

## Manchester-based biopharmaceutical company Chiesi comes out in force to boost local green spaces

- Around 80 Chiesi employees will join local charitable organisations to breathe new life into Manchester's green spaces.
- The availability of green spaces such as parks, woodlands and meadows are associated with better mental and physical health.<sup>1</sup>
- Chiesi is committed to driving shared value; conducting activity all year round that brings positive impact for people, patients living with health conditions and the planet.

**Manchester, UK, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024** – Today, around 80 employees from Wythenshawe-based biopharmaceutical company, Chiesi, will take part in their annual, large-scale volunteering drive focussed on energising Manchester's green spaces.

Visiting Blossoms, Kirkup Gardens, Big Wood, The Booth Centre, Dixon Brooklands Academy, St Ann's Hospice, and primary schools Sacred Heart, Newall Green, and Benchill, the team will engage in hands-on work including planting, woodland clean-up, plant care and general gardening work designed to renew local green spaces and promote the connection between health and the environment. Research has shown that areas with access to green spaces are associated with better physical and mental health. Exercise and exposure to nature can prevent several diseases, keeping people well and reducing pressure on the NHS.<sup>1,2</sup>

*"We're very excited to roll up our sleeves and get to work on reinvigorating Manchester's green spaces. It is so important that we take pride in our community; investing our resources so that we can thrive together and create lasting positive impact"* said **Ralph Blom, General Manager, Chiesi UK and Ireland**. *"It is also hugely fun and empowering for our teams, and I would like to thank all of our charity and local organisation partners who welcome us as part of the Greater Manchester community."*

Chiesi is one of the top global pharmaceutical companies in the world, and provides medicines in over 100 countries for diseases such as asthma, cardiovascular disease and rare conditions. Its UK and Ireland arm is based in Wythenshawe, Manchester, and employing around 400 people across various UK sites. Chiesi operates against a shared value mission; making decisions based on what is best for the business, patients, people and planet. As a B Corp, Chiesi is part of a global community that meets high standards of environmental and social impact. Caring for the community is an essential part of their mission to use their business as a force for good.

Chiesi's annual We ACT (Actively Care for Tomorrow) is one of the ways in which the company acts on its mission. In collaboration with BW3 (Business Working With Wythenshawe), a local organisation that connects local businesses with education providers and the community to inspire and support positive change, Chiesi will support the clean-up and restoration of local green spaces. One major effort will be the clean-up of Big Wood in Wythenshawe, where volunteers will litter pick and clear paths to rejuvenate their local woodland. At Sacred Heart Primary School, employees will take an active role in creating educational green spaces that will teach children about sustainable practices and the importance of locally grown food. We ACT Day also aims to further educate Chiesi employees on environmentally conscious practices, driving the

concept of shared value where decisions are made based on what is best for business, patients, people and planet.

*"Everyone at Sacred Heart is looking forward to the volunteers coming into our school to help with our sustainability projects," said Kieron Kelly, Deputy Headteacher at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Baguley. "One of our school values is Stewardship, and the work that we have planned will help teach the children the importance of working together to care for our common home. We aim to develop space to grow food crops and willow that will enhance our curriculum and educate children about sustainability. The project gives us a fantastic opportunity to strengthen links with local businesses while building on the good work that our children and teachers at Sacred Heart have done to improve our local environment."*

To find out more about We ACT Day and Chiesi's commitment to shared value, please visit: <https://www.chiesi.uk.com/we-act>.

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### About Chiesi Group

Chiesi is a research-oriented international biopharmaceutical group that develops and markets innovative therapeutic solutions in respiratory health, rare diseases, and specialty care. The company's mission is to improve people's quality of life and act responsibly towards both the community and the environment.

By changing its legal status to a Benefit Corporation in Italy, the US, and France, Chiesi's commitment to create shared value for society as a whole is legally binding and central to company-wide decision-making. As a certified B Corp since 2019, we're part of a global community of businesses that meet high standards of social and environmental impact. The company aims to reach Net-Zero greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions by 2035.

With over 85 years of experience, Chiesi is headquartered in Parma (Italy), with 31 affiliates worldwide, and counts more than 7,000 employees. The Group's research and development centre in Parma works alongside 6 other important R&D hubs in France, the US, Canada, China, the UK, and Sweden.

For further information please visit [www.chiesi.uk.com](http://www.chiesi.uk.com).

### Media contacts

Yasmin Ghariani  
Head of External Communications  
Phone: +44 7557 205 478  
Email: [y.ghariani@chiesi.com](mailto:y.ghariani@chiesi.com)

### References

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2. Grellier, J. *et al.* (2024) 'Valuing the health benefits of nature-based recreational physical activity in England', *Environment International*, 187, p. 108667. doi:10.1016/j.envint.2024.108667.