Appendix 1

Environment and Green Investment Committee

Quarterly Performance Report






Quarter 1, 2025/26 Financial Year

Produced on: 16 October 2025

Cambridgeshire County Council

Key

Data Item	Explanation
Target / Pro Rata Target	The target that has been set for the indicator, relevant for the reporting period
Current Month / Current Period	The latest performance figure relevant to the reporting period
Previous Month / previous period	The previously reported performance figure
Direction for Improvement	Indicates whether 'good' performance is a higher or a lower figure
Change in Performance	Indicates whether performance is 'improving' or 'declining' by comparing the latest performance figure with that of the previous reporting period
Statistical Neighbours Mean	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recently available data from identified statistical neighbours.
England Mean	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recent nationally available data
RAG Rating	• **Red** – current performance is off target by more than 10% • **Amber** – current performance is off target by 10% or less • **Green** – current performance is on target • **Baseline** – indicates performance is currently being tracked in order to inform the target setting process • **Contextual** – these measures track key activity being undertaken, to present a rounded view of information relevant to the service area, without a performance target. • **In Development** - measure has been agreed, but data collection and target setting are in development
Indicator Description	Provides an overview of how a measure is calculated. Where possible, this is based on a nationally agreed definition to assist benchmarking with statistically comparable authorities
Commentary	Provides a narrative to explain the changes in performance within the reporting period
Actions	Actions undertaken to address under-performance. Populated for 'red' indicators only
Useful Links	Provides links to relevant documentation, such as nationally available data and definitions

Environment and Green Investment Committee Scorecard

KPI	Target	Direction for Improvement	Performance (Current Period)	Performance (Previous Comparable Period)	Change in Performance	Last Updated	RAG Rating
E&GI 001: Council's Carbon footprint, Scope 1 & 2	Net Zero by 2030	Lower is better	764	938	↓	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 002: Council's carbon footprint, Scope 3 (tonnes CO2e per year)	50% reduction from 2018 levels by 2030	Lower is better	123647	122702	↑	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 003: County wide Carbon Footprint	Net zero by 2045	Lower is better	6452	6550	↓	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 004: Waste per head	Contextual	Lower is better	413.50	417.20	↓	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 005: Municipal waste landfilled (12 month rolling average)	Contextual	Lower is better	42.8%	39.5%	↑	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 006: Cambridgeshire recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolliing)	Contextual	Higher is better	52.26%	56.19%	↓	Jun-25	Contextual
E&GI 007: Percentage of County Matters Planning Applications determined within required timeframes	100%	Higher is better	100%	100%	→	Jun-25	Green
E&GI 008: Percentage of premises in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with access to Gigabit capable broadband	85.0%	Higher is better	91.87%	91.29%	↑	Jun-25	Green
E&GI 009: Percentage of Planning Inspectorate and Developer deadlines met (Consents)	100%	Higher is better	100%	100%	→	Jun-25	Green

Indicator E&GI 001 : Council's carbon footprint, Scopes 1 and 2 (tonnes CO2e per year)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Net zero by 2030	↓	764.2	937.5	Improving

RAG Rating

Contextual

Indicator Description

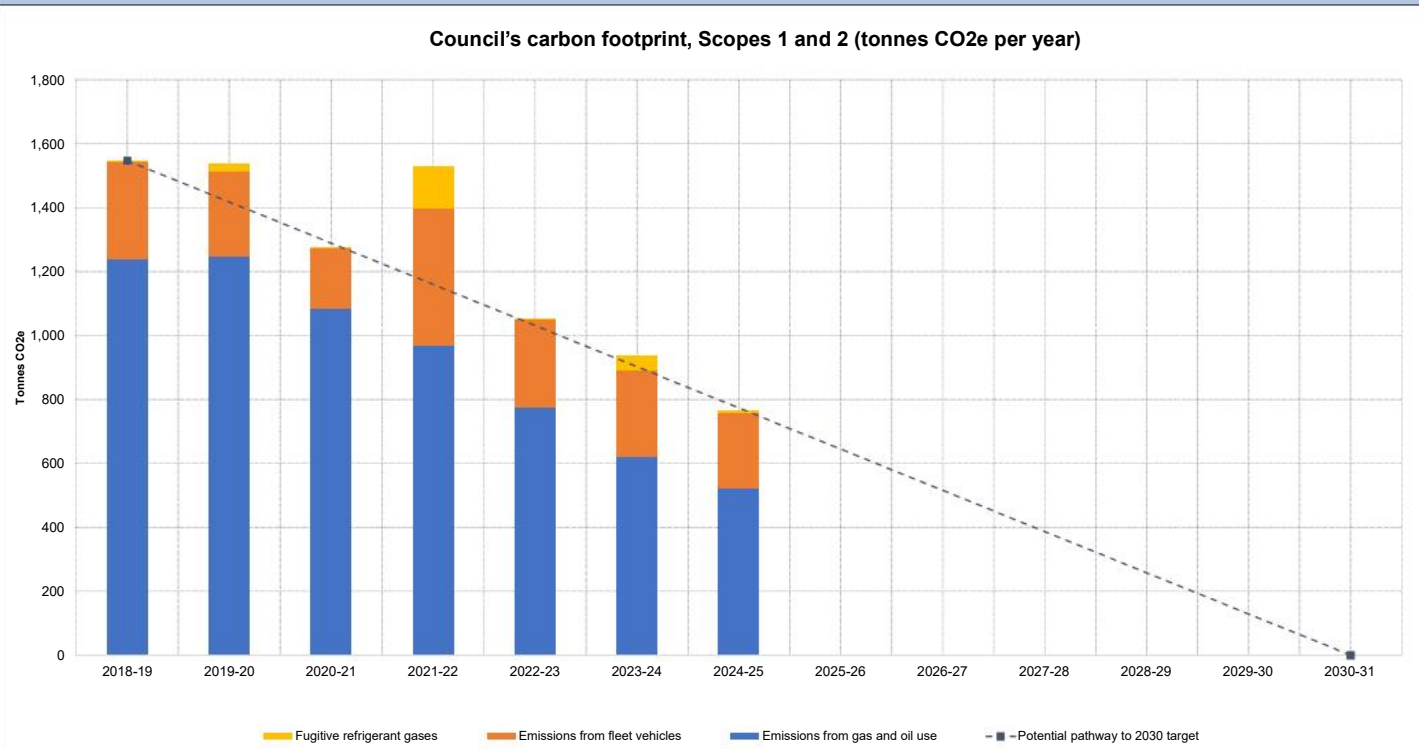
This indicator shows annual progress towards the Council's target, set out in the Climate Change and Environment Strategy, of reducing scope 1&2 emissions to net zero by 2030.

Scope 1 means direct emissions from the Council's own assets.
Scope 2 means emissions from purchased electricity.

Polarity: Low is good

Useful Links

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/carbon-footprinting-how-big-is-the-problem
(See Downloads section at the end of that webpage)
https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/CCC-Carbon-Footprint-Report-2023-24.pdf



Commentary

The Council's carbon footprint is measured retrospectively in Financial Year (FY) increments. FY 2018-2019 is the baseline year which is used to compare all subsequent FYs since. 2018-19 has been selected as that is the first year that the Council started carbon footprinting.

Note: these figures are provisional, and due to go to E&GI Committee in November 2025.

In 2024-25, CCC's Scope 1 and 2 emissions are 764 tonnes CO_2e. This is a 4% decrease from 2023-24, and a 51% decrease from CCC's baseline in 2018-19.

Gas and oil emissions have reduced every year since 2019-20 and reduced further in 2024-25, due to the low carbon heating programme.

Emissions from highways fleet reduced in 2022-23 due to the change to HVO biofuel for some large vehicles, and has remained low since.

Scope 2 emissions from electricity are zero because the Council purchases a zero carbon tariff through its supply contract.

Path to Green

Continue with the low carbon heating programme for Council buildings. Further action will be needed to address the remaining emissions from fleet vehicles - either by electrification, biofuels or reduced miles travelled (or a combination of these).

In particular asset rationalisation and enhancement of council buildings to support low carbon heating, alongside the Fleet Manager's role to improve and decarbonise the Council's vehicles will be important. Securing of funding and resourcing to facilitate these activities will be a key challenge.

See the CCES Progress Report and Annual Carbon Footprint 24.25 E&GI Committee paper (November 2025) for further information on the pathways to target delivery.

