



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL



Local elections and a crucial referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union are just around the corner

As the polls approach, you are being urged to make sure you are registered and don't miss out on having your democratic say.

If you are not registered visit gov.uk/register-to-vote.

You will not be able to vote in local elections unless you have registered to vote by **Monday 18 April**.

Anyone who is on the electoral register can also choose to register to vote by post. Applications for a postal vote in the forthcoming local elections must be received by 5pm on **Tuesday 19 April**.

[Read more](#)

[Somme centenary commemoration at Heaton Park](#)

This year marks the centenary of the Battle of the Somme in the First World War, which resulted in over one million casualties on the Western Front and touched the lives of millions of families at home.

On behalf of the country, Manchester will host the national commemoration event on Friday 1 July to pay respect to those who fought and were killed or wounded in the battle – which lasted 141 days.

As part of this, on the evening of 1 July, Heaton Park will be hosting a [free commemorative concert](#) featuring the Hallé Orchestra, which will pay tribute to the bravery and sacrifice made by so many.

Order your free tickets to this free event from quaytickets.com/sommeheatonpark.

[Read more](#)





[Have your say on Greater Manchester's new powers](#)

We're living through the most exciting changes to how England is governed for generations.

Greater Manchester has led the way on devolution agreements to move decision-making on vital public services like transport, housing and roads closer to local people.

The GMCA has launched a consultation that invites people to have a say about these new powers here: greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/new_devo_powers.

[Read more](#)

[How much do you care about Manchester's parks?](#)

A public consultation on the proposed strategy for the long-term future of Manchester's parks is under way.

Available at manchester.gov.uk/consultations, it gives everyone the chance to have a say on how they would like to see the city's parks and green spaces develop over the next decade.

The Council's proposed vision sees them as vital, well-used community assets, with more opportunities for residents to be engaged in how they are run.

Through the consultation, residents can comment on the proposed new long-term approach. They can say how they currently use local parks, what they would like to see happening in the future and suggest how they think parks should be run and funded.

[Read more](#)





[Information evenings for those interested in adopting](#)

Have you ever thought about adopting?

If you have and are interested in finding out more, why not come along to one of our adoption information events.

The next events are being held on **Monday 4 April** and **Tuesday 3 May** at Luther King House, Brighton Grove, Rusholme.

If you can't get along to the information evenings but are interested in finding out more, visit manchester.gov.uk/adopt.

[Read more](#)

[Weekly green bin collections](#)

Green bin recycling will return to a weekly service across Manchester.

The change comes into effect from **Monday 21 March**, with weekly collections running until October.

To check your collection date, go to manchester.gov.uk/bincollections, where you can enter your postcode and download a copy of your area calendar.

You can [order a replacement green bin for recycling food and garden waste here](#).

[Read more](#)





[Move over Banksy – OAP graffiti group hits Levenshulme](#)

Banksy may have become a household name with his satirical street art – but a new generation of 'grey graffiti' artists have taken to their spray cans in Manchester.

A group of concerned older residents from Levenshulme have been putting their 'art' to good use – using special biodegradable paint to highlight what they think could cause trip or mobility issues in the community.

Instead of spraying walls, they have been pounding pavements as they tag spots that could pose problems for older or more vulnerable people.

[Read more](#)

[E-billing and Direct Debit for council tax](#)

Manchester residents are being encouraged to pay their council tax via Direct Debit and receive their bills online.

It's easy to make the switch online via manchester.gov.uk/counciltax.

Changing will save us money we'd rather spend on the essential services you want.

Direct Debit allows automatic payments that can be spread over 10 or 12 months, with the facility to cancel at any time – you're in control.

Switching to e-billing will shrink your carbon footprint and that of the city too.

Plus your bill won't get lost in the post and you'll have a copy that won't get buried under a pile of papers.



[Read more](#)



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