

An abstract graphic consisting of a grid of orange lines that curves and distorts, creating a sense of depth and movement. The grid is composed of thin, intersecting lines that form a series of overlapping, slightly offset rectangular shapes, giving it a three-dimensional, wireframe appearance. The pattern is centered and occupies most of the page's width and height.

# ZERO CARBON CULTURE



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**ABOVE** Persuasion (Photo by Johan Persson)

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City and City Council climate change commitment

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## 02 WHAT CAN CULTURE DO?

How creative and cultural organisations in the city can take action and some resources to help along the way

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## 03 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Other useful sources of information and guidance to support climate action

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# 01

# THE CITY

## ZERO CARBON MANCHESTER

In 2016 Manchester committed to *'playing its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change'*. This commitment is set out in [Our Manchester Strategy 2016-25](#). A set of [objectives and targets](#) was established to define what we mean by 'playing our full part'.

The [Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25](#) is the city's high-level strategy for meeting our objectives and targets. The Framework has been produced by the Manchester Climate Change Agency, on behalf of the [Manchester Climate Change Partnership \(MCCP\)](#).

The Agency publishes **annual reports** on progress on progress against objectives and targets and strategy implementation.

Culture is represented in MCCP through GMAST, a network of over 50 cultural organisations across Greater Manchester working collectively on climate. GMAST is one of ten sectors developing their own bespoke action plans, setting out how they will contribute towards the successful delivery of the 2020-25 framework.



# MANCHESTER

## CLIMATE CHANGE FRAMEWORK

2020-25

Manchester's strategy towards a thriving, zero carbon and climate resilient city

### 4 OBJECTIVES

- 1 Staying within our carbon budgets — 50% emissions reduction 2020-25
- 2 Climate change adaptation
- 3 Health & wellbeing — with particular focus on those most in need
- 4 Inclusive zero carbon and climate resilient economy

### 7 PRIORITY AREAS

- 1 Buildings (existing & new)
- 2 Renewable energy
- 3 Transport and flying
- 4 Food
- 5 The things we buy and throw away
- 6 Green infrastructure and nature-based solutions
- 7 Supporting and enabling residents and organisations to act

### 15 ACTIONS

#### GETTING STARTED

- 1 Commit to zero carbon and taking urgent action now
- 2 Measure and report our CO<sub>2</sub>
- 3 Climate change education and Carbon Literacy

#### TAKING ACTION

- 4 Existing buildings
- 5 New developments and construction
- 6 Renewable energy
- 7 Transport
- 8 Flying
- 9 Reduce, reuse, recycle our stuff
- 10 Food
- 11 Green space and gardens
- 12 Water conservation

#### INSPIRING OTHERS

- 13 Where you put your money
- 14 Spread the word

#### ASK FOR HELP

- 15 Ask politicians and decision-makers for help

# THE COUNCIL

The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019.

The **Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25** was approved in 2020.

A Zero Carbon Coordination Group has been established to oversee the Council's response to the Climate Emergency, the development of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan and the strategic oversight of its implementation.

Further information on the Council's plans, activities and progress can be found [here](#).

The Council already reduced direct carbon emissions by 54% between 2009/10 and

2019/2020 and is targeting a further 50% reduction by 2025. Direct emissions – emissions which the Council can directly control or has financial responsibility for – cover:

- operational buildings, including leisure facilities but excluding schools and Council housing;
- street lighting;
- Biffa waste collection fleet;
- the Council's fleet vehicles; and
- staff travel.

The 2020-25 plan commits the council to a further 50% reduction in direct emissions by 2025.

**ZERO CARBON COORDINATION GROUP**

**ZERO CARBON TEAM**

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**Buildings & Energy**

Workstream 1



**Transport & Travel**

Workstream 2



**Reducing Consumption**

Workstream 3



**Climate Adaptation**

Workstream 4



**Influencing Behaviour / Catalyst for Change**

Workstream 5 – cross cutting



An abstract graphic at the top of the page consists of a grid of orange lines. The grid is composed of many thin lines that form a series of overlapping, slightly curved rectangular shapes, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines are most densely packed in the center and become more sparse towards the edges, forming a wide, shallow arch shape.

