

## Waste Reduction and Food

This section looks at how local authorities support sustainable food production on their land and promote sustainable food choices in their schools. Local authorities also play a key role in supporting local circular economy initiatives, as well as improving waste collection and recycling rates.

**Average score<sup>1</sup>**  
by council type

**37%** Single Tier

**23%** District

**30%** County

**35%** Northern Ireland

### LEADING THE WAY

 **61%** of local authorities\* provide kerbside food waste recycling to most homes<sup>2</sup>

 **57%** of local authorities support community food growing initiatives<sup>3</sup>

 **43%** of local authorities support food surplus redistributions initiatives<sup>4</sup>

### ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

**29%** of local authorities are part of a sustainable food partnership<sup>5</sup>

**26%** of local authorities support circular economy initiatives<sup>6</sup>

**24%** of single tier and county councils provide at least one complete vegetarian meal in schools each week<sup>7</sup>

### FALLING BEHIND

**84%** of local authorities don't have a sustainable food strategy<sup>8</sup>

**70%** of local authorities recycle less than half of their waste from residents<sup>9</sup>

**94%** of local authorities send to landfill or incinerate over 300kg of waste per household each year<sup>10</sup>

(\*) This section does not apply to Mayoral Authorities, as they have limited powers in relation to 'Waste Reduction and Food' • (1) See average scores here → [https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s7\\_wr\\_f/](https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s7_wr_f/) • (2) Q 7.7: Does the council provide kerbside food waste recycling? This question doesn't apply to county councils • (3) Q 7.5: Has the council taken steps to support local food growing? • (4) Q 7.3: Does the council support initiatives to redistribute surplus food? • (5) Q7.4b Question: Is the council part of a sustainable food partnership? • (6) Q 7.2: Has the council taken steps to support a circular economy locally? • (7) Q 7.6: Do schools in the council area serve less meat in school meals? This question doesn't apply to district councils or to Northern Irish councils • (8) Q7.4a Question: Does the council have a sustainable food strategy? • (9) Q 7.8 How high is the councils' area wide annual recycling rate? • (10) Q 7.9 How low is the councils' area wide level of household waste produced?

