle phones, devices and appliances: there's lots of info online. Better still? Simply resist the urge to upgrade – retro tech is in!

Recycle with care

You can recycle more than you think. The recycling centre on Chester Road, just before the motorway, accepts all sorts of materials. If you're not sure what goes where, visit [What Do I Do With?](#)

Take your soft plastics (bread bags, crisp packets – anything that pings back when you scrunch it) to the Co-op for recycling.

What can we do locally?

Libraries of Things are now springing up across the country with the first Manchester Library of Things coming to Levenshulme.

Is this something you'd like to help develop in Chorlton?

Saving our Energy

The single biggest thing we can all do to reduce our environmental impact is to cut down the amount of fossil fuels consumed in our homes. Domestic energy accounts for nearly a fifth of carbon dioxide emissions in Manchester. We must try to be more energy-aware, save what we can and opt for renewable sources of energy (such as wind and solar power) if we have the chance to do so.

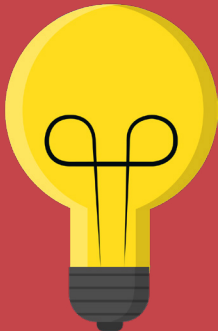
When you save energy, you're not just reducing emissions, you're saving serious money too.

Power down

Switch appliances, gadgets and chargers off at the wall when they're not in use. Look for energy-efficient LED light bulbs. Fill up the washing machine and dishwasher, but not the kettle – only boil what you need for that brew. Turn your thermostat down a degree – you'll barely notice the difference.

Be water wise

Showers use less water than baths, but if you love a good soak, let the bathwater go cold before pulling out the plug – heat your bathroom, not your drains. Use water from baths, showers and sinks (called 'grey' water) on plants or to flush the toilet.



Stop gaps

On a cold or windy day, feel around your doors and windows. If there's a chill when they're shut, it's time to insulate! You can buy sticky draught excluder tape locally for painless, but useful DIY.

Open curtains and blinds to let the sun shine in, but close them as soon as it's dark to trap that free warmth.

Clear the air

Manchester is a Smoke Control Area. If you burn solid fuels in your home, visit manchester.gov.uk to find out what's allowed under the Clean Air Act.

What can we do locally?

Find environmentally savvy tips (as well as useful consumer advice) at Money Saving Expert – boiler tweaks, simple maintenance, appliance running costs, insulation ideas and more.

[moneysavingexpert.com/
utilities/energy-saving-tips/](https://moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/energy-saving-tips/)

Eating Better

Cutting down on meat and dairy is one small step to combat climate change where we can make a **big** difference – just by eating! So much of our planet’s farmland is used to grow food for animals instead of feeding people. If we all had one (or more) meat-free day each week, it could really make an impact. You could go a step further and try a dairy-free day too!

Visit [Chorlton Eats](#) for more information and useful tips for reducing meat and dairy in your diet.

Share the surplus, reduce the waste

More than a third of our food is wasted ([Too Good To Go](#)) by producers, supermarkets, and restaurants - but mostly in own homes! Plan your meals, take a shopping list and resist temptation: offers aren’t special if they end up in the bin! Storing food in the right way makes it last much longer. Find tips for safe storage, livening up limp veg and much more at [Love Food, Hate Waste](#).

Know your dates

Never use food that’s past its **Use By** date – that’s a health warning, designed to keep you safe.



Best Before is totally different.

Lots of store cupboard foods – rice, dried pasta, tins, sugar and more – will stay safe and tasty for weeks, or even months after their Best Before dates. Local shops are more likely to use local producers, rather than shipping tonnes of food around the globe. It’s never been more important to support your local high street if we want variety and traders who care. In-season fruit and veg is cheaper too!

[Chorlton Bike Deliveries](#) collect unsold food, including Barbakan bread and Co-op groceries and deliver them to local food banks.

What can we do locally?

A growing number of Chorlton people use apps like the [Olio](#) share more, waste less app. Together we can redistribute surplus food to feed bellies not bins! Check out the recent *Rescue the Food* campaign by [Chorlton Craftivists](#).

Getting there

Chorlton has among the highest levels of car ownership in the whole city. How can we complain about traffic congestion if we *are* the traffic? We know there are times when a car really is needed, but we do need to be more think more carefully about how we move around.

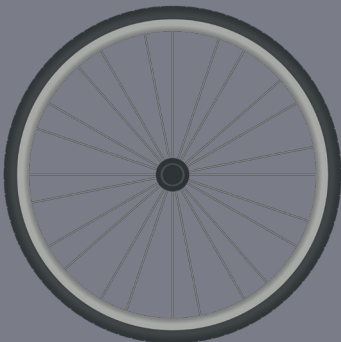
Drive real change

Try to just use the car for longer journeys. Around 50% of all local trips are under a mile: that's a 15-minute walk or wheel, or a 5-minute cycle. If we try to walk, wheel or cycle those short journeys - including to and from school - we could *halve* local traffic.

Parking Problems

Cars spend almost all their lives parked - and Chorlton is packed! Save money and hassle by joining a car club or a car share scheme. Drive by the hour!

Turn your engine off when you're not on the move! Idling causes air pollution, which is especially harmful outside schools, parks and places where people gather.



Pavements are for people

Think of pushchair and wheelchair users when you park and allow space for two people to walk side-by-side. Parking in cycle lanes is inconsiderate and also dangerous.