# 02 WHAT CAN CULTURE DO?

## THE CULTURAL SECTOR IN THE CITY

Culture is in Manchester's DNA. We understand the value of culture to our well-being, prosperity and vitality as a city, and the arts and culture sector has a well-recognised part to play in contributing to all city priorities — not least, limiting the impacts of climate change, creating a healthy, green, socially just city where everyone can thrive.

Many are already playing their part. Some have been doing so already for many years,

from individual organisations to the collective approach of the Manchester Arts Sustainability Team, now [GMAST](#) — a network of over 50 cultural organisations across Greater Manchester working collectively on climate. [Arts Council England's Environmental Programme](#) also plays an important part in driving and supporting understanding and action in the city's cultural sector.

There is still much more to be done.

# WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The arts, culture and creative sector in Manchester takes many different shapes and forms: from artists and makers, studios to digital labs, community arts centres to multi-arts venues, youth music charities to concert halls and orchestras, theatres, museums and galleries, small and large, to literature, music and multi-art festivals, indoors and outdoors.

There are many different ways in which you can take action. It will very much depend on who you are, what you do, where you do it and with whom. It will also very much depend on what you have control and influence over, e.g. if you own or control your building, offices, studios, etc. or if you use spaces, indoor or outdoor, owned or controlled by someone else, if you create or produce your own work or support others to create, produce or show theirs.


This guide aims to provide inspiration on the kind of action cultural and creative organisations in the city can take, depending on who they are and what they do. It has been developed in line with the priorities and actions outlined in the Manchester Climate Change Framework.

It focuses on actions which can be taken to reduce impacts or do things in a better way for the planet without incurring major costs or without major capital investment, across six key areas. For each area there is a summary of different types of actions and signposting to further resources and support. At the end of the guide, additional resources covering topics such as skills, training and programming are also provided

You can also use the guide to tell us what you are already doing or planning to do.

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If you want to share this with Manchester City Council please send the completed checklist to:

 [culture@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:culture@manchester.gov.uk)



# WHAT ACTION CAN YOU TAKE?

## ✓ Travel

Fleet • touring • business travel • staff commuting • audience / visitor travel • transport services

## ✓ Energy

Monitor & manage energy • use less energy • use low or zero carbon energy • work with suppliers / service providers • work with places you lease, rent, or use

## ✓ Food & Drink

Offer & sourcing • food waste • catering services & traders • packaging & serveware

## ✓ Products & Services

Financial services • digital & technology • merchandise & retail • paper & printed materials • waste & cleansing services

## ✓ Production

Design • materials & waste • audio-visual & digital

## ✓ Nature

Protect nature • make space for nature • conserve & protect water



## MONITOR & MANAGE ENERGY USE

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Understand energy demand and use (how much, when, where, for what) e.g. do an energy audit, use metering or software tools

Analyse energy data regularly and use it to identify problems and inform action

If using temporary power for events, assess power demand to avoid over-specifying, ask power users for e.g. a list of equipment, power ratings and running times, or ask power providers to do this for you

Regularly check and maintain energy-generating and using plant and equipment to ensure it is running efficiently

Establish an energy management system following ISO 50001





## USE LESS ENERGY

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
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Adjust controls and settings for heating, cooling, lighting etc. according to use, occupancy, opening hours, etc.					

Store data in the cloud – more energy efficient than onsite servers and many data centres run on renewables					

Start a switch-off procedure for lighting, equipment, etc.					

