

Collaboration & Engagement

This section addresses how councils can collaborate with others to improve their own climate action and to support others in the area to decarbonise. More than half of the emissions cuts needed to reach net zero rely on people and businesses taking up low-carbon solutions, and councils can work with those in their local area to enable those solutions.

2025 average score and 2023 comparison¹

by council type

54% Single Tier ▲ 1

56% District ▲ 3

63% County ▲ 3

27% Northern Ireland ▲ 4

55% Combined Authority 0

While average scores have increased since 2023 across most council types and for most questions, UK local authorities have lobbied the UK Government less than they did in 2023. We also observed that during the assessment period there had been no new partnerships between local authorities and health services.

LEADING THE WAY



87% ▲ 8 versus 2023
of councils² have a Climate Action Plan with SMART targets³



64% ▲ 8 versus 2023
of local authorities⁴ provide funding for community climate action⁵



10 councils
have passed a motion to ban high carbon advertising and sponsorship⁶

MAYORAL AUTHORITIES

8 out of 9

have three or more active schemes providing support or tailored advice to businesses in the local area to help them decarbonise⁷

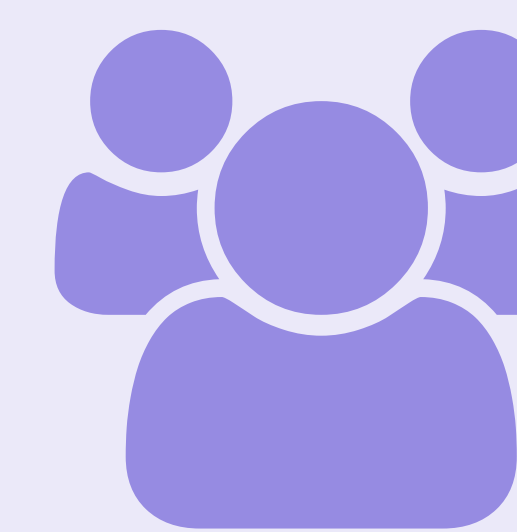
5 out of 9

have published a study of different decarbonisation pathways and scenarios to reach net zero⁸

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT



70% ▲ 7 versus 2023
published an annual Climate Action Update report⁹



50% ▼ 3 versus 2023
have an ongoing way for residents to influence the implementation of the council's Climate Action Plan¹⁰

35% of local authorities have lobbied the UK government or devolved administrations for further climate action¹¹
Down from 43% in 2023

(1) Average scores here: https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s6_c_e/ • (2) "councils" include all 392 UK local and combined authorities assessed in the 2025 Council Climate Action Scorecards • (3) See 'Q 6.2a Has the council published a climate action plan with SMART targets?' and '5.1a (CA) Has the combined authority published a climate action plan with SMART targets?' • (4) "local authorities" excludes Mayoral Authorities • (5) See 'Q 6.6 Does the council provide funding for community climate action, for example through an environment fund or climate action fund?' • (6) See 'Q 6.11 Has the council passed a motion to ban high carbon advertising and sponsorship?' and 'Q5.9 (CA) Has the combined authority committed to ban high carbon advertising & sponsorship?' • (7) See 'Q 5.8 Is the combined authority working in partnership with local businesses to encourage decarbonisation?' • (8) See 'Q 5.2 Has the combined authority commissioned, written and published a study of available decarbonisation pathways for their area?' • (9) See 'Q 6.2b Has the council published an up to date and easy-to-read annual report on their Climate Action Plan?' and '5.1b (CA) Has the combined authority published an up to date and easy-to-read annual report on their Climate Action Plan?' • (10) See 'Q 6.5a Does the council have an ongoing way for residents to influence the implementation of the council's Climate Action Plan?' and '5.5a (CA) Does the combined authority have an on-going way for residents to influence the implementation of the combined authority's Climate Action Plan?' • (11) See 'Q 6.3 Has the council lobbied the government for climate action?'

