

Manchester

Climate Community Assembly FAQs

What is a Citizen's Assembly?

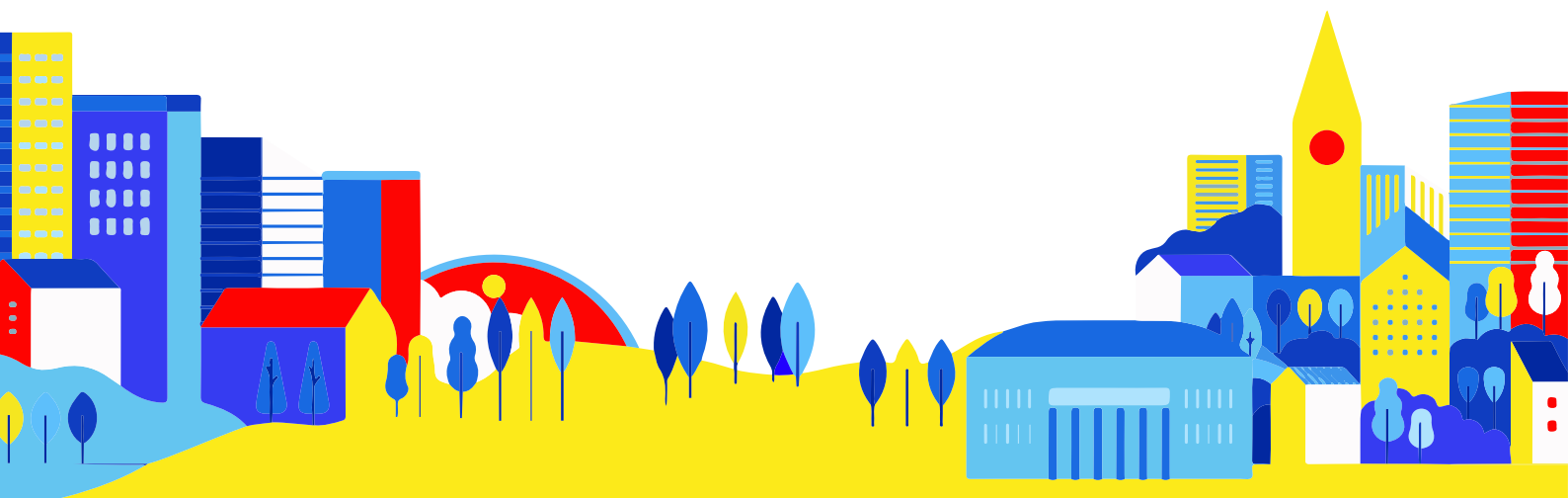
A Citizens Assembly is when a group of citizens come together to deliberate upon a particular issue (or multiple issues) of local, national or international importance. These citizens are randomly selected to reflect a population on a range of demographic characteristics (age, gender, ethnicity etc). Citizens' assemblies give members of the public the time and opportunity to learn about and discuss a topic, before reaching conclusions. The purpose is to study the options available and to propose answers to questions through rational and reasoned discussion as well as by directly questioning experts. This one is actually called a 'community assembly' but is the same thing really.

Why is Manchester running a climate assembly?

Climate change could be the biggest threat humanity has ever faced! In response, Manchester City Council declared a climate emergency in July, 2019 and both the city of Manchester and its council has committed to reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2038. The city is developing an Implementation Plan on how to reduce emissions by 50% over the next 5 years. . In order to achieve this, everyone has to play their part! We want to know what you think about all this. How can communities across Manchester work towards these goals and what help do they need? By participating in the Climate Community Assembly you will get to have your say about what we should do.

Who is running it?