Use passive techniques, e.g. natural ventilation, solar shading, glass cases					

Reduce heat loss/gain and improve thermal performance, e.g. insulate roofs, draught proofing, double glazing, use thermal mass to regulate temperature and conditions					

Install low energy lighting					

Use energy efficient appliances					



USE LOW OR ZERO CARBON ENERGY

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Generate low or zero carbon energy on-site, e.g. solar panels, combined heat and power

Electrify heating using heat pumps

Switch from generators to mains power, or from diesel generators to hybrid or Waste Vegetable Oil generators

For events, hire portable renewable energy infrastructure e.g. solar showers, solar or pedal powered phone charging stations

Procure electricity on a green tariff or from a 100% green energy supplier





## WORK WITH SUPPLIERS/SERVICE PROVIDERS

### ALREADY DOING?

	N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
Ask equipment suppliers and service providers (energy, maintenance, production, digital, etc.) what solutions they provide on energy-saving, renewable energy and emissions reductions						
Include energy efficiency and low/zero carbon energy sourcing within tenders and contractual requirements						
Communicate energy-related requirements and procedures to incoming events, exhibitions, productions, event managers, artists, sub-contractors, concessions, etc. and make clear where and which power specifications are required in advance from diesel generators to hybrid or Waste Vegetable Oil generators						



WORK WITH PLACES YOU RENT, HIRE OR USE

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Ask your landlord, building management or host venue what they are doing / can do on energy and work with them on what you can do as a tenant, incoming event, production, exhibition, etc.

Build environmental requirements into contracts when renewing lease or starting a new one





# ENERGY

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT



**Carbon Trust** introductory guides on energy efficiency, energy management and renewable energy

**Business Growth Hub** environmental business support service based in the North West of England

**Historic England** advice and resources on energy efficiency and historic buildings

**Ki Culture** Energy Book for museums

**Powerful Thinking** resources on energy for outdoor events, e.g. guides, checklists and supplier's directory

**Energy Saving Trust**

Julie's Bicycle **Getting to Grips with Clean Energy webinar**

Julie's Bicycle and Good Energy **guide on buying sustainably sourced renewable electricity**

Julie's Bicycle **biofuels guidance**

**The Big Clean Switch**

**Better Buildings Partnership** green lease toolkit

# TRAVEL

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## VEHICLE FLEET

	ALREADY DOING?				If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
	N/A	Y	N				
Do a fleet review and track fuel use, mileage and emissions							
Purchase or lease EUR6, fuel efficient or electric vehicles							
Provide eco-driving training for drivers							



## BUSINESS TRAVEL

### ALREADY DOING?

	N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
Track business travel costs and impacts						
Make sustainability part of business travel policy						
Minimise business travel – in person meetings where necessary, virtual meetings or video conferencing where possible						
Avoid or minimise travel by car and plane – domestic flights and business class in particular						
Put incentives in place to encourage staff to travel sustainably for local travel, e.g. public transport, bike						





TOURING (EXHIBITIONS, SHOWS, ETC.)

ALREADY DOING?

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need to improve?

Commit to do

How

Track touring transport costs and impacts

Plan routes to optimise journeys and minimise

Lighten or consolidate loads

Hire staff, contractors, crew, equipment etc. locally

Choose low or zero carbon transport modes, e.g. rail over road, sea freight over air for longer distances, cycle couriers, electric cargo bikes or delivery vans for local transport



## TRANSPORT SERVICES

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need to improve?

Commit to do

How

Use cycle couriers or electric vehicles, e.g. cargo bikes, delivery vans or taxis for local transport

Work with transport service providers who can evidence environmental commitment and action for the services they offer and their operations



## COMMUTING (STAFF, ARTISTS, ETC.)

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need to improve?

Commit to do

How

Do employee travel surveys and use results to identify and promote actions to encourage modal shift

Encourage and incentivise active and sustainable travel, e.g. Cycle to Work or discounted public transport season tickets for employees, lift-sharing or free public transport for event volunteers

Install infrastructure to support active travel for, e.g. cycle racks, showers, changing rooms



## AUDIENCE OR VISITOR TRAVEL

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
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Carry out travel surveys and use results to identify and promote actions to encourage modal shift

Where relevant and possible, choose locations easily accessible by public transport or active travel

Incentivise public transport, e.g. discount transport with event tickets

Partner with local transport services and initiatives to provide late night public transport options, free or discounted low/zero carbon travel options, e.g. shuttle buses, city bikes, lift share, etc.