Indicator E&GI 002: Council's carbon footprint, Scope 3 (tonnes CO2e per year)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
50.4% reduction from 2018 levels by 2030	↓	123,647	122,702	Declining

RAG Rating

Contextual

Indicator Description

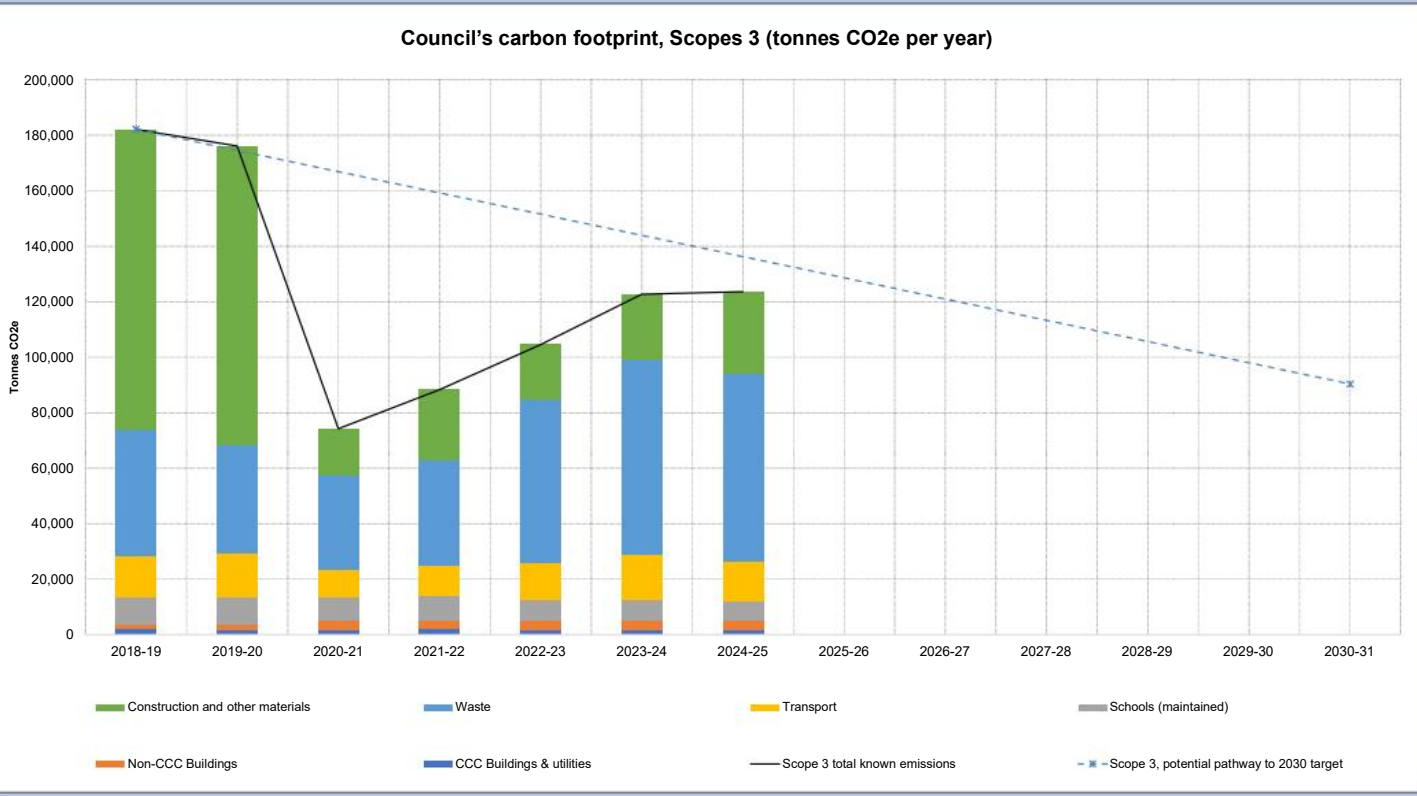
This indicator shows annual progress towards the Council's target, set out in the Climate Change and Environment Strategy, of reducing scope 3 emissions by 50.4% by 2030 (compared to 2018 levels).

Scope 1 means direct emissions from the Council's own assets.
Scope 2 means emissions from purchased electricity.
Scope 3 means indirect emissions from assets outside the Council's control - for example, employee-owned vehicles, purchased goods and services, outsourced activities.

Polarity: Low is good

Useful Links

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/carbon-footprinting-how-big-is-the-problem
(See Downloads section at the end of that webpage)
https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/CCC-Carbon-Footprint-Report-2023-24.pdf



Commentary

The Council's carbon footprint is measured retrospectively in Financial Year (FY) increments. FY 2018-2019 is the baseline year which is used to compare all subsequent FYs since. 2018-19 has been selected as that is the first year that the Council started carbon footprinting.

Note: these figures are provisional, and due to go to E&GI Committee in November 2025.

In 2024-25, CCC's Scope 3 emissions are 123,647 tonnes CO2e. This is a 1% increase from 2023-24, however a 32% decrease from CCC's baseline in 2018-19.

This is predominantly due to reduced construction activity from 2020 onwards. Waste emissions have increased since the 2018-19 baseline (more waste going to landfill), however have increased less the decrease in construction emissions.

Emissions from agriculture and land use are not included in this data, but are reported elsewhere. See the 2024-25 annual carbon footprint report for more details (due to go to E&GI Committee November 2025).

Path to Green

Further actions and changes to reduce Scope 3 emissions have been identified. This includes decarbonising and academisation of maintained schools, and highways decarbonisation. An emissions gap exists however, where further reduction actions as yet unidentified are required to reach the Scope 3 target by 2030.

Note there is some uncertainty as to levels of future construction; should this significantly increase, there will be a larger emissions gap to reach the 2030 scope 3 target.

See the CCES Progress Report and Annual Carbon Footprint 24.25 committee paper (November 2025) for further information on the pathways to target delivery.

Indicator E&GI 006a: Cambridgeshire recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	52.26%	56.19%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

Indicator Description

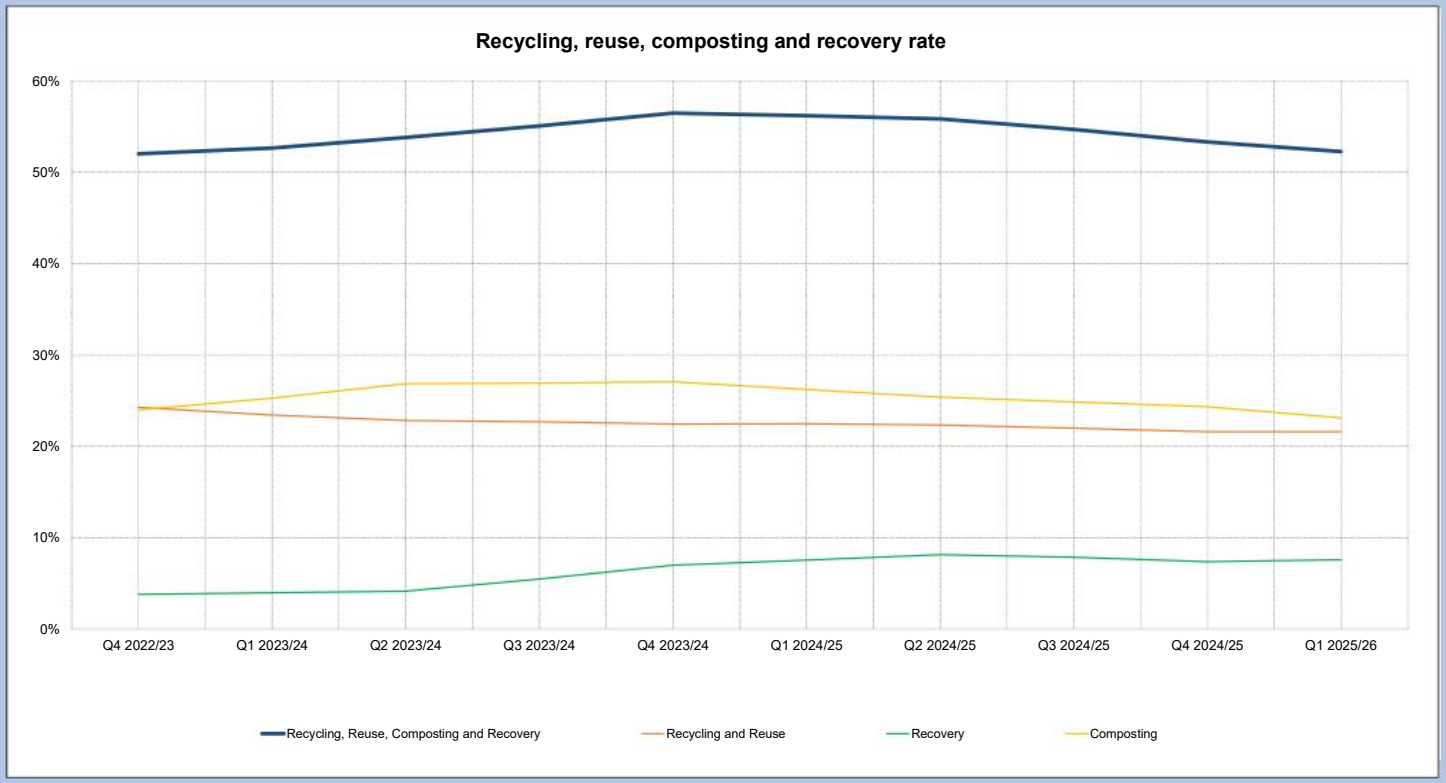
This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery. This includes all district and city partner's recycling performance as well as the performance of the County Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs). This has significant financial impact on the council.

