

Sustainable Consumption and Production Programmes

Update

21st January 2026

ONE TONNE CHALLENGE 2025 | Mission Accomplished!

- Over 3.7 Tonnes of Litter Removed Across 96 Neighbourhoods
- Hundreds of Volunteers and Community Groups Took Action including Keep Manchester Tidy, Local Authorities and Partners

Thomas Morgan, who challenged the region, said:

“To everyone who took part thank you. 3.8 tonnes of rubbish collected is amazing and goes to show what teamwork can do. Liverpool Combined Authority can you do better or will it always be 1 nil to Great Manchester. Let's save the world one recycling item at a time!”



Eco Refill Shops Programme

<https://gmgreencity.com/projects-and-campaigns/school-eco-refill-programme/>

Programme Overview/Objectives



Empowering Pupils:
Pupil-run refill shops reduce single-use plastics, build real-life skills, fosters responsibility and community pride.

Reducing Plastic Waste:
Refill shops reduce single-use plastic waste, supporting circular economy principles within schools.

Life Skills Development:
Teaches financial literacy, marketing, and customer service to prepare pupils for future jobs.

Impact:
Leads to lasting changes across the community and beyond.

“By empowering students to take the lead in shaping their school’s future, it reinforces the idea that small actions lead to meaningful change.”

Programme Status – Eco Refill Shops

- Round 1 launched Jan 2024 - 10 shops
- Round 2 - 15 new shops launched Jan 2025.
- Round 3 – 21 new schools – (launches scheduled Jan 2026).

Funding support from GMCA, Salford Council, Rochdale Council, Suez Recycling and Recovery UK, Next Energy, Stockport iCan.



Progress and coverage



Year 1/2 highlights:

- 45 schools engaged
- 3300+ containers saved from waste
- Confidence & social skills gained
- More than half of the schools are in the most deprived neighbourhoods in England

LA	Schools funded over 3 years
Bolton	5
Bury	2
Manchester	7
Oldham	2
Rochdale	6
Salford	9
Stockport	4
Trafford	5
Tameside	2
Wigan	3
TOTAL:	45

“The shop has raised awareness of sustainability issues and encouraged a change in behaviour amongst stakeholders.”

ECO Refill Shops in 21 GMCA Schools

Full year impact Wave one 2024, and Wave two 2025



289

children leading
a Refill
Revolution

18,911+

people
discovering the
power of re-use

148+

openings with
sustainable
household products

3,359+

plastic
containers saved
from waste



Pupils Profit

Enterprise based PSHE learning

Investing in Tomorrow's Environmental Leaders

Case Study: D.A.R.E: – Dukesgate Academy Refill Emporium

“In a world where every action matters, five remarkable Year 6 students have taken the initiative to lead by example.

Their Eco Shop, ‘D.A.R.E.’ is more than just a project; it’s a movement fuelled by passion and determination.... a testament to what young minds can achieve when driven by passion and responsibility.”

Sarah Ellis, Assistant SENCO and DSL at Dukesgate Academy, Salford



Key Highlights

- **Student-led enterprise:** Five Year 6 pupils launched D.A.R.E. to reduce plastic waste and promote sustainability.
- **Impact:** Significant diversion of plastic bottles from landfill; raised awareness across the school community.
- **Empowerment:** Students reported increased confidence, purpose, and leadership skills.
- **Recognition:** Presented their journey at Oxford University to 100+ peers, teachers, and United Learning representatives.



Future Vision

- Dedicated community hub in a repurposed shipping container in an unused area of the staff car park.
- Eco Shop, Clothes Bank, Community Café, and Food Bank under one roof.
- A welcoming space for sustainability, inclusivity - where people can come together, share resources, and support one another.

“With leaders like these paving the way, the future of sustainability is bright - not just within the school but for the entire community.”

Sarah Ellis, Assistant SENCO and DSL at Dukesgate Academy, Salford

Eco Grants for Schools Programme

<https://gmgreencity.com/projects-and-campaigns/eco-grants-for-schools-projects-2024-2025/>

