

Buildings & Heating

Buildings and Heating is one of the biggest sectors of carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. This section covers the main actions that councils can take to support privately owned and rented homes and social housing to reduce the emissions from their homes. This section also covers what combined authorities can do to create green jobs in their area.

Average score¹
by council type

- 49%** Single Tier
- 42%** District
- 70%** County
- 33%** Northern Ireland
- 60%** Combined Authority

LEADING THE WAY

96% of local authorities* offer funding to residents to retrofit their homes²

59% of councils** have a renewable energy tariff or generate renewable energy equal to 20% of their own energy use³

Only Greater Manchester Combined Authority scored 100% in Buildings & Heating⁴

FALLING BEHIND

75% of single tier & district councils are not actively enforcing Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards of privately rented homes in 2021/22¹³

24% of local authorities provide support for local community renewable energy creation¹⁴

43% of UK homes are energy efficient, rated EPC C⁹ or higher¹⁵

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

59% of local authorities have at least one part-time⁵ retrofit staff member⁶

48% of local authorities support residents to collectively purchase renewable energy⁷

71% of council owned social housing⁸ is energy efficient, EPC band C⁹ or higher¹⁰

5/11 combined authorities trained over 1,000 people¹¹ in green skills¹²

(*) "local authorities" excludes combined authorities. (**) "councils" include all 389 UK local and combined authorities assessed in the 2023 Council Climate Action Scorecards. (1) https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s1_b_h/. (2) Q 1.10 Does the council offer funding to private renters or homeowners to retrofit their homes? (3) Q 1.2 Are the council's operations powered by renewable energy? (4) councilclimatescorecards.uk/sections/s1_b_h_gs_ca/. (5) Part time staff member is defined as working 3 days a week or more. (6) Q 1.6 Does the council have a staff member employed to work on retrofitting across the council area? (7) Q 1.11 Does the council have a scheme to allow residents to purchase renewable energy cheaply, through collective buying? (8) This is 71% out of 235 councils that directly owned or manage social housing. (9) UK Government has aspirations for all homes at EPC band C or higher by 2035. (10) Q1.3 Are the homes owned and managed by the council energy efficient? (11) trained over 1,000 people in the last 3 academic years. (12) Q1.9b Has the combined authority had a significant number of people completing adult education courses or training in the last three academic years that they funded and advertised as skills for Green jobs? (13) Q1.7 Is the council actively enforcing Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards of homes in the private rented sector? (14) Q1.12 Has the council supported local community renewable energy creation? (15) Q1.7 Are the homes and buildings in the council area energy efficient?