Clearly communicate information about sustainable travel options to venue(s) or event(s)



# TRAVEL

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT



**Transport for Greater Manchester** travel planning tips, from electric vehicles to car sharing and logistics services

**Transport for Greater Manchester Business Travel Network** online business toolkit with guides, tips and advice to help staff travel more sustainably and access to a range of initiatives, incentives and practical support

**Sustrans** Workplace Travel Challenge

**Energy Saving Trust** fleet review for companies, including opportunities for electric fleet vehicles, cargo bikes and car clubs/pool bicycles to support staff travelling on business

**Energy Saving Trust** low carbon travel resources — from active travel to eco-driving and shared travel options

Julie's Bicycle **Green Travel and Touring webinar**

Julie's Bicycle **Art On The Move: Towards Greener Touring webinar**

Julie's Bicycle **Green Touring Guide**

Julie's Bicycle **Business Travel Guide**





Julie's Bicycle **Audience Travel Guide**

**Ecolibrium** Sustainable Travel Guide for Festivals and Events

**Ecolibrium** network and app tackling travel impacts for live events

**CoMo UK** shared transport solutions, from shared bikes and cars to shared rides

**Green Commute Initiative** and **Cycle Scheme**



**OFFER & SOURCING**

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Offer mainly plant-based, vegetarian and vegan options

Use local produce and suppliers and seasonal products

Ensure meat and dairy meet high animal welfare standards and use sustainably sourced seafood

Use certified organic and/or fair trade produce

Avoid food and drink products which have been air freighted

Choose palm oil free products or products using sustainably sourced palm oil

Offer healthy options and portions

Grow your own food or produce or work with community food-growing projects to meet some of your needs



## PACKAGING & SERVEWARE

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
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Eliminate or cut down excess food and drink packaging and use packaging that is reusable, refillable or made from recyclable materials

Eliminate or reduce non-recyclable, single use packaging and serve ware, e.g. plastic bags and cups, plastic straws, polystyrene boxes/ trays, provide bulk dispensing instead of single sachets (e.g. sugar, sauces)

Eliminate or reduce the use of plastic bottles, e.g. providing tap water, jugs and glasses/ reusable cups, canned water or water refill stations

Use reusable serveware where and when possible

If disposable serveware is unavoidable, choose serveware which is made from recycled materials, sustainably sourced wood or plant-based materials and that appropriate waste facilities and instructions are in place so the waste can be recycled or composted



## FOOD WASTE

### ALREADY DOING?

	N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
Cut down food waste through, e.g. good planning, portion sizes, using leftovers						
Use waste service providers which recycle oils and fat into biofuel						
Compost food waste on-site or use a waste company which can collect waste to be composted						
Redistribute surplus food working with local charities or community groups						





CATERING CONTRACTORS, SERVICES,  
FOOD & DRINK TRADERS

**ALREADY DOING?**

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need  
to improve?

Commit to do

How

Work with catering contractors, service providers and traders who can provide evidence of environmental commitment and action

Ask catering contractors and service providers, e.g. in venues, for events, meetings etc. or food and drink traders to take action on food and drink sourcing, serve ware and packaging and food waste for the services they provide for your venue, event, festival, etc.