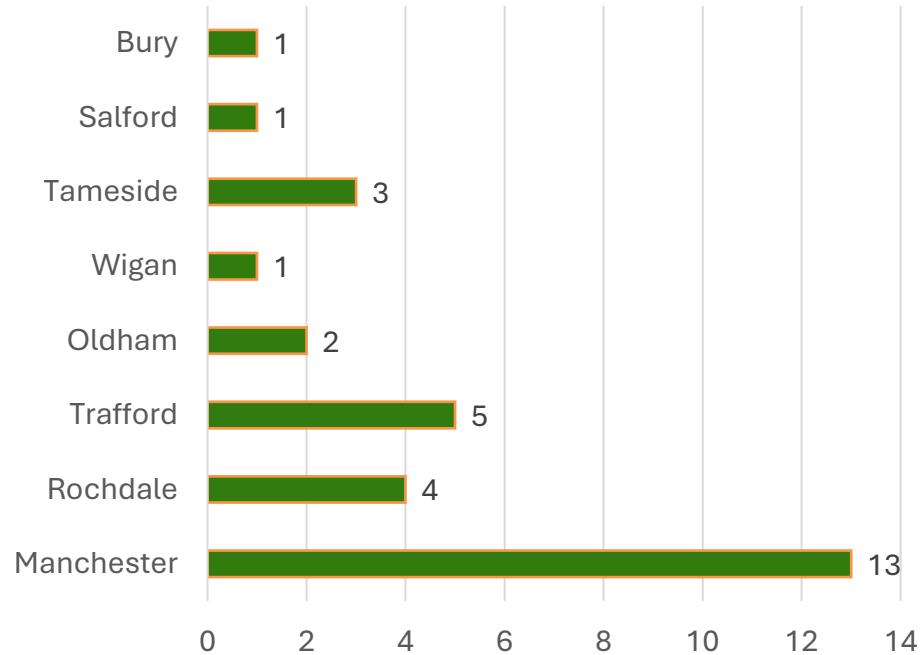
Programme Overview: Eco Grants

- **£2000 Grants:** Micro-grants to kick-start school and pupil-led sustainability projects → Waste Reduction & Circular Economy, Climate Education, Food
- Programme develops **practical skills** and aligns with Greater Manchester's **environmental goals**.
- Projects include school growing hubs, sustainable food education, waste reduction, improved recycling facilities and composting, and circular economy initiatives – uniform swap shops, reimaging plastic waste.



Round 1

- 59 applications → 29 awards
in first wave → £53,382.83



Round 2

TIMELINE

Applications Closed 19 Dec 2025

Assessment Jan–Feb 2026

Awards Announced March 2026

Documentation & Onboarding March–Apr 2026



together
we are **GREATER
MANCHESTER**

ECO GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS ARE OPEN NOW

Schools can apply now for up to £2,000 in funding

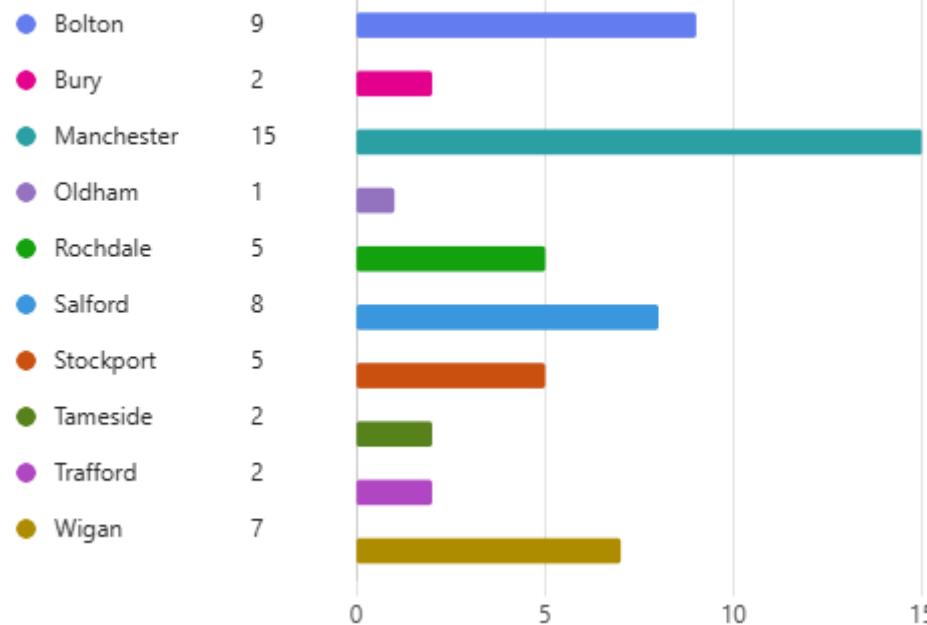
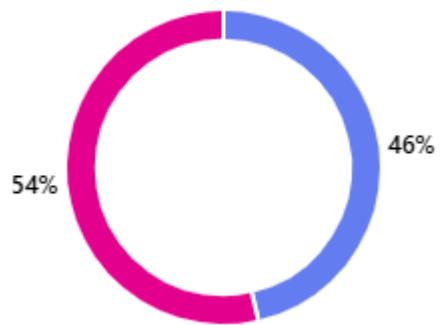
[More Information](#)

www.GMGreenCity.com

GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Round 2: Applications - LA / Academy Trust