This indicator is updated a quarter behind the rest of the indicators due to a lag in the availability of data.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

During the 12 months ending in June 2025, 52.3% of waste was recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery. Recyclates are still no longer being recovered at the front end of the Mechanical Biological Treatment facility (MBT) (which is unavailable due to a Qualifying Change in Law resulting from the Industrial Emissions Directive), resulting in a drop from historic performance and we are increasingly needing to landfill HRC plastics due to a lack of market. Composting has fallen, following HDCs introduction of a chargeable garden waste collection and the drought in Spring 2025. The recovery rate has continued to increase over the last year as some waste that was previously diverted to landfill following the unavailability of the MBT, is now diverted to energy recovery.

Path to Green

N/a - Contextual indicator

Indicator E&GI 003: Cambridgeshire county-wide carbon footprint (kilo tonnes CO2e per year)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Zero by 2045	↓	6,452	6,550	Improving

RAG Rating

Contextual

Indicator Description

This data is published annually by DESNZ with a two-year lag. E.g. data for 2020 was published in June 2022.
Now includes CO2, CH4 and N2O, which equates to approx. 97% of all greenhouse gas emissions.

This data includes greenhouse gas emissions from all sources in the geographical area of Cambridgeshire, irrespective of to what extent they are in the control or influence of the Council.

1 kilo tonne = 1000 tonnes

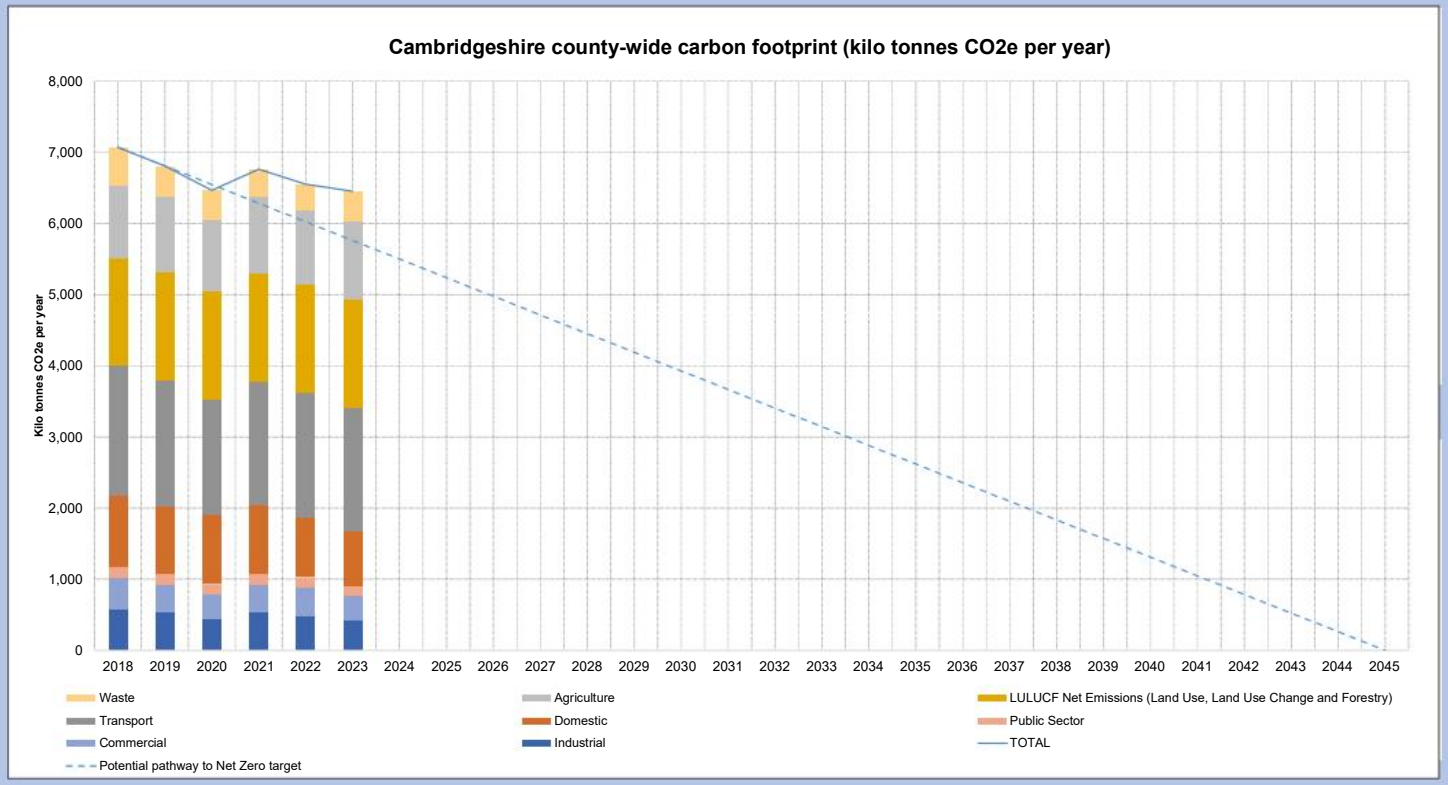
Polarity: Low is good

Useful Links

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/part-3-action-plan.pdf



Commentary

2023 data was published in June 2025. Data for all previous years has also been recalculated. 2024 data is expected to be available in summer 2026.
Total Cambridgeshire GHG emissions have fallen 1.5% in 2023 compared to 2022. This follows a dip in emissions in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, subsequent rebound, and re-continued decline. Emissions are for the first time lower than they were in 2020.

The trends seen in Cambridgeshire are similar to the rest of the UK: continued decreases due to electricity grid decarbonisation, a continued decrease in electricity demand, and an increased share of renewables to meet remaining demand. Emissions from domestic gas use also decreased in 2023, likely due to high energy and other costs reducing gas use for heating domestic buildings.

In Cambridgeshire, transport is the highest emitting sector in the county (27%); most of that is from A roads. Over 70% of transport emissions in Cambridgeshire are in Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire.
The next highest emitting sectors are:
- Land use, land use change (LULUCF) in second place (24%), mostly from peatland, particularly in Fenland and East Cambridgeshire, likely due to large areas of peatland.
- Agriculture is third (17%), mostly from soils, and again is highest in Fenland and East Cambridgeshire.
- The domestic sector is fourth (12%), mostly from gas use for heating.

