



I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding you council's commitments and progress toward net zero emissions.

1. Has your council committed to a specific Net Zero target year, and if so, what year?

Yes, Wigan Council has committed to achieving Net Zero Carbon as a local authority by 2038 or sooner, bringing the borough along on the journey with us.

2. What significant changes have you made – if any – since your net zero goals were set? Select all that apply:

- Measured real-time energy usage and performance metrics
- Retrofitted existing buildings to improve energy efficiency (e.g. upgrading BMS)
- Conducted energy audits or heat decarbonisation plans
- Invested in renewable technologies
- Electrified infrastructure (EVs, buildings, heating systems)
- Other (free text)

The most up to date examples of significant changes can be found in our Annual Progress Report 2024/25 which is currently being reviewed and will go through the democratic scrutiny process in the next few months. This will then be available to the public by Spring 2026.

Retrofit existing buildings to improve energy efficiency

Conducted energy audits or heat decarbonisation plans

Invested in renewable technologies

Electrified infrastructure EV's in line with planning regulations

3. What percentage of your council's energy consumption is currently sourced from fossil fuels

98%

4. Has your council received any government or private funding for decarbonisation or energy efficiency initiatives in the past 3 years? If yes, where has this been spent?

Yes we have received funding via PSDS & ERDF. The money was spent on Conducting energy audits or heat decarbonisation plans. Installation of solar PV, Installation of LED lighting and Low carbon heating system (ASHP)

5. What are the biggest barriers you're facing when it comes to decarbonisation? Select all that apply:

Culture / Knowledge / Technology / Budget

In terms of barriers to decarbonisation, all four areas present a barrier with budget likely to be the largest barrier.

6. Are you confident that you will deliver on net zero by 2050?

Yes / No / Unsure

There are too many external variables to be certain of achieving net zero by 2050 as a local authority. Examples include the national and international efforts surrounding net zero, as well as budget provision being made by central government for local authorities to deliver on net zero.