Ensure instruction and training is provided for catering contractors, service providers and food and drink traders on good environmental practice on energy, water and waste



# FOOD & DRINK

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT

ABOVE HOME Manchester (Photo by Paul Karalius)



Manchester City Council **Sustainable Events Guide – Food & Drink Traders**

Manchester City Council **Reusable Cups at Events: Why it Matters and How to do it**

**Feeding Greater Manchester** resources and guidance on sustainable food, suppliers, growers and progressive food initiatives

**Sustain the Alliance for Better Food and Farming** guidance on Sustainable Food

**Love Food Hate Waste** resource pack for the Hospitality and Food service sector

**A Greener Festival's** Good Food for Festivals Guide

**ROCK** Factsheet 1: Sustainable Food & Produce

**Carbon Cloud** food and menu carbon footprinting calculations

**The Oceanic Standard** Plastic Free Solutions for the Hospitality Industry

**Hope Solutions and ZAP concepts** Reusable Cups Factsheet



**Ecodisco's Disposables Discontinued** guide to reusable cups

**Every Can Counts** drink can industry funded initiative working with UK events and festivals to engage people on drink can recycling

**Fareshare Greater Manchester** charity saving good food going to waste and redistributing it around Greater Manchester

# PRODUCTS & SERVICES



## DIGITAL & TECHNOLOGY

	ALREADY DOING?				Commit to do	How
	N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?		
Switch to green website hosting						
Ask for energy efficient website and digital design						
Ask digital service providers what reporting, solutions and support they offer on reducing energy use and impacts						
When purchasing new technology devices, check out the environmental credentials of technology manufacturers and their devices, e.g. chemicals, mining, resource and energy efficiency, remanufacturing, takeback, recycling						
Use devices for longer, get them repaired or part upgraded before buying new ones						
Donate old equipment where possible and dispose of the rest responsibly						





FINANCIAL SERVICES

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Switch to a bank which does not invest in fossil fuels or is committed to fossil fuel divestment						
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Switch to fossil fuel free pension funds, working with pension fund providers or financial advisors						
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Let employees, freelancers, etc. know what they can do as individuals to switch banks or pension funds committed to fossil fuel divestment						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--



MERCHANDISE & RETAIL

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Keep merchandise to a minimum, e.g. restrict giveaways

Apply life cycle thinking to choices for key product categories — what is something made from, how it is made, how it is used and what happens at the end of its use

Set minimum environmental standards depending on product type e.g. recycled materials, Forestry Stewardship Council for wood and wood- based products, fair trade, organic or recycled for textiles

Make a red list of suppliers or materials, e.g. polystyrene, vinyl, PVC

Develop a specific policy/approach to eliminating single use plastics

Work with local or regional producers and suppliers where possible



PAPER & PRINTED MATERIALS

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Work with suppliers and printers who can evidence environmental commitment and action in terms of the products or services they offer and their operations

Buy recycled or sustainably sourced and unchlorinated paper

Plan print-runs and/or use print-on-demand to avoid over printing

For printed publications ask for recycled or sustainably sourced, un- chlorinated, uncoated paper, using non-toxic inks and processes

For signage and banners ask for the use of sustainable materials and design for reuse or recycling, avoiding toxic and/or hard-to-recycle materials like vinyl



## WASTE & CLEANING SERVICES

	ALREADY DOING?				If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
	N/A	Y	N				
Choose waste and cleaning contractors who can evidence environmental commitment and action in terms of their services and operations							
Choose waste providers which provide reporting, services support on best practice and zero waste to landfill							
Ask for cleaning products which avoid or minimise the use of chemicals and energy and resource efficient equipment and materials							





## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### RESOURCES & SUPPORT



Julie's Bicycle [Sustainable Procurement Guide](#)

[Vision 2025 Green Supplier's Directory](#)

Julie's Bicycle [Culture Beyond Plastic: Understanding and Eliminating Problem Plastics](#) guide and [webinar](#)

Julie's Bicycle and Seacourt [Closed Loop Printing Guide](#)

Manchester City Council [Sustainable Events Guide – Waste & Cleansing Services](#)

Julie's Bicycle [Waste Management in Buildings Guide](#)

Julie's Bicycle [Waste Management for Events Guide](#)

Julie's Bicycle [Environmental Sustainability in the Digital Age](#) guide and [webinar](#)

