



MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

# Social Value Newsletter

Issue 2 – Oct 2023

This is the second and final Social Value Newsletter of 2023 for our suppliers and partners of Manchester City Council's Highways Service. A lot of social value activity has been delivered during the last quarter and as the end of 2023 approaches the Highways Service wanted to recognise and celebrate all of the great work of our supply chain. Without your continued support and dedication, the service would not be able to achieve some of things we have and made a real difference to the people and communities of Manchester.

If you have any case studies, news or information that you would like to be featured in the next quarterly newsletter, please send details to [highwaysocialvalue@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysocialvalue@manchester.gov.uk)

## Highways Good News Stories

Social value starts with the Highways service first and foremost. The Social Value and Carbon Leads are not only here to support contractors with the delivery of their social value, but they are also here to ensure that the Highways service is playing its part too. As well as supporting our Highways Social Value priorities, we are always on the lookout for other activities that the service can support to leave positive social value outcomes.

Please take a look below to see what the service has been up to recently.

### June 2023

Highways Colleagues joined the South Neighbourhood Team, the parks team and other colleagues from MCC to come together on Friday 16 June 2023 to volunteer their time and paint the perimeter railings at Hollyhedge Park in Wythenshawe.



## June 2023

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of Mummy's Star, a charity created in memory of an MCC colleague, Highways colleagues held a bake sale and raised £180 for the charity.



## September 2023

The Highways social value team were contacted by Councillor Hitchen who raised pedestrian safety concerns over HGVs mounting a footway in Newton Heath. The Highways Maintenance Service kindly agreed to purchase and install 9 new bollards.



## October 2023



**It's time for  
Coffee Morning  
and you're  
invited**



Victoria Bottomley in the Highways service arranged our annual Macmillan coffee morning for colleagues in the THX, and we were blown away by the generosity of colleagues!



Also participating in fundraising for this worthy cause, were our colleagues working in our Hooper Street Highways depot. In total £355 was raised across the service



**Thank you to our suppliers!**

## North Area



Northern Marking happily agreed to purchase football kits for three new team members who joined Moston Junior U14's FC and were without a kit.



The Highways Social Value team were contacted by Councillor Curley on behalf of a disabled resident in New Moston. The resident required a pathway/ dropped kerb across a small section of the grass verge outside his house. The resident has mobility issues and wanted direct access walking from his front door to his car. The request was kindly fulfilled by Thermal Road Repairs.

Please see before and after photos, and Highways would like to say a big thank you to John and his team at Thermal Road Repairs for providing materials, time and labour at no cost to fulfil this request.

Before



After



## Central Area

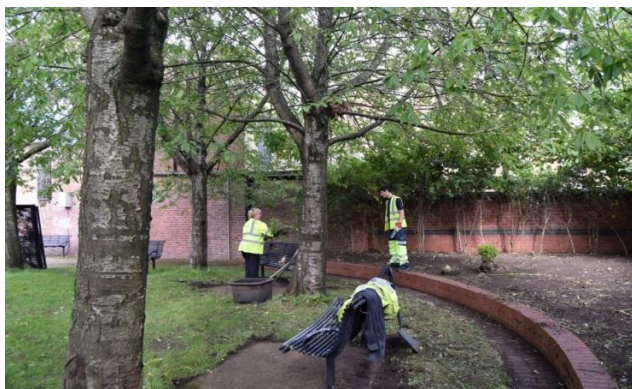
# Dowhigh

On Tuesday 26th September, Dowhigh Ltd took a team over to Levenshulme to help Mark O'Pray the Neighbourhood officer for Levenshulme with a project to clean up the village green.

The Dowhigh team provided labour, skills and equipment to:-

- Remove plant trellises and dead roots from walls
- Tidy up planters around the village green
- Cut back and tidy up the raised beds area
- Plant new shrubs in the planters and raised beds
- Clean the path around the raised bed area as well as around the park benches
- Trim back the lower branches of the trees
- Put down seed to generate bed growth in upcoming years
- Give the area a general tidy up

Mark O'Pray said "just wanted to say a massive thank you to Kay and the team from Dowhigh, who did an amazing job today at the Village Green, Levenshulme"



You can read further information about the day - <https://dowhigh.co.uk/news/levenshulme-village-green-good-causes/>





Kiely Bros donated Road Closed signs for Levenshulme Square Festival



Northern Marking Ltd were one of the contractors working on the Rusholme and Moss Side resident parking scheme, and as part of their commitment to social value they made an in kind financial donation of £2000, split between South Central food bank and Anson Community Grocers.