94% of local authority areas in the UK had decreased emissions in 2023 compared to 2022. East Cambridgeshire was one of 21 local authority areas that had increased emissions in 2023 compared to 2022. This is primarily due to increases in emissions from agricultural soils (e.g. urea application, liming of soils, fertiliser application to soils), as well as smaller increases in public sector emissions and waste emissions.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 004: Waste per Head (12 month rolling average)

Return to Index October 2025

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	413.5	417.2	Improving

RAG Rating

Contextual

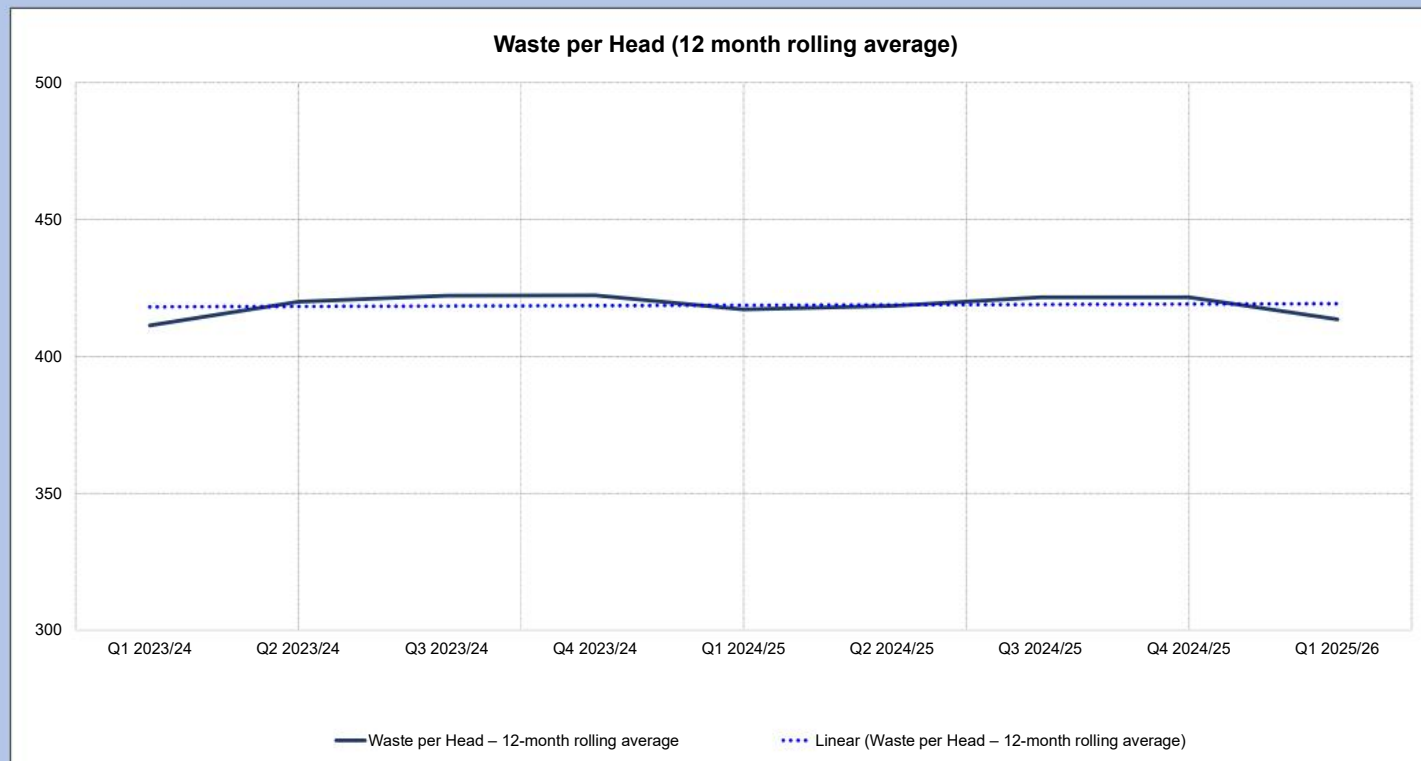
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the amount of household waste generated per person within Cambridgeshire. This is based on a 12 month rolling average. This has significant financial impact on the council.

This indicator is updated a quarter behind the rest of the indicators due to a lag in the availability of data.

Polarity: Low is good

Useful Links



Commentary

During the 12 months ending June 2025, we collected 413.5kg/head of household waste across Cambridgeshire. The recent sharp decrease in this figure is largely due to decreased green waste tonnages, due to the lack of rainfall.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 005: Municipal waste landfilled (12 month rolling average)

Return to Index October 2025

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	42.8%	39.5%	Declining

RAG Rating

Contextual

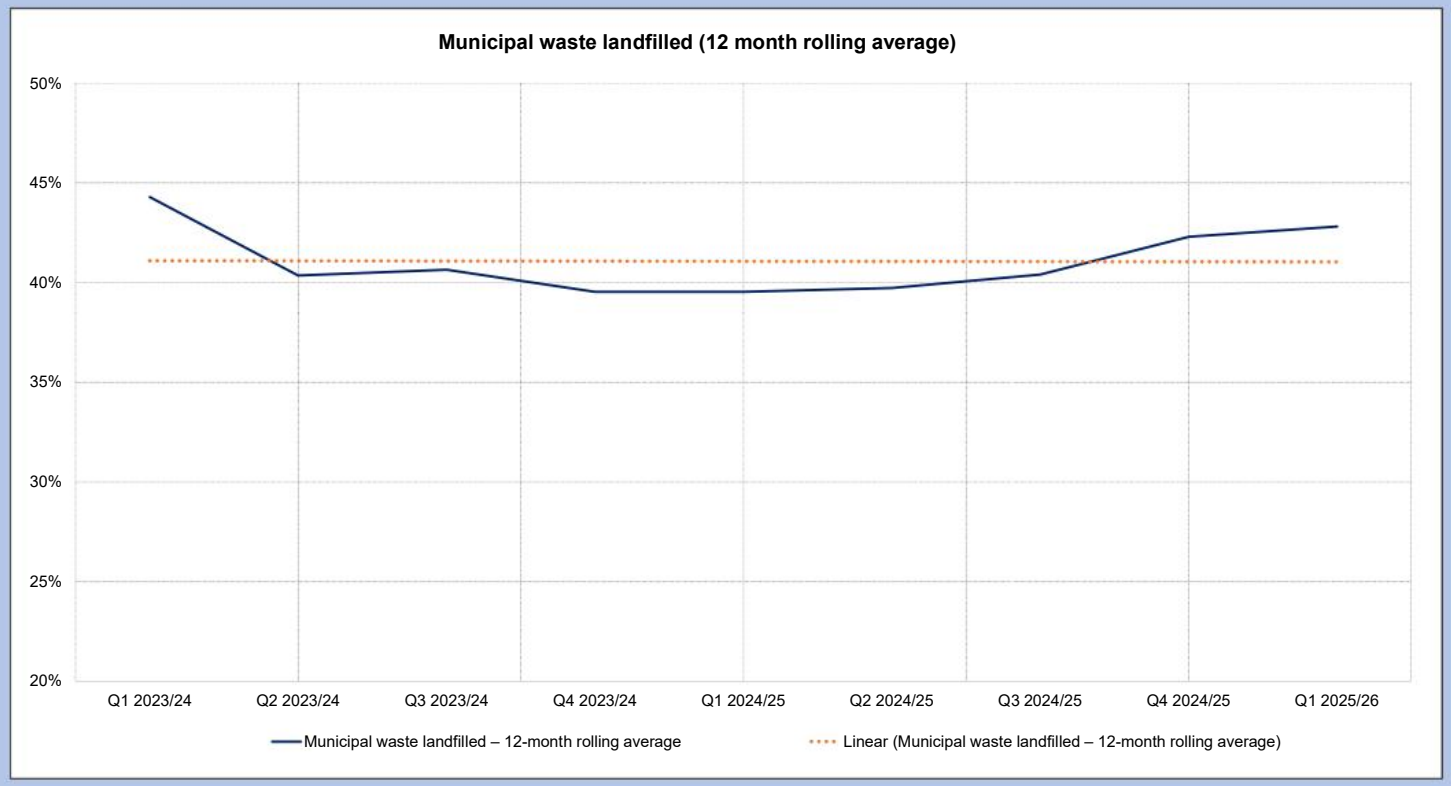
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the proportion of waste sent to landfill, either directly or as an output from the Mechanical Biological Treatment facility (MBT). This is based on a 12 month rolling average. This has significant financial impact on the council.

This indicator is updated a quarter behind the rest of the indicators due to a lag in the availability of data.

Polarity: Low is good

Useful Links



Commentary

During the 12 months ending June 2025, 42.8% of waste was landfilled. From July 2022 onwards, residual waste is no longer being processed by the MBT (and instead being mostly sent directly to landfill, with a small amount sent to EfW), whilst the facility is being redeveloped. New short term EfW contracts have been in place since Jun-25.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 006b: Cambridgeshire recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	73.37%	74.59%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery. This includes all district and city partner's recycling performance as well as the performance of the County Council's Household Recycling Centres. This has significant financial impact on the council.