[Climate Action Tech](#) guidance and resources for reducing the impacts of tech and digital

[The Green Web Foundation](#)

[Website Carbon](#)

[Ecometer](#)

[Ecograder](#)



Green hosting, web design and development services, e.g. **Erjio Studios** and **Wholegrain Digital**

**The Networked Condition** carbon calculator for planning or evaluating a live streamed event or digital artwork

**Greenpeace** Guide to Greener Electronics

**Circular Computing** supplier of remanufactured laptops

**IFIXIT** repairability rankings for tablets, smartphones

**The Restart Project** resources on tech repair and donations

**My Outsourced IT** Manchester-based community project providing refurbished IT equipment, training, and support to those in need

**Good with Money**

**Ethical Consumer** on Ethical Bank Accounts

**SwitchIt** ranking of banks and pension providers on fossil fuel funding

**Make My Money Matter** campaign focused on pension divestment including the **SME Pensions guide**

**Share Action** Use your Pension Power



## CONSERVE & PROTECT WATER

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Understand water use and wastewater (how much, where, what for/ from), e.g. metering, audits

Reduce water use, e.g. carry out regular preventative maintenance and repair of storage tanks, pipes, taps, etc., to avoid leaks, install water saving and efficiency equipment such as aerated taps or waterless toilets (but using biological rather than chemical treatments), plant water-wise in outdoor spaces

Reuse and recycle water, e.g. use rainwater and water from washing facilities (grey water) for flushing and irrigation

Identify areas of potential risk of water pollution and put appropriate preventative measures in place, e.g. safe storage of oils, paints, etc.



PROTECT NATURE

ALREADY DOING?

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need to improve?

Commit to do

How

Find out what sensitive or protected plant, tree, wildlife, species, etc. are in, on or around your venue, space, event, etc. — e.g. undertake an ecological survey or contact local nature conservation organisations — and what measures are needed to protect them

Take appropriate protection measures, e.g. minimising noise and light pollution which could disturb wildlife, banning toxic or hazardous materials or substances that could harm plant life, wild life, habitats or ecosystems

Get involved in local nature conservation projects or contribute to wider citizen science and local biodiversity projects





## MAKE SPACE FOR NATURE

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
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Create new green or blue spaces such as living walls, window boxes, wildflower verges or ponds which benefit plant and wildlife

Provide more space for wildlife, e.g. install bat boxes, bird boxes or bee hives

Partner with local wildlife trusts, charities or groups to scale up habitat connectivity initiatives, support larger landscape scale biodiversity projects and contribute to regional biodiversity conservation frameworks and action plans



# NATURE

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT



**City of Trees** planting trees and restoring woodlands for the people and wildlife of Greater Manchester working with communities, organisations, and businesses

**Ignition Project** nature-based solutions to solve problems like flooding and overheating in Greater Manchester as well as growing the local economy, making people healthier and giving wildlife somewhere to thrive, resources including **factsheets**

**My Wild City** reconnecting people and wildlife in Manchester

**UK Green Building Council** nature and biodiversity solutions library

Julie's Bicycle **Creative Spaces for Nature: Biodiversity, Habitats and Ecosystems Guide** and **webinar**

Julie's Bicycle **Water Management in Buildings Guide**

Julie's Bicycle **Water Management at Outdoor Events Guide**

**United Utilities** advice for businesses on monitoring, managing and saving water

**Waterwise** information about saving water

# PRODUCTION



## DESIGN

ALREADY DOING?						
N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How	

Design productions, exhibitions, installations etc. to circular economy principles — design out waste and pollution, maximise the value of materials used and regenerate natural systems

Design for zero or minimal waste e.g. design for disassembly and reuse, for longevity and/or material recovery, or hire, borrow or share what is needed before buying something new

Make energy efficiency a part of the process for digital productions or artworks

Engage key people in the process from the start — artists, performers, makers, creatives, curators, freelancers, tour managers, host venues, etc.