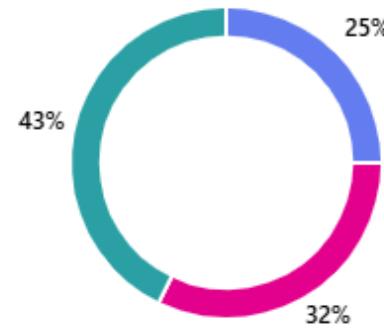
Local Education Authority control 26
An Academy Trust 30



Round 2: Applications by type / category

● Special Educational Need Establishment	4
● Nursery	0
● Primary School	38
● Secondary School	9
● Further Education College	0
● Pupil Referral Unit	0
● Other	5

● Waste reduction and circular economy - Fashion, Textiles or Plastics	14
● Education on sustainable lifestyles	18
● Sustainable food and tackling food waste	24



Case Study: Field to Fork Whalley Range 11-18 High School

- Transformed unused space into a thriving school garden with fresh produce.
- Students gained practical green skills and sustainability knowledge - Reducing Food Miles and Tackling Food Waste Through Action
- Creative Upcycling: Recycled materials became garden features, unavoidable food waste turned into compost
- Strengthened cross-curricular collaboration on environmental learning
- Built a legacy: A permanent growing area for future cohorts





BEFORE

Outdoor area
the school
wanted to
transform into
a growing area



AFTER

Outdoor area as it looks now.

There are windows to the school corridors on each side of the garden and students and staff have commented on the plants growing there and how the space has improved.

Future Plans

- Skills and knowledge passed on from one group of students to the next
- Cooking activities using their own harvest to allow students to share their learning with families
- Greenhouse expansion to grow stronger and healthier seedlings
- Rainwater collection and irrigation systems
- Develop local partnerships to improve knowledge – Local Garden Centre, Urban Diggers



Next Steps

“Together, we can scale impact and inspire the next generation of changemakers.”



Continue delivering programmes and tailored support for schools

Showcase and amplify case studies – share success stories with partners and wider stakeholders

Unlock co-funding opportunities to scale impact

Build on and align sustainability programmes with school climate action plans



Climate Awareness – Sustainable Lifestyles Framework

January 2026

What the Framework Provides

A clear 3-level pathway for climate understanding across GM

1

- **Level 1: Introductory Awareness** - An engaging game to spark interest and action.

2

- **Level 2: Refreshed Climate Awareness e-module** offering deeper insights into climate science, impacts and practical actions.

3

- **Level 3: Carbon Literacy training**, accredited learning to build deeper understanding and support informed climate decision-making.



BEE THE CHANGE

Game for a greener Greater Manchester

START GAME



Features and Benefits



Mini-Games: Three quick games (6 mins each) introducing key sustainability actions.



Themes: Waste reduction, repair & reuse, low-carbon (e.g., heating & insulation) nature-friendly gardens, and active travel.



Quick Learning: Designed for busy staff /people - short, impactful, and easy to fit in.



Engagement: Sparks conversations and builds momentum for action.



Name your bee



Bee



For data privacy reasons,
this information will not be stored.

Submit



Choose your borough



Salford

Bee-lievers

Choose this borough



Leaderboard

1		Bolton Buzzers	595
2		Salford Bee-lievers	280
3		Bury Buzz Bolts	205
4		Manchester Field Foragers	156
5		Rochdale Nectar Racers	129
6		Tameside Hive Flyers	82
7		Trafford Pollen Pilots	65
8		Wigan Wing Whizzers	26
9		Oldham Colony Keepers	25
10		Stockport Honeycombers	4



Welcome to
the borough
leaderboard!

Earn points in
each game to
help your
borough fly
to the top.

