

fresh as a...



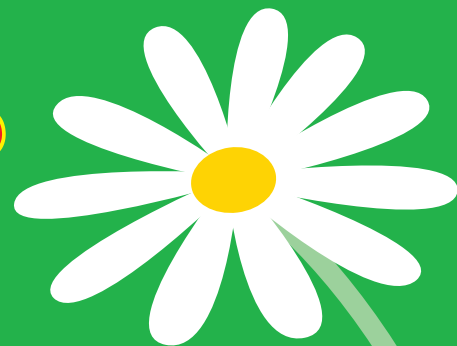
We all know the health dangers and problems of poor air quality. Public transport is clearly part of the solution, but sometimes can be part of the problem too. GMPTE has created a programme involving research, innovation, proven technology and publicity that will:

- make a real difference to air quality;
- work in an area with little public control over de-regulated buses;
- be affordable given many other claims on our resources; and
- use existing technology to best effect and encourage new technology.

By using public transport you can reduce air pollution in Greater Manchester.



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Cleaner air by developing electric buses

GMPTe has helped to develop the first commercial electric hybrid bus in Britain. It runs on the Metroshuttle routes. The quiet electric motor uses battery power that produces no pollution in sensitive areas, and when necessary a small diesel generator tops up the battery.

By using Metroshuttle you can reduce air pollution in Greater Manchester.

What is an electric hybrid bus?

The vehicle is a standard Optare Solo bus fitted with an ultra low emission powertrain developed by Eneco. The bus operates as an electric bus, with its onboard batteries re-charged by a computer controlled diesel generator. Transport chiefs are pioneering the revolutionary new eco-friendly vehicle on the free Manchester city centre Metroshuttle service, in a trial that could lead to conversion of many more buses in Greater Manchester.

How does it reduce pollution?

Because the bus returns energy from braking back to the batteries and the generator always works efficiently, the small engine only needs to run for short periods. This new technology reduces carbon emissions from the bus by over a third – a saving of at least 16 tonnes in carbon dioxide emissions per vehicle each year. Several tonnes of other major exhaust emissions are also saved.

Who pays for and runs it?

Funding has been provided by Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority (GMPTA) and a Government Energy Savings Trust grant. It is owned and operated by FirstManchester on the Metroshuttle routes

How can I find out more?

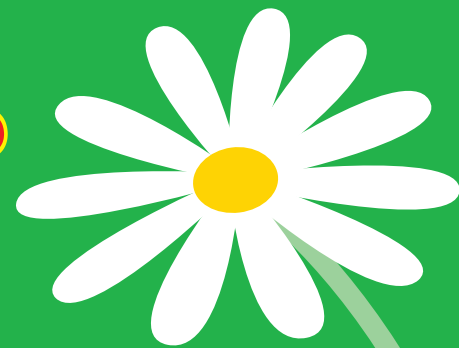
Contact the GMPTe Environmental Planning Manager (0161-242 6217) or through our website at www.gmpte.com.

Passengers can obtain information on Metroshuttle services by calling Greater Manchester's Public Transport Information Line on 0161-228 7811. More on the technology at www.eneco.co.uk.





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Cleaner air through new technology

GMPTe has helped to fund the development at Manchester University of a device that fits onto a bus exhaust. It removes 'particulate' – black smoke – from the exhaust gases. It has won awards and attracted Government funding. Even better, it is being made in Manchester!

By using buses, you can reduce air pollution in Greater Manchester.

What are particulate traps all about?

Particulate Traps are fitted to the exhaust system of buses to either new or old vehicles. They trap particles of carbon (black smoke) before they can get into the atmosphere and cause health problems.

What is special about this one?

The particulate trap was developed by Pertek at Manchester University. It uses a revolutionary new principle that charges particles and makes them easier to separate out from clean exhaust gases and to dispose of. It cannot block and is much cheaper than other makes. The device was developed in Manchester and is now being manufactured and creating jobs in the northwest too.



How was it developed?

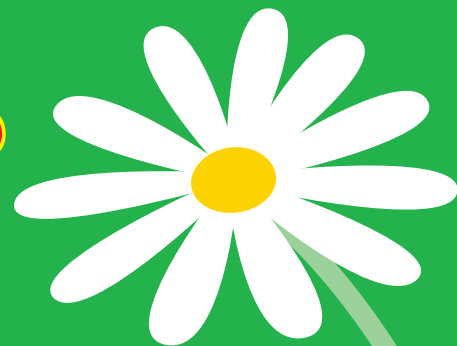
GMPTe contributed funding to the development and field trials programme. Five FirstGroup buses were fitted to start with, and the experience and testing led to the trap becoming accepted for national grant-aid. Hundreds have now been fitted nationwide.

How can I find out more?

Contact the GMPTe Environmental Planning Manager (0161-242 6217) or through our website at www.gmpte.com.



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Yellow School Bus

Yellow school Buses are a great way of reducing pollution and congestion around schools. Children and parents love the dozen that are already operating around Greater Manchester. A hundred more should be on the way soon.

When children and parents choose the Yellow School Bus, they reduce air pollution.

What is a Yellow School Bus?

The concept is simple but works. Each child has their own seat on a bus that is dedicated to their route to school. This means that the service is reliable, the bus is looked after and children don't have to share the bus with other passengers.

How do they reduce pollution?

By 2006 our Yellow School Buses will be saving 119,000 car trips and 6.4 million kilometres of driving meaning every year, meaning over a thousand tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and hundreds of tonnes of other exhaust emissions will be prevented from reaching the air every year.

Who pays for and runs it?

Funding has been provided by Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority (GMPTA). A 'major scheme' bid has been submitted to Government for extra money. The buses are run by private bus operators on routes decided by schools and the Authority.

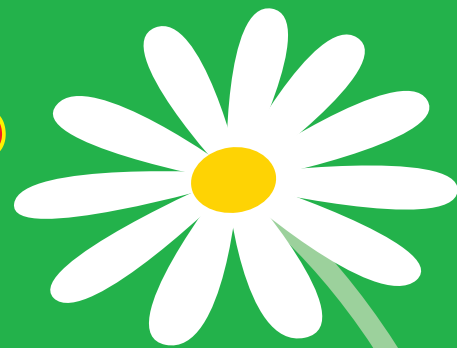
How can I find out more?

Contact the GMPTA Yellow Bus Manager (0161-242 6226) or look at our website on www.gmpte.com.





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Promoting clean air through public transport

GMPTe provides a wide range of advice to both to public transport companies and the general public about how public transport can reduce pollution. We produce a range of publications and publicity material. We also lobby politicians and other decision makers to ensure that they know how important clean air is to people in Greater Manchester.

When you use public transport, you reduce air pollution in Greater Manchester.

Spreading the word

It is important to let people know what the issues and potential solutions are. We produce an Annual Environmental that sets out in an honest way the environmental record of public transport, what we have done and what we are planning to do. We produce a range of other publications including leaflets, posters and reports. Our website contains a lot of information on our activities, and the award winning www.DingDing.org.uk is aimed at bringing the message to children.

Can I help you?

Every year we respond to hundreds of requests for advice about the environmental effects of public transport from the general public including proposed schemes such as Metrolink and Busways. We also advise operators and run grant schemes to help clean up pollution from buses.

Making friends and influencing people

GMPTe produces briefing notes and lobbies politicians and decision makers directly. In addition, in the last year we have held conferences on Air Quality, Health and the City which have all drawn attention to how public transport can lead to cleaner air.

How can I find out more?

Contact the GMPTe Environmental Planning Manager (0161-242 6217) or look at our website on www.gmpte.com.