Include environmental requirements in design briefs and contracts, etc.



## MATERIALS & WASTE

### ALREADY DOING?

N/A	Y	N	If yes, do we need to improve?	Commit to do	How
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Choose well e.g. second-hand, reclaimed, recycled, renewable, long-lasting materials, materials that can be reused, repaired, recycled or biodegraded or can regenerate, e.g. living stages

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Where relevant and possible, choose locations easily accessible by public transport or active travel

--	--	--	--	--	--

Work with suppliers who can evidence environmental commitment and action in terms of the materials, products or services they supply and their operations

--	--	--	--	--	--

Set environmental criteria or standards depending on material or product type e.g. Forestry Stewardship Council for wood and wood-based products, zero VOC (volatile organic compound) or water-based paints, natural varnishes and oils, for textiles — reclaimed, recycled, natural fabrics, certified organic, fair trade, non-dyed or plant-based dyed

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Make a red list of materials or 'banned' materials e.g. polystyrene, vinyl, PVC, materials which contain toxic substances and materials

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Ensure recovery, reuse, recycling, etc. is part of derig, decommissioning, etc. procedures





AUDIO-VISUAL & DIGITAL

ALREADY DOING?

N/A

Y

N

If yes, do we need to improve?

Commit to do

How

Hire or borrow rather than buy equipment

Work with suppliers, service providers, venues, etc. who can evidence environmental commitment and action for the equipment and services they provide and their operations

Use less lighting, e.g. rely on design quality, avoid outdoor venues after dark

Use or ask for energy efficient equipment, e.g. LEDs, low wattage lighting or amps, active PAs

Use or ask for better environmental options, e.g. solar-powered outdoor lighting, rechargeable batteries

Put switch off procedures in place

Ensure return, reuse, recycling etc. is part of derig, decommissioning procedures

Ask digital service providers – web/software/app designers, cloud service providers, website hosting, etc. – what reporting, solutions and support they offer on reducing energy use and impacts of digital production or artwork

Use green hosting for new websites



# PRODUCTION

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT

ABOVE Manchester International Festival 2019, Invisible Cities  
(Photo by Tristram Kenton)



### Manchester City Council [Sustainable Events Guide – Production Suppliers](#)

[The Great Recovery](#) resources on circular economy challenges and opportunities through the lens of design

Julie's Bicycle [Circular Economy](#) briefing and [Rethinking Materials and the Circular Economy](#) webinar

Julie's Bicycle [Sustainable Production webinar](#) with Feimatta Conteh (Manchester International Festival), Nathan Jones (Walk the Plank) and Paddy Dillon (Theatre's Trust)

[Theatre Green Book One](#) Sustainable Production

[Without Walls Green Production Lab](#) for production management professionals working in the outdoor Arts sector

[The Networked Condition](#) carbon calculator for planning or evaluating a live streamed event or digital artwork

Julie's Bicycle [Sustainable Production Guide](#)



Julie's Bicycle **Environmental Sustainability in the Digital Age** guide and **webinar recording**

Julie's Bicycle **carbon footprint of the Earth Speakr digital artwork**

Julie's Bicycle **Culture Beyond Plastic: Understanding and Eliminating Problem Plastics** guide and **webinar**

Julie's Bicycle **Creative Spaces for Nature Guide**

**Ki Culture** Waste and Materials Book for museums

**Chrysalis Arts** Greening Arts Practice guide

**Chrysalis Arts** Public Art Sustainability Assessment

**Staging Change** grassroots artist-led organisation supporting theatre makers response to the climate crisis

**Sustainability in Production Alliance** community of live production professionals

# 03

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### MANCHESTER

**GMAST** Greater Manchester Arts Sustainability Team and **GMAST Guide to Taking Action**

**Business Growth Hub** environmental business support service based in the North West of England

**Manchester City Council's guides to organising sustainable events** series of guides for indoor events, major outdoor events, small outdoor events, community events, production, food and drink traders, waste and cleansing services, for use by event promoters, organisers, venue operators, suppliers or service-providers