Looker Studio

Continue



BEE THE CHANGE

Game for a greener Greater Manchester

0



Hive and Seek

PLAY

Buzzworthy Builds

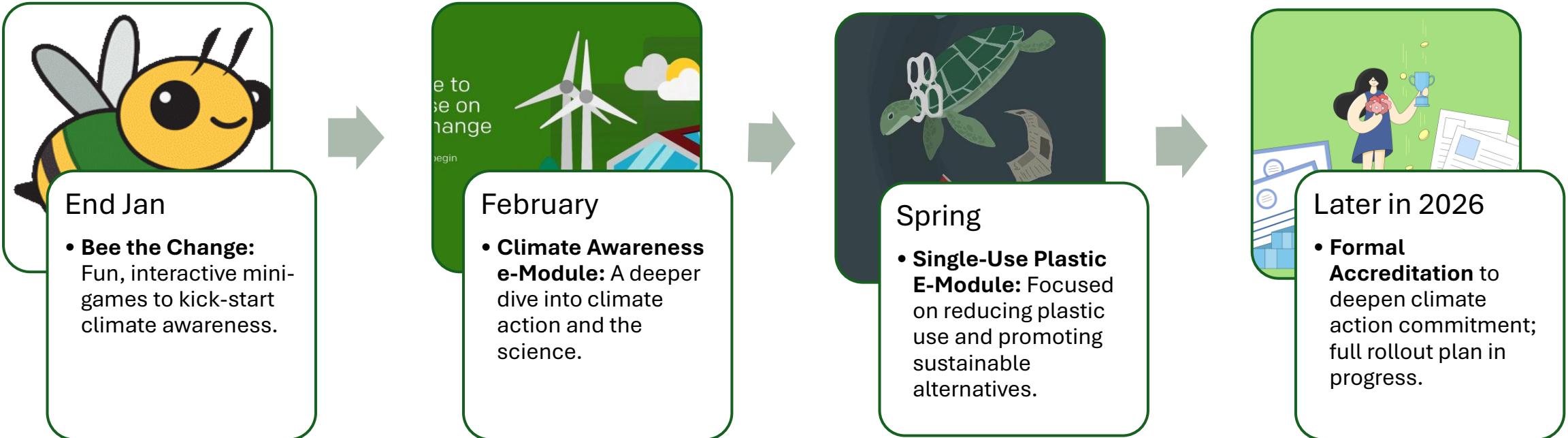
Coming soon

Beeing Smart About Travel

Coming soon



Timeline



Resources



ACCESSIBLE DIGITAL RESOURCES:

All tools available via gm green city website. Climate awareness e-module built in rise storyline – can be shared.



COMMUNICATION SUPPORT ASSETS:

Promotional copy and graphics will be provided to assist engagement.

Bee Green GM

Business Asset Reuse Platform - BeeGreenGM

How It Works

- List what you no longer need – furniture, equipment, supplies
- Browse what others are offering – find items you can reuse
- Claim and repurpose – give assets a second life
- Track your impact – see how much carbon you've saved with your impactX

The image displays three screenshots of the BeeGreenGM platform. The left screenshot shows a mobile sidebar with a 'GREATER MANCHESTER' logo at the top, followed by a list of navigation items: Home, Marketplace, impactX Score, Messages, News & Updates, and Profile. Below these are 'Admin menu' with sub-options for Departments, Users, Listings, Reports, and Edit News, and 'Help & Support' with a Log Out option. The middle screenshot is a dashboard for a user named Sarah from JB Estate Agents. It features a search bar, notification icons (1 and 3), and a 'Welcome, Sarah' message. It includes sections for 'Achievements' (Eco Champion badge for 500 impactX points) and 'Congratulations' (20 loops closed this year). The right screenshot shows the 'Your impactX Score' section with a large circular gauge showing a score of 625 KG CO2e, equivalent to nearly 80,000 smartphone charges. It also shows 'Your Badges' and a 'News & Updates' section with articles about Greater Manchester's sustainability strategy and the circular economy.

GREATER MANCHESTER
MAKING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Home
Marketplace
impactX Score
Messages
News & Updates
Profile
Admin menu
Departments
Users
Listings
Reports
Edit News
Help & Support
Log Out

Search...
Achievements
Congratulations
20 loops closed this year!
Available
Wishlist
Disposing
Add New
Latest Listings
Task Chair
Dell XPS 13 Laptop
FlipChart
Location
Quantity
impactX/Item
Expiry Date
Explore your Marketplace

Welcome, Sarah
JB Estate Agents
1
3
Your impactX Score
625 KG CO2e
This is equivalent to nearly 80,000 smartphone charges!
Your Badges:
News & Updates
Greater Manchester launches 2026 Sustainability Strategy – how can you get involved?
How being part of the circular economy can boost your business!
All News

Sustainability You Can Measure

- Uses smart carbon models and data analytics to give you an impactX Score, a simple way to show how much carbon you've saved by reusing, repurposing, or reallocating assets.
- Track progress by team, organisation, or across the city-region.



Thank you

www.GMGreenCity.com

Bolton Manchester Rochdale Stockport Trafford
Bury Oldham Salford Tameside Wigan

together
we are

**GREATER
MANCHESTER**