

Cool Wirral Progress Report 2023

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Introduction

The Cool Wirral Partnership co-ordinates local action on climate change. This report provides an update on local progress against Wirral's 2041 net carbon neutral target and covers activity from 2023.

The report looks at the changing climate on an international and national scale, and then looking at our local response.

Background

There is a general consensus that human activities e.g., fossil fuel combustion and land use change, are causing the rapid global warming we are experiencing. From these drivers, we can see the changes to our climate system such as more extreme weather, warming oceans and rising sea levels etc. The impacts of climate change are felt across the globe.

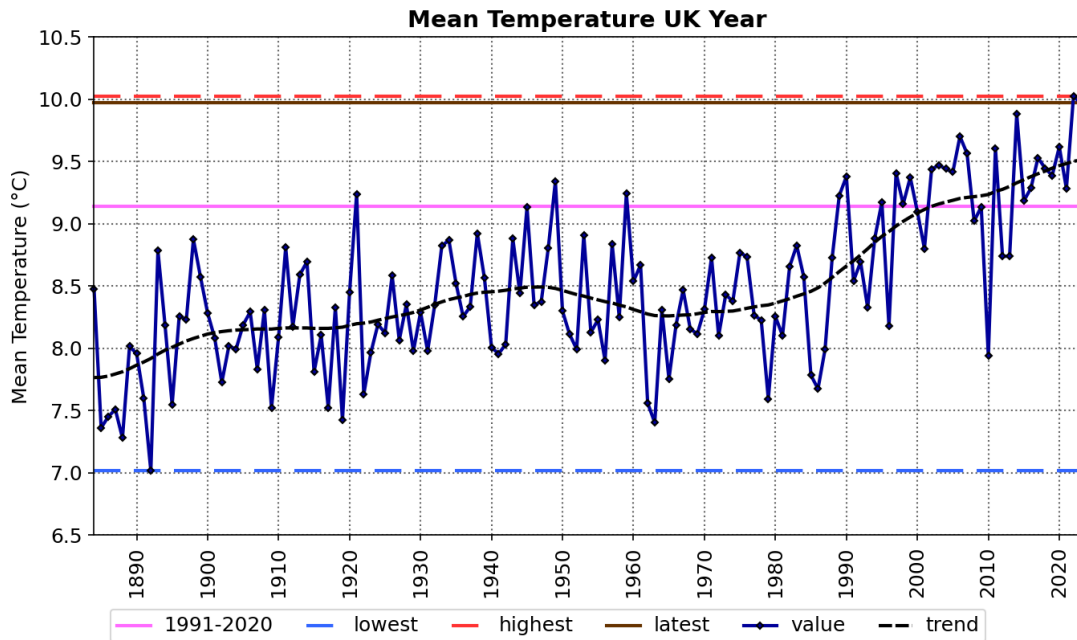
The latest [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) reports show that we need an urgent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, if we are to avoid the most extreme climate change impacts. The climate crisis is not an independent issue, it has direct and indirect impact on many areas of life such as economic development and healthcare.

The international and national picture

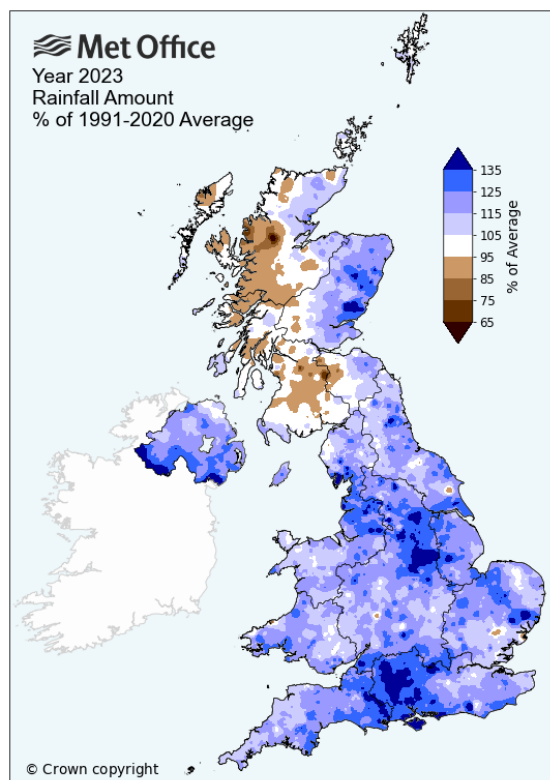