*Michelle McHale said "thank you so much for your generous offer to donate £1.000 to Manchester South central foodbank operated by Bridging the Gap (Manchester). Donors like you keep our mission of feeding our community's most vulnerable neighbours at the forefront of our work"*



As part of their social value commitments on the Gully Cleansing contract for Highways, Biffa helped with the removal of the waste bins in the pocket park on Thomas Street in the Northern Quarter which was full of rotting food, rotting garden waste and other rubbish that was attracting rodents. The Northern Quarter Action Group is a volunteer group made up of residents and businesses are very happy and can now carry on with their plans for further improvements to the pocket park

Before



After





The Casey Group are one of the contractors working on Northern Quarter area 2 project. In July they supported the Smithfield Residents Committee with the Smithfield Estate clean up. Casey group provided a van, volunteers and equipment to support the litter pick.



Casey also supported the Brotherhood Peace Garden project in Moss Side by arranging for some preloved planters from the MMU to be picked up and delivered to their garden.







Rosgal are proud sponsors of Heart Murals. These are hand painted murals carefully planned and painted by local artist Richard Preston and supported by local residents. The murals are part of the Levenshulme Art Trail which helps with wellbeing and encourages residents to explore the local area. Further murals can be found in Gorton and Longsight.



Rosgal have provided a donation of supplies, materials and traffic management. In addition, they have donated barriers and supplies to St Richards Primary School for their mural and supported the awards ceremony.

Rosgal have generously agreed to provide funding towards 10 Road Safety theatre shows. The shows will be offered to primary schools in Manchester and will be part of the wider programme of activities across Road Safety week in November 2023.

Rosgal have provided a monetary donation to St Peters Church Levenshulme for the School Uniform Recycle that is a charity providing donations of uniforms to local families in need.



Rosgal have also installed traffic management and a traffic management operative for the Chapel Street clean air day



Rosgal donated signs to St Agnes primary school in Longsight to enable children to be picked up and dropped off safely at school while the school undergoes urgent repairs and building works.



South Area



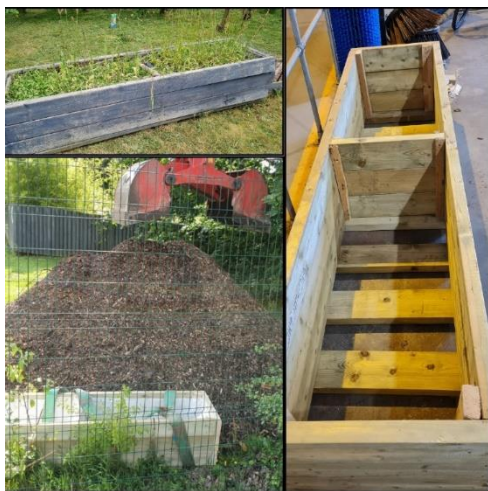
## Old Moat

In addition, Thermal Road Repairs also responded to a request from the park ranger for Old Moat Park in Withington who required a footpath that was damaged by a burnt motorbike to be resurfaced. Before and after photos are shown below.



Enviroflow Management Ltd supported the Green Heroes group at the Old Moat Primary School in Withington with the removal and replacing of their planter so that the children can enjoy growing and eating raspberries.

*Anne Hinds a teacher at the school provided this feedback "Enviroflow have made a huge difference to the Old Moat community. We now have a trough planter in which we can grow soft fruit to encourage healthy eating and wood chipping which will make our outdoor classroom a safe place for the pupils to have lessons, rather than the uneven concrete floor. We are extremely grateful for the support that Andy has provided. The outdoor classroom and planter will be a major asset for years to come."*







**ERIC WRIGHT  
GROUP**



Eric Wright group as part of their social value commitment to works for Chorlton Area 3B provided staff volunteering time to support the Annual Community Celebration Day, Merseyfest at Parkway Playing Fields, Chorlton Park with litter picking, setting up and taking down displays, loading/unloading vans, putting up gazebos and generally helping.

In addition Eric Wright and supply chain partners Kenny Waste Management Social Enterprise and Modus Commercial delivered 4 hours of road safety workshops to ninety Year 6 students at St Margaret's primary school at Withington Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8FQ on Thursday 25th May.

Feedback from Year 6 group leader "Firstly, let me give a massive thank you from Year six for the workshop. The children loved it and the information was delivered clearly and in an impactful way"

**Wilde**



Wilde hosted a work experience placement for Laaibah a student from Abraham Moss High school. Laaibah was part of a team dedicated to collecting and delivering stationery donations made by Wilde Consultants to some fantastic VCSEs that support the community in Manchester at Northmoor, Barlow Moor Community

Association, The Place at Platt lane and Community Revival. It was incredibly fulfilling to see

how the contributions will make a positive impact in the midst of our neighbourhoods. Laaibah's week at Wilde Consultants was not only a valuable learning experience but also a reminder of the importance of giving back to our communities.