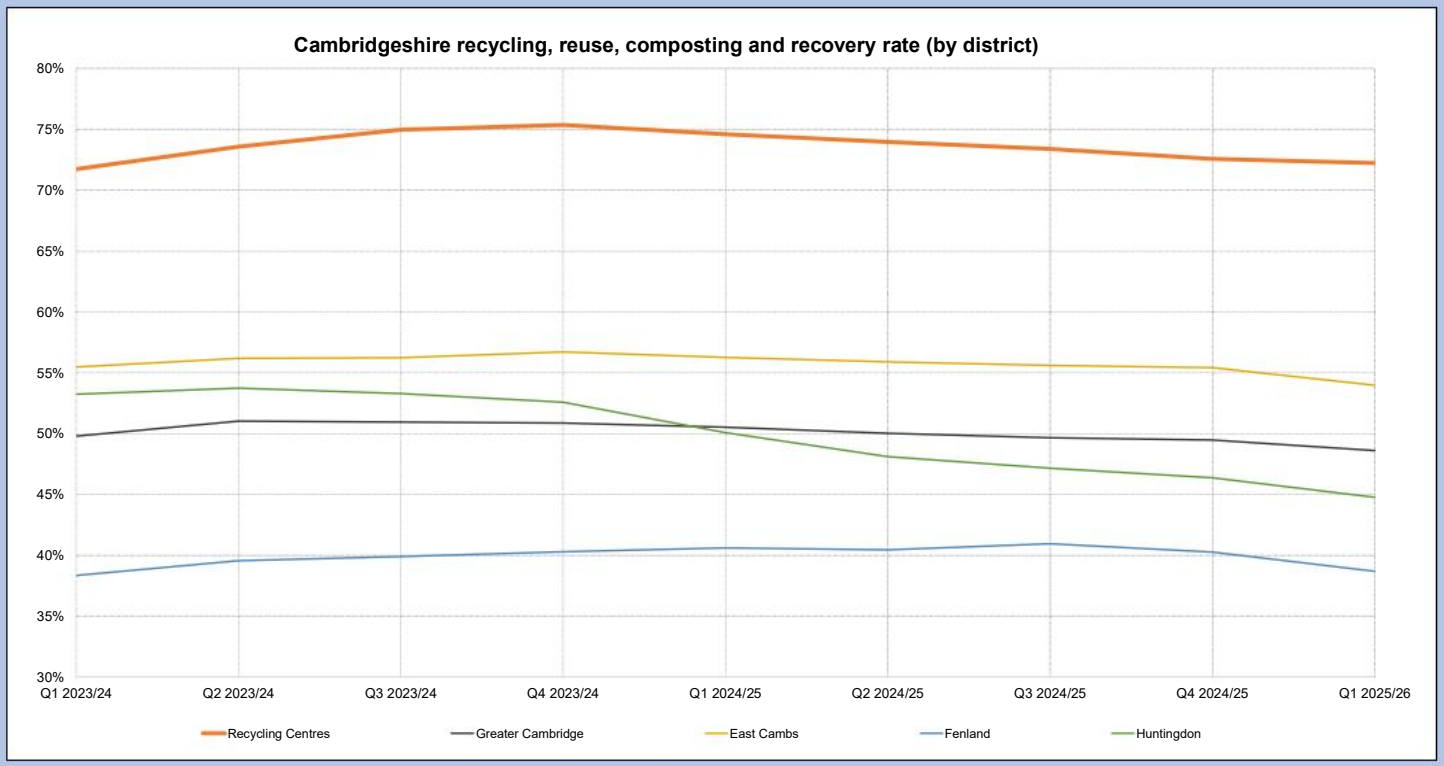
The 'Cambridgeshire' line on this graph is the 12-month rolling average for Cambridgeshire, also shown in Indicator E&GI 006a.

This indicator is updated a quarter behind the rest of the indicators due to a lag in the availability of data.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

Fenland's recycling rate is notably lower than the other districts, as they offer a paid garden waste collection, as opposed to the free garden and food waste collection offered by other districts. This results in them collecting proportionally less garden waste for composting. HDC introduced a similar chargeable garden waste collection in April 2024 and have seen their recycling rate fall since. The recovery rate for HRCs has increased over the last year as soft furnishings that were previously sent to landfill, must now be sent to energy recovery, following guidance issued around Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating (WUDS) containing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

Path to Green

Shared Services Recycling Rate: Cambridgeshire recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

Return to Index

October 2025

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	48.61%	50.51%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

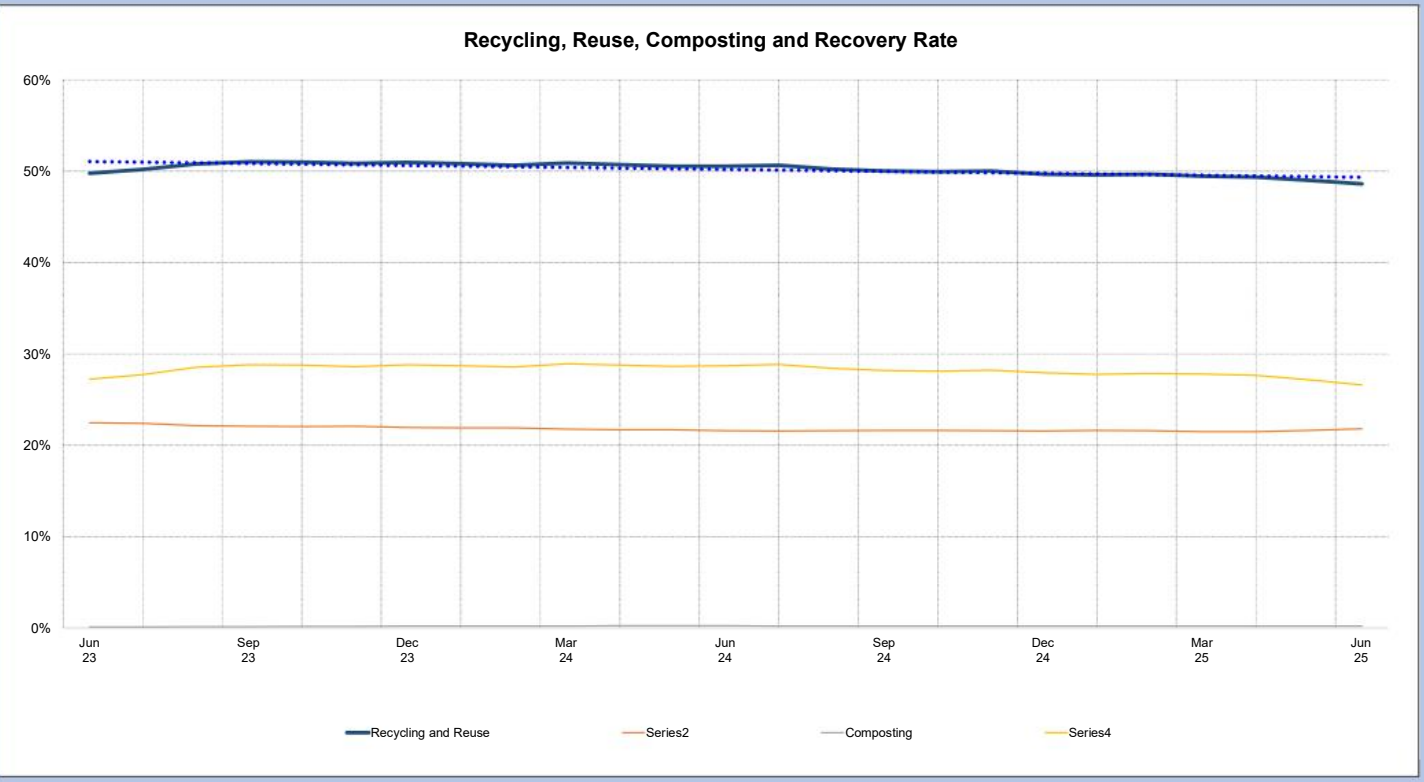
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery for shared services.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

Path to Green

East Cambridgeshire District Council recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

Return to Index October 2025

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	53.97%	56.27%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

