

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.

Average score¹
by council type

53% Single Tier

43% District

60% County

23% Northern Ireland

55% Mayoral Authorities*

LEADING THE WAY

79% of councils** have a Climate Action Plan with SMART targets²

56% of local authorities*** provide funding for community climate action³

9 councils⁴ in the UK have passed a motion to ban high carbon advertising and sponsorship⁵

10 out of 11 Mayoral Authorities*

have three or more active schemes providing support or tailored advice to businesses in the local area to help them decarbonise⁹

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

63% of councils** published an annual Climate Action Update report⁶

53% of councils** have ongoing ways for residents to influence Climate Action Plan implementation⁷

43% of local authorities have lobbied the UK government or devolved administrations for further climate action⁸

5 out of 11 Mayoral Authorities*

have published a study of different decarbonisation pathways and scenarios to reach net zero¹⁰

(*) "Mayoral Authorities" include Combined Authorities and the Greater London Authority. • (**) "councils" include all 389 UK local and Combined Authorities assessed in the 2023 Council Climate Action Scorecards. • (***) "local authorities" excludes combined authorities. • (1) See average scores here → https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s6_c_e/. • (2) Q 6.2a Has the council published a climate action plan with SMART targets? and Q 5.1a (CA) Has the combined authority published a climate action plan with SMART targets? • (3) Q 6.6 Does the council provide funding for community climate action, for example through an environment fund or climate action fund? • (4) The 2023 Action Scorecards identify 7 councils: Coventry City Council, Liverpool City Council, North Somerset Council, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Exeter City Council, Norwich City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council 2024 AdFree Cities: Sheffield City Council, Edinburgh City Council • (5) Q 6.11 Has the council passed a motion to ban high carbon advertising and sponsorship? • (6) Q 6.2b Has the council published an up to date and easy-to-read annual report on their Climate Action Plan? and Q 5.1b (CA) Has the combined authority published an up to date and easy-to-read annual report on their Climate Action Plan? • (7) Q 6.5a Does the council have an ongoing way for residents to influence the implementation of the council's Climate Action Plan? • (8) Q 6.3 Has the council lobbied the government for climate action? • (9) Q 5.8 Is the combined authority working in partnership with local businesses to encourage decarbonisation? • (10) Q 5.2 Has the combined authority commissioned, written and published a study of available decarbonisation pathways for their area?