The Highways Social Value team received a request from Councillor White on behalf of local residents who had raised several concerns about pedestrian safety at the junction of Stirling Avenue and Princess Road in Old Moat. Kiely Bros kindly agreed to undertake the repainting of the faded road markings.



### City Wide

Many of our highway contractors have supported neighbourhood active streets events, clean up days, clean air day, community and family fund days by providing road closure signs and barriers.



Mace have kindly offered to be a Category Sponsor for the Manager of the year award at this year Awards for Excellence



### Kings Coronation – City wide

The Highways social value team received a request from the Neighborhood team to see if Highways contractors could support with the delivery and collection of road closure signs. The signs were needed by residents and community groups so they could enjoy the king's coronation with street parties at no cost. Bethell one of the surfacing contractors, provided drivers with flatback vans to deliver and collect over 170 road closure signs for the king's coronation across the city.







Townscape Ltd provided an in-kind financial donation of £1500 towards supporting Child Friendly city programme initiatives. Their generous donation provided funding towards two projects  
\* Play resources for 150 Afghan refugee children who are due to be displaced from current accommodation and  
\*125 dual-language books to 3-7 year olds – providing opportunities to access books and reading material that would otherwise not be available.



Dowhigh and Ventbrook are funding the cost of reflective keyrings and hi viz vests that will be given out to primary schools during Road Safety week 2023.



Urban 360 and the University of Manchester provided a half a day workshop around air quality monitoring to Highways colleagues. The workshop focused on

- Air quality – state of the art
- Choosing sensors
- Designing monitoring schemes
- Data, analysis & interpretation
- Future opportunities & challenges



WSP kindly provided one of their meeting rooms for the training to take place.

## Supplier updates

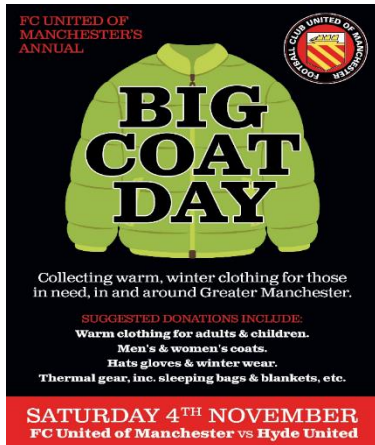


- Launch of the first electric roller in the UK in Piccadilly on night works. It offers a further 40%- 50% reduction in TRR process noise, and a further 20% on CO2 emissions. We see this as a way to enhance our social value offering and viability to undertake schemes in busy areas at night. A further benefit is alleviating pressure on the network without disturbing residents.
- In September 2023 Thermal Road Repairs appointed a Social Value Manager
- In July / August we became a member of MACC, Manchester's local voluntary and community sector support organisation
- Are now a member of the 5% Club .
- In September we have also raised over £2000 for Visyon ([Visyon | What We Do](#)) a North West based Childrens Mental Health Charity.
- In August we participated in and fully funded, "Train Like A Champion" with the Maverick Stars Trust, a Moss Side based initiative to engage local young people through sports and offer nutrition, health and wellbeing advice. TRR also offered education and employment advice. Train Like a GB Boxer - MaverickStars ([maverickstarstrust.co.uk](http://maverickstarstrust.co.uk))



Are now a member of the 5% Club.

## Further initiatives to support:



Support FC United's Big Coat Day - this is a great way to support the North community and get your teams involved and demonstrate reducing your carbon footprint and give something back to the community.



Volunteers are needed for Christmas Tree collection.

[We are JustHelping \(just-helping.org.uk\)](http://just-helping.org.uk) works in partnership with St Anns Hospice and St Francis house and their Christmas Tree Collection is now only three months away and they are looking for volunteers to support the Christmas Tree Collection 2023/24!

All Christmas Trees will be collected from households across Manchester and will be delivered to Wythenshawe Park to be chipped and reused within the ward. The collection will start on Thursday 11th January and is scheduled to finish on Sunday 14th January 2024.

Ways to get involved:

- Provide a long wheelbase van
- Be a van Driver- Drive their vans around Manchester neighbourhoods collecting trees and returning to the collection point
- Driver's Companion- Enjoy the day out slugging Christmas trees on and off vans

Please email [tomlaverty@just-helping.org.uk](mailto:tomlaverty@just-helping.org.uk) stating how you would like to get involved.