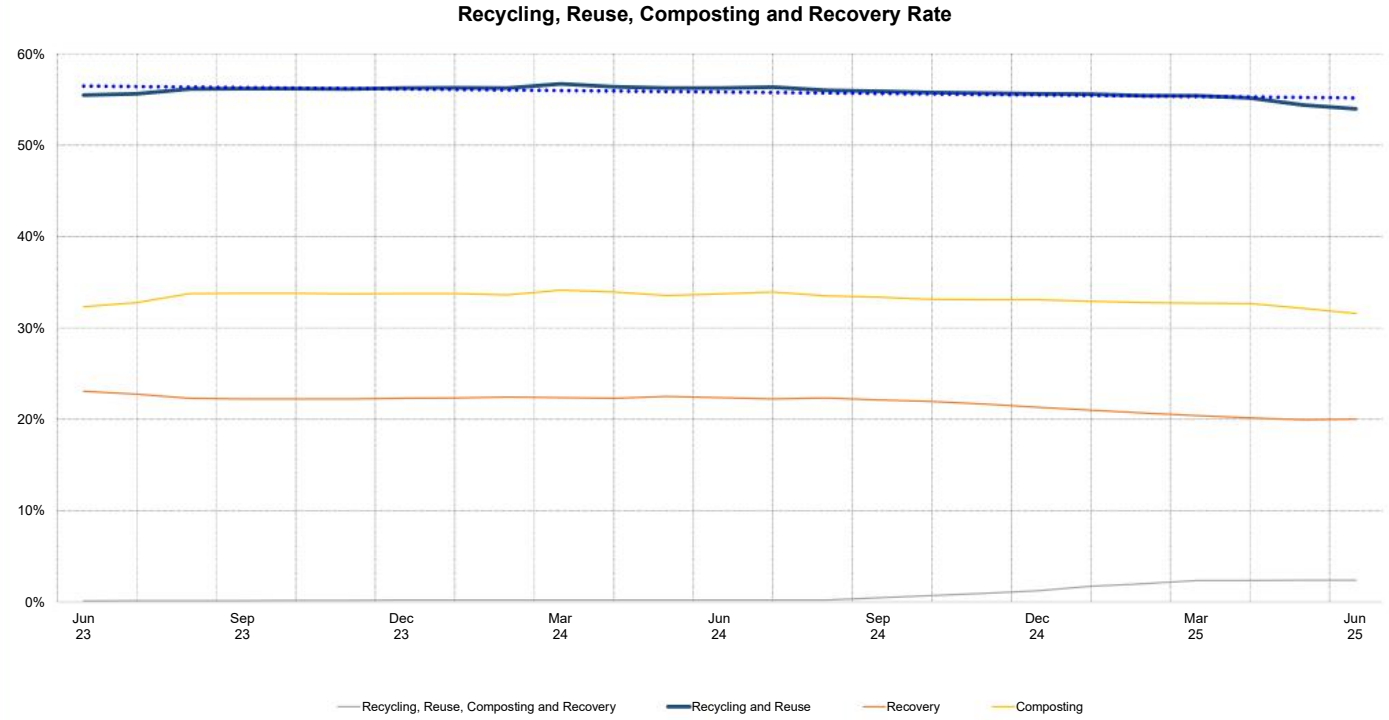
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery for East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

Path to Green

Fenland District Council recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	38.68%	40.62%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

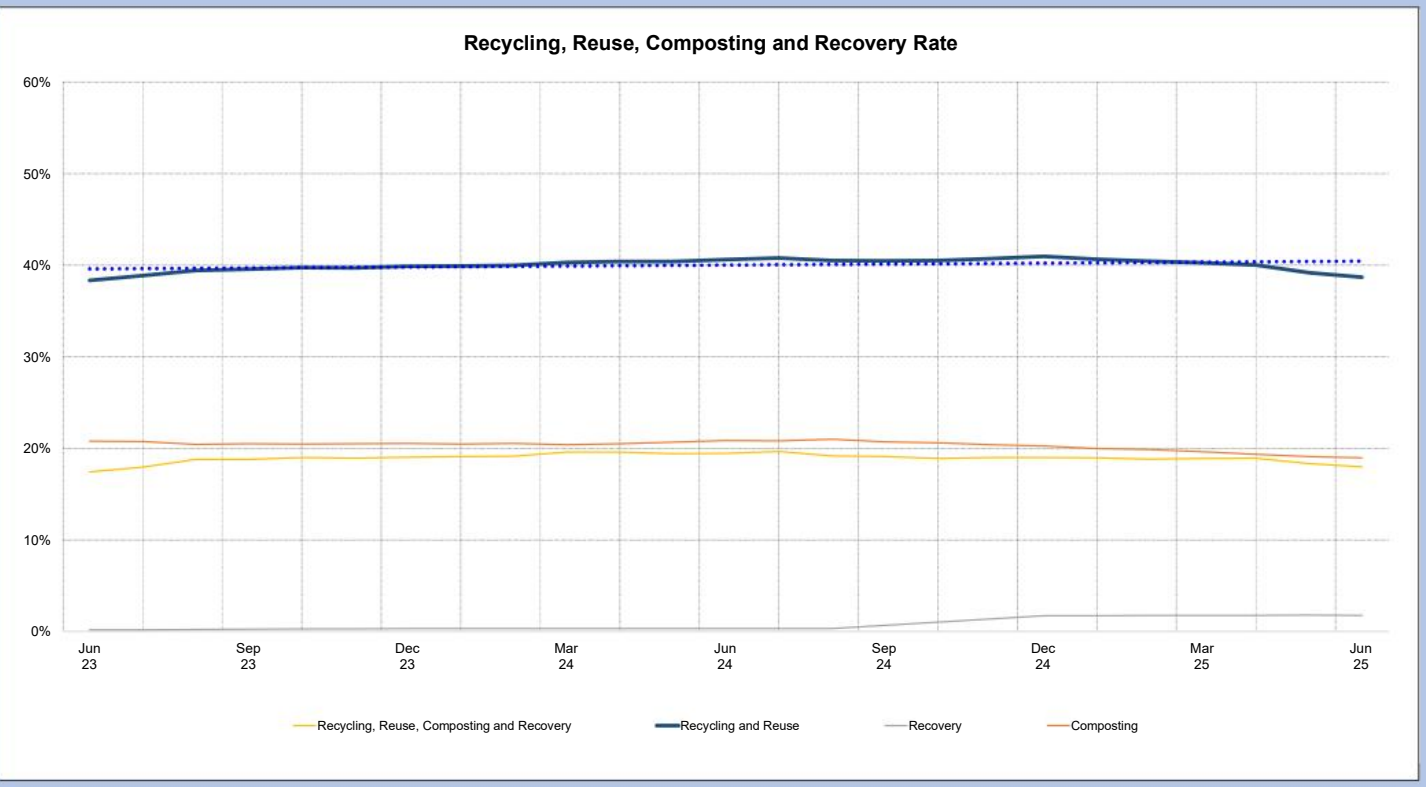
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery for Fenland District Council.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

Path to Green

Huntingdonshire District Council recycling, reuse, composting and recovery rate (12 month rolling total)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Year	Change in Performance
Contextual	↑	44.75%	50.07%	Declining

RAG rating

Contextual

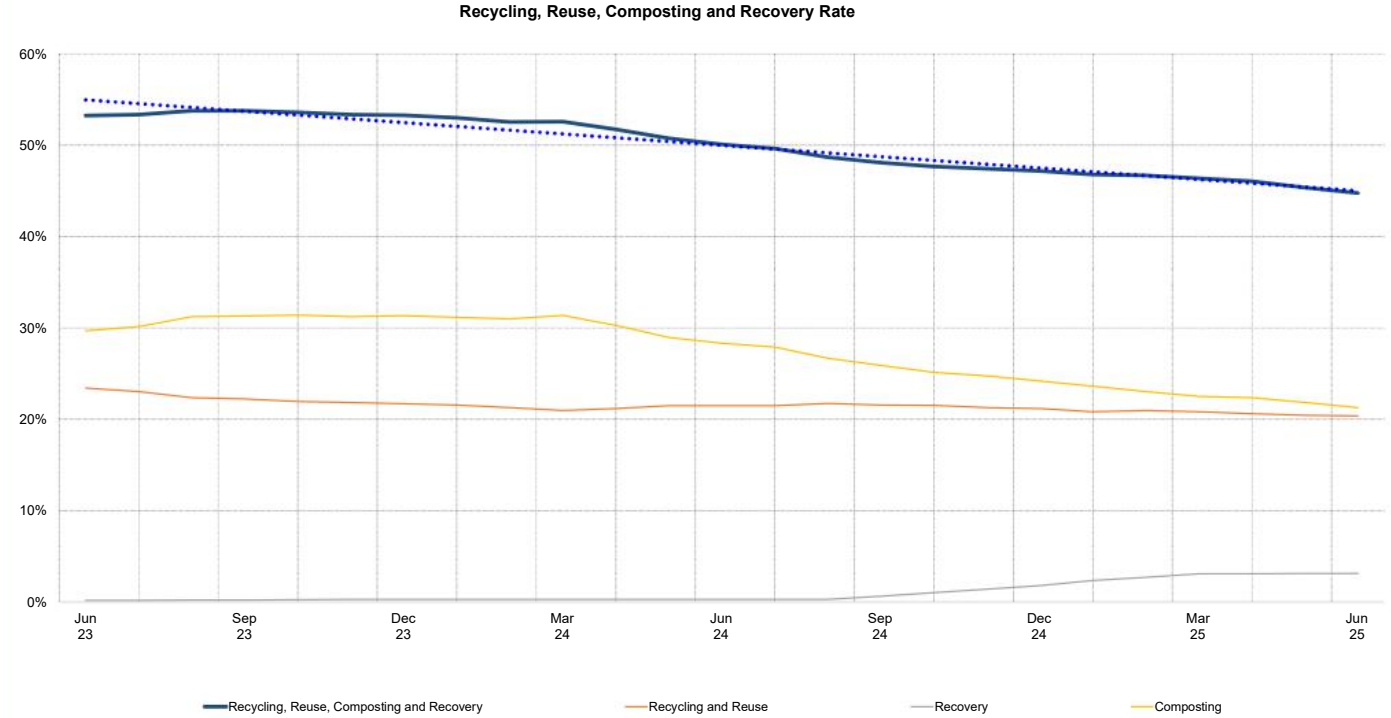
Indicator Description

This indicator shows the combined proportion of household waste that is recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery for Huntingdonshire District Council.