Envirolution is a Manchester-based volunteer-led cooperative who have been organising community events and festivals about climate change in the city



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since 2010. Envirolution aims to inspire everyone to play a key role in helping us to reach our zero carbon city target and transition toward a more sustainable future for us all. A recent award-winning impact assessment with a University of Manchester team of researchers can be seen on the website:

www.envirolution.org.uk

The Community Assembly forms part of the In Our Nature programme, a partnership between Manchester Climate Change Agency, Manchester City Council, Hubbub, Amity CIC, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and Commonplace. You can read more about In Our Nature here:

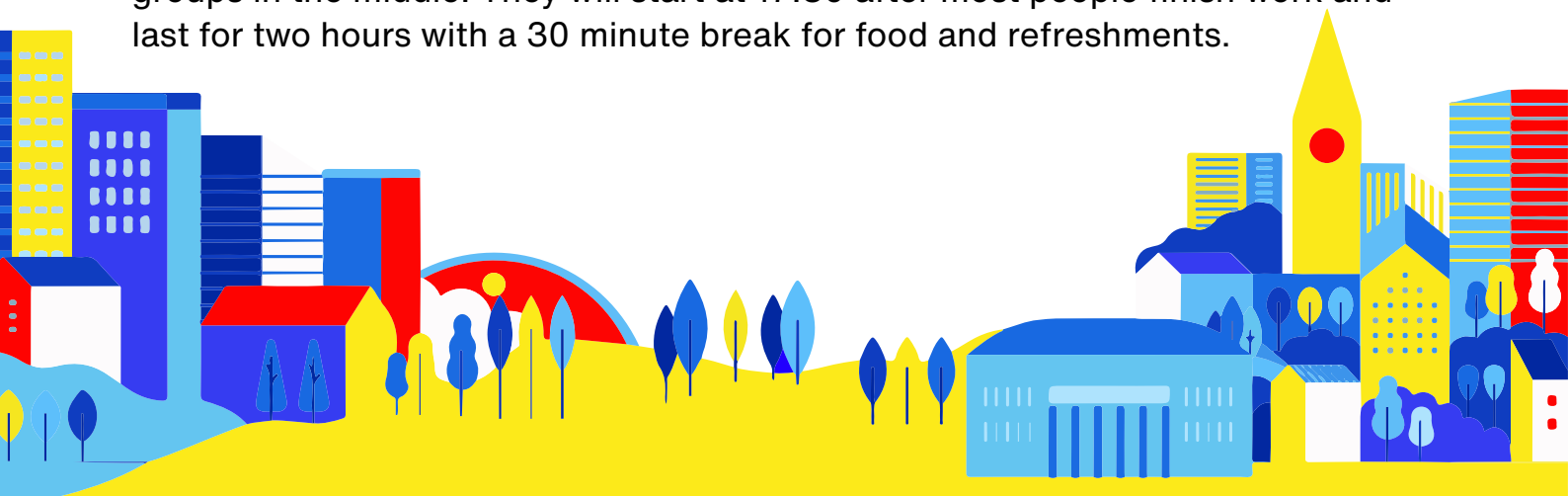
www.inournaturemcr.co.uk

What will the workshops be about?

The workshops will offer the chance for everyone to learn about climate change and how it is going to affect us in Manchester and the wider world. Then we will learn about positive solutions to the issues and which we think are the most important and appropriate for our city. Experts and professionals will be brought in to talk about themes like: Energy, Transport, Food and agriculture, Shopping and retail, Leadership and the emotional impact of climate change. All of this will be discussed and then solutions voted upon and put into a 'mandate' or statement which everyone will have the opportunity to co-create and which represents everyone's views.

When will the workshops be?

The workshops will start in the week beginning the 9th of August and finish in the week beginning the 20th of September, though there is a week break for groups in the middle. They will start at 17:30 after most people finish work and last for two hours with a 30 minute break for food and refreshments.



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Where are the workshops?

They will take place in up to five different areas of Manchester so that as many people as possible from across the city can get involved. That's in a different area each weeknight. Depending on who we recruit will decide where we hold the workshops, but it should be somewhere very near you! The final two workshops will take place in the city centre, as this is when everyone can come together to decide and create the final mandate or statement. We can cover any travel expenses if needed, as we want as many people from across Manchester to get involved.

What will happen afterwards?

After the workshops and everyone's achievements have been celebrated, the finished mandate will be presented to Manchester City Council and then be taken to the COP26 International Climate Change conference in Glasgow in November! This is where all the leaders of the world decide what to do about climate change and how they are going to respond. This mandate can be used as a way of showing the world what Manchester thinks the leaders of the world should be doing!

Also, by participating in all the workshops you will receive a £25 voucher!

Sounds great! Where do I sign up?

Please [apply here](#) before our deadline of the 31st of July 2021.