Two wheels good

Want to get on your bike? There's lots of help out there and we're lucky to have a great choice of new/used cycle shops in Chorlton. The council and [Transport for Greater Manchester](#) are making cycling safer and we'll soon have a cycleway from Chorlton into town.

Need extra pedal power? Hire a **Cargoroo** electric cargo bike (you'll find them here in Chorlton) or have your shopping delivered by the team at [Chorlton Bike Deliveries](#).

What can we do locally?

Did you know you can close your street to traffic for a day so that children can play out? Read more about [Play Streets](#) and how to apply. Find out what your local school is doing to encourage safe, active travel. Why not volunteer as a marshal at a School Street trial?

Valuing Chorlton

We have community gardens, parks, meadows, woodlands and waterways within walking distance and they're open to all. We've got hedgehogs, badgers, parakeets, birds of prey, foxes, flowers owls and much more: be proud of where you – and they – live.

Treat our urban countryside with sensitivity, consideration and respect. The Countryside Code applies here too.

Grow your own

If you have a garden, treasure it! Make it wildlife-friendly (the [RSPB](#) has loads of tips); plant trees and hedges rather than building fences and don't pave green space for parking (this increases flood risk). Think about nesting birds before you cut anything back.

Growing food is fun, even without a garden. A packet of seeds costs pence, so why not give it a try? There's a beginner's guide at [Gardeners' World](#) and be sure to look up [Chorlton Plant Swap](#) on Facebook.

Looking for inspiration? See what local businesses and people have

done to make the most of their gardens at the next [Chorlton Open Gardens](#) event, including Unicorn's wonderful rooftop garden and the community urban forest off Buckfast Close.

Phone a friend

There are Friends Groups all over Chorlton. We have teams of fantastic fundraisers, hedge-layers and wildlife watchers in our town. Why not help out? See the back cover for groups you can join – or start your own! Learn new skills, make new friends, enjoy time outdoors and know you're having a positive impact.

What can we do locally?

Why not adopt and take care of a neglected green space, verge or tree pit? Green spaces come in every shape and size. You might be able to get grant funding to do it! See the [Neighbourhood Investment Fund](#) page to find out more.



Help & Inspiration

WORKING TOGETHER

[Carbon Calculator](#)

[Manchester Climate Change Partnership](#)

[Zero Carbon Manchester](#)

REDUCING OUR WASTE

[Chorlton Craftivists](#)

[Recycle for Greater Manchester](#)

[Repair Cafe and Stitched Up](#) – Sustainable fashion, craft courses, mending.

Places you can help with time, money or donations

[Betel UK](#) – Restoring furniture, training.

[Chorlton Refugee Aid \(Care UK\)](#) – helping refugees and asylum seekers.

[Charity Bike Shop](#) – cyclists fighting cancer. Buy or donate at 102 Manchester Road

[Emmeline's Pantry](#) – foodbank, toy library.

[Freecycle](#) - give away, or find, what you need

[Men In Sheds](#) – 38 Merseybank Parade

[Reach Out to the Community](#) – foodbank and help for local families. 488 Wilbraham Road.

GETTING THERE

[Bike Hive](#) – training, hire, sales, repair. Alexandra Park

[BikeRight](#) – Training, advice.

[Cargoroo](#) – electric cargo bikes.

[Chorlton Bike Deliveries](#) – clean, green local delivery.

[Clean Air Greater Manchester](#)

[Enterprise Car Club](#) – hire a car by the hour.

[Karshare](#) – borrow or lend a car

[Walk Ride Chorlton](#)

Shops for cyclists

- [Charity Bike Shop](#), 102 Manchester Rd
- [Dead Rats Cycles](#), 7a Nicolas Rd
- [Ken Foster's Cycle Logic](#), 374-376 Barlow Moor Rd
- [Panos Bikes](#) (repair)

SAVING OUR ENERGY

[Carbon Co-op](#) – advice for energy-efficient homes

[Energy Saving Trust](#)

[Greater Manchester Community Renewables](#) – supporting renewable energy.

EATING BETTER

[Chorlton Craftivists](#)

[Love Food. Hate Waste](#)

[Meat Free Mondays](#)

[Too Good to Go](#) – surplus food at bargain prices

[Chorlton Eats](#) – cutting down meat and dairy

[Olio](#) – food rescue and redistribution

VALUING CHORLTON

Search online for

[Chorlton Open Gardens](#)

[Chorlton Plant Swap & Gardening Advice](#)

[Chorlton Wombles](#) – cleaning up the Meadows.

[Our Green Chorlton](#) – championing our green spaces

Friends Groups (*contacts usually on Facebook*)

- Beech Road Park
- Chorlton Meadows
- Chorlton Park
- Chorlton Water Park
- Fallowfield Loop
- Hough End Clough and Fields
- Longford Park
- Turn Moss
- Ryebank Fields

[Groundwork GM](#) – protecting green spaces and supporting communities

[Environmental Services](#) – report fly tipping, graffiti etc to the City Council for clean-up.

[Royal Horticultural Society \(RHS\)](#) – free gardening advice.

[RSPB](#) – wildlife garden tips or volunteering

We've done our best to provide information that is current and accurate, but all things can be subject to change. We cannot take responsibility for errors, omissions or the content of listed sites and links over which we have no control.

This booklet has been produced by Chorlton residents, councillors and businesses, with funding from the City Council's Neighbourhood Investment Fund. Please help us to make Chorlton a safer, cleaner and greener place