Polarity: High is good

Useful Links

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Waste Statistics



Commentary

There has been a sharp drop in HDC composting rate, following the introduction of their chargeable garden waste collection in April 2024.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 007: Percentage of County Matters Planning Applications determined within required timeframes

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
100.0%	↑	100.0%	100.0%	Unchanged

RAG Rating

Green

Indicator Description

This indicator is an important measure of success when the local authority determines planning applications.

This is shown by the average percentage of decisions on applications made within two years. This is up to and including the most recent financial quarter.

Applications must be made:
a. within the statutory period. Or:
b. within an extended period that has been agreed in writing between the applicant and the local planning authority.

Data for this indicator is collected monthly and reported quarterly.

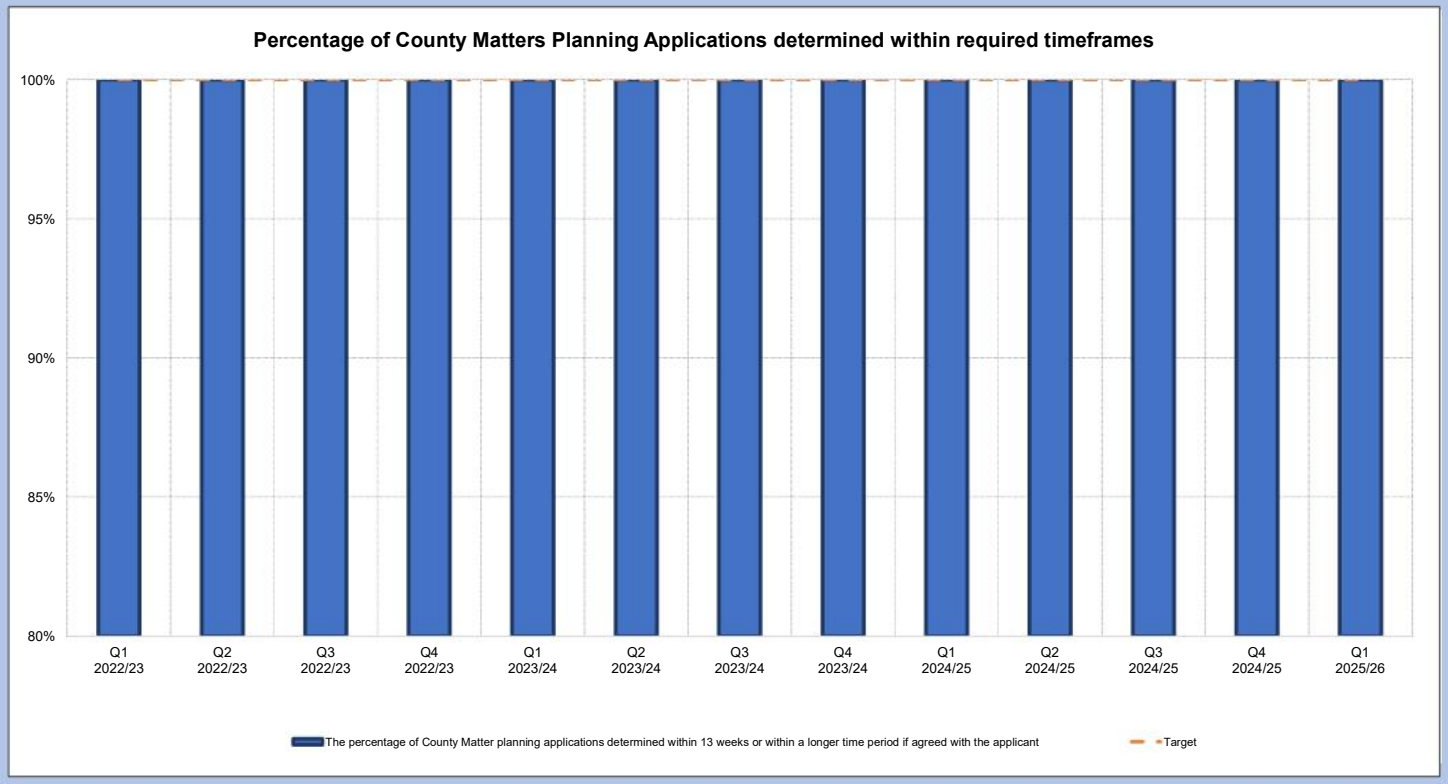
The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities collect data recorded for major development.

If a Local Planning Authority often fails to make a decision on planning applications within the statutory period, without agreeing an extension of time, then the Secretary of State can label the Local Planning Authority as underperforming. If this happens, applicants have the option of submitting their applications to the Planning Inspectorate to make a decision.

If the Local Planning Authority is labelled as underperforming, then they will be expected to prepare an action plan to address areas of weakness that are leading to under performance.

Useful Links

Government publication service document on improving planning performance



Commentary

If a Local Planning Authority often fails to make a decision on planning applications within the statutory period, without agreeing an extension of time, then the Secretary of State can label the Local Planning Authority as underperforming. If this happens, applicants have the option of submitting their applications to the Planning Inspectorate to make a decision.

If the Local Planning Authority is labelled as underperforming, then they will be expected to prepare an action plan to address areas of weakness that are leading to under performance. Therefore, the percentage of applications that are determined within the agreed timescales is a key performance indicator for the County Planning, Minerals and Waste team. Performance remained at 100% through the whole 2024/25 financial year.

Q1 of 2025/26 continues to see performance remaining at 100%.

The County Planning, Minerals and Waste team manage this process through a number of checks and balances including: a formalised procedure for processing planning applications with regular checks against set timescales (e.g. deadline for consultee responses, securing delegated approval or reviewing the Planning Committee schedule); supervision by the Business Manager and Principal Planning Officers; requests for extensions of time (where appropriate) made to agent and full records kept; and, an electronic tracker which highlights upcoming dates for determination using the RAG classification.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 008: The percentage of premises in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with access to Gigabit capable broadband

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
Above 85% by end of 2025	↑	91.87%	91.29%	Improving

England Mean	RAG Rating
88.7%	Green

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the percentage of addresses with access to Gigabit capable broadband across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