**Bee Net Zero** bringing together networks, organisations and support programmes from across Greater Manchester to make the net zero transition straightforward and cost-efficient for businesses

### JULIE'S BICYCLE

**Julie's Bicycle** A not-for-profit supporting climate and environmental action in the cultural and creative community — in the UK and internationally — resources include:

**Climate Literacy 101** series of introductory webinars

**Creative Climate Leadership** programme for artists and cultural professionals

**Creative Climate Chats** conversations with leading thinkers in culture and climate

**Creative Climate Justice Hub**



## JULIE'S BICYCLE (cont)

- **Creative Green Tools** carbon calculators for cultural venues, events, offices, productions and tours
- **Making your Data Meaningful** webinar
- **Greening your Capital Project** webinar focused on small capital investment
- **Fit for the Future: Investing in Environmentally Sustainable Buildings** guide focused on large capital investment
- **Putting a Price on Carbon** offsetting guide
- **The Art of Zero** a global footprint of the visual arts sector

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## SEASON FOR CHANGE

**Season for Change** A UK-wide cultural programme inspiring urgent and inclusive action on climate change

- **Commissions, toolkit, and open programme**
- **Season for Exchange** online events for artists, arts organisations, cultural practitioners, producers, curators, etc. on embedding climate action and climate justice in artistic and creative work



## CULTURAL SECTOR

**Roots & Branches** Museums Development North West, the Carbon Literacy Project and Manchester Museum 2-year project on carbon literacy training including establishment of a co-working hub of cultural environmental action and an Environmental Sustainability Museum Development Officer post

**The Happy Museum Project** tools, case studies, research and events on re-imagining the museum's purpose as steward of people, place and planet

**Fit for the Future Network** UK network of charities, heritage organisations and cultural venues facilitating knowledge-sharing and collaboration on decarbonisation, climate change adaptation and positive environmental action

**Climate Heritage Network** international network of arts, culture and heritage organisations committed to aiding their communities in tackling climate change

**Ki Culture** training, guides, events and research on sustainability and sustainable practices in the cultural heritage sector



**Sustainability in Conservation** research, practical tips and guidance for conservators looking to be more environmentally responsible in their daily work

**Gallery Climate Coalition** commercial art galleries committed to climate and environmental action — carbon calculator, practical tips, interviews, case studies and events

**ALBERT** environmental sustainability for film and TV production – from training and carbon calculators to practical guidance and case studies

**Music Declares Emergency** campaigns, actions, resources for the live and recorded music industry

**Powerful Thinking** resources, guides, case studies and suppliers' directory energy management for outdoor events and music

**Vision 2025** case studies, suppliers' directory, resources and The Show Must Go On Report environmental report for the UK festival and outdoor events industry

**Earth Percent** raising money from the music industry to fund credible and impactful climate actions and environmental causes that deliver transformative change

**Theatre Green Book** an initiative by the whole of theatre — working with sustainability experts Buro Happold — to work more sustainably which sets standards for making productions sustainably, making theatre buildings sustainable, and for improving operations like catering and front of house



## SPECIAL THANKS

# Julie's Bicycle

CREATIVE • CLIMATE • ACTION

This guide was developed by Julie's Bicycle, a long-standing supporter and partner of creative climate action in Manchester.

Julie's Bicycle is a not-for-profit founded by the UK music industry in 2007, now working across the creative and cultural community internationally to mobilise environmental action. Their work includes research, tools, consultancy and training, bringing together networks that translate the climate and ecological crisis into practical actions and ideas.

They also work with cultural policymakers to catalyse structural change at local and national levels. JB's freely available resources are the most comprehensive library of good environmental practice for culture anywhere, co-created with the thousands of artists and creative organisations they have worked with.

[juliesbicycle.com](http://juliesbicycle.com)



[manchester.gov.uk](http://manchester.gov.uk)