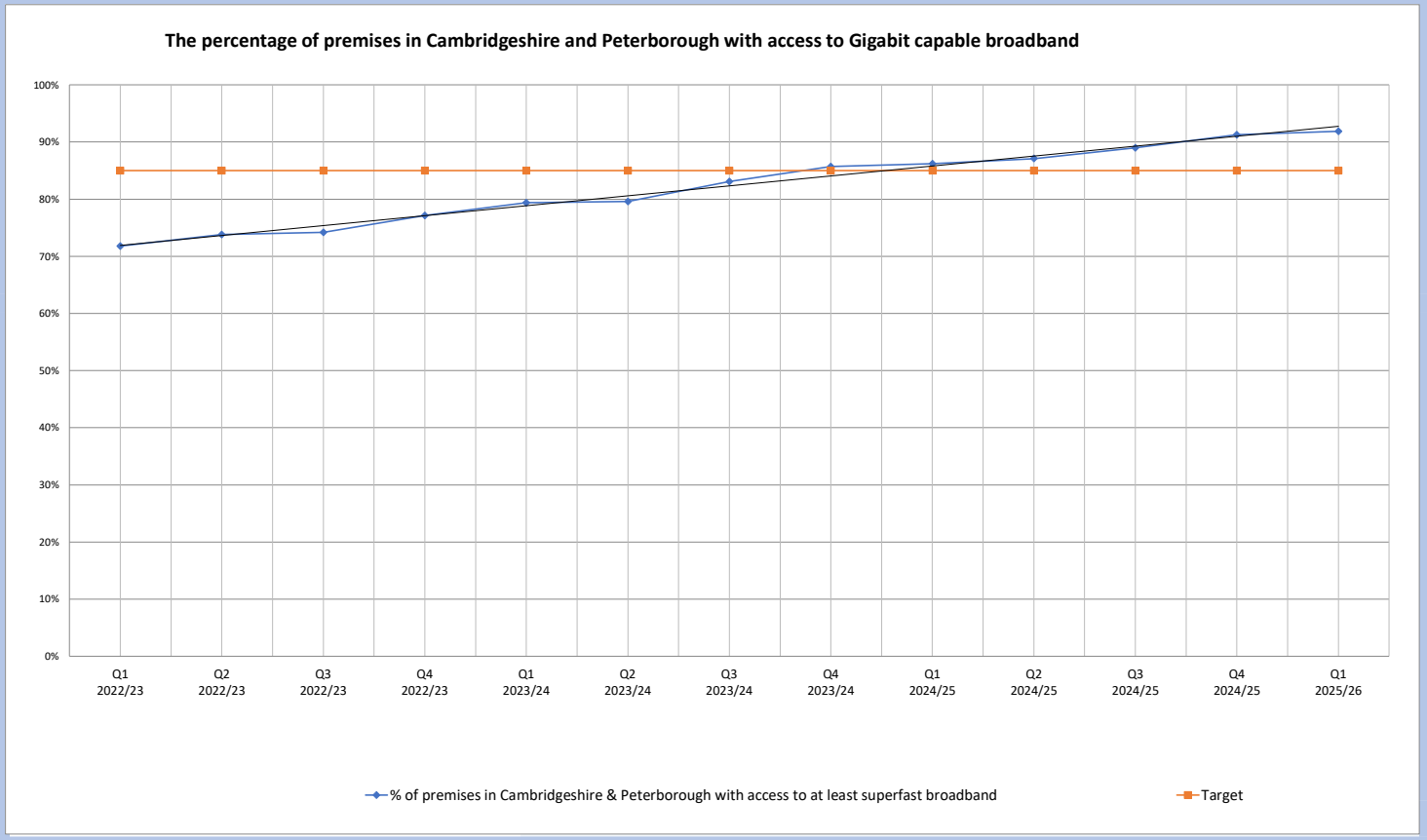
The data has been produced by Think Broadband. This is a nationally recognised source of digital infrastructure statistics.

Source name: Think Broadband Collection name: Local Broadband Information

Polarity: High is good.

Useful Links

https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/cambridgeshire-and-peterborough



Commentary

Gigabit and full fibre broadband coverage continues to rise due to a combination of commercial rollout and Project Gigabit delivery, both supported by the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme. The pace of commercial delivery is slowing down due to a combination of factors, including the Project Gigabit rollout, reduced investment in fibre suppliers nationally and the continued suspension of government voucher schemes in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
The performance breakdown between rural and urban coverage within Cambridgeshire is as follows (using the DEFRA definition of Urban >10,000 premises):
Urban = 96%
Rural = 86%
In 2021 the split percentages were:
Urban = 71%
Rural = 32%
The gap between urban and rural coverage is narrowing and the service continues to liaise with government and suppliers to address the rural coverage gaps as well as the urban coverage gaps.

Path to Green

Indicator E&GI 009: Percentage of Planning Inspectorate and Developer deadlines met (Consents)

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Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
100%	↑	100%	N/A	N/A

RAG Rating

Green

Indicator Description

Consents in this instance refers to the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and Transport and Works Act Orders (TWAOs) which directly affect Cambridgeshire. This indicator shows the percentage of Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and developer deadlines which have been met by the Consents Team.

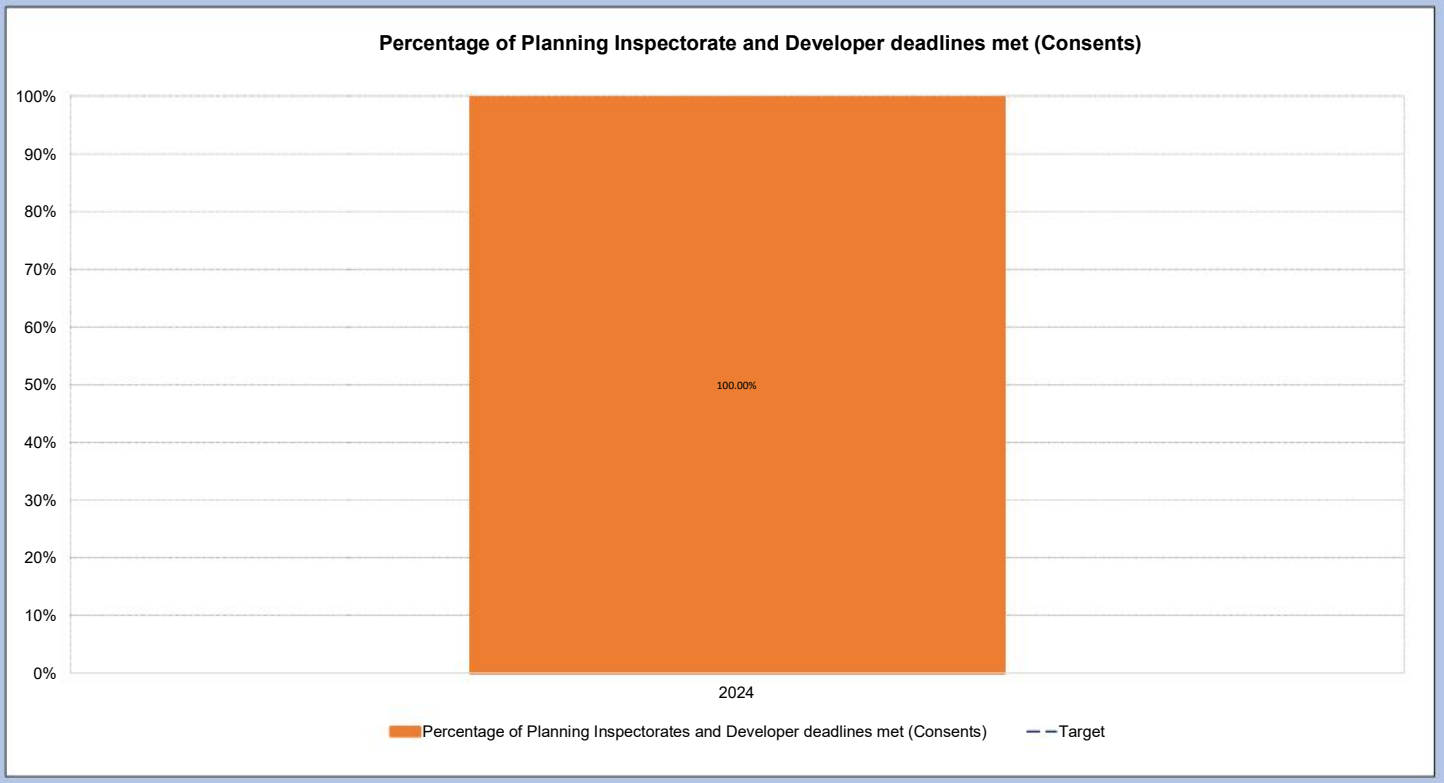
Responding to PINS and developers and the deadlines they set throughout the NSIP and TWAO processes is an essential role which the Council plays as part of these processes.

Data for this indicator is recorded and provided annually by the Planning and Growth Manager, or the Consents Coordinator. The number of deadlines in any given year will vary and cannot always be forecast, however the Council should always be aiming to meet 100% of these deadlines.

Deadlines in this instance refers to significant public deadlines set by PINS or developers as part of the NSIP or TWAO processes, including, but not limited to, responding to statutory and non-statutory consultations, discharging requirements, Examination and Inquiry deadlines, and Environmental Impact Assessment deadlines.

Useful Links

The PINS NSIP webpage provides a public record of the submissions the Council makes on the NSIPs in Cambridgeshire - https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/
The Council's own NSIP webpages - https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/planning-policy/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-nsips
TWAO webpages - https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/planning-policy/transport-and-works-act-orders



Commentary

For 2025, April to June, the following deadlines were met:
Medworth Combined Heat and Power Energy from Waste Facility (Wisbech Incinerator) - ongoing discharge of requirements work.
Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation Project - ongoing discharge of requirements work.
Eastern Green Links 3 and 4 - reviewed Statement of Community Consultation. Responded to Statutory Consultation.
Grimsby to Walpole - Statutory Consultation is live (closes in August), response will be collated.

Path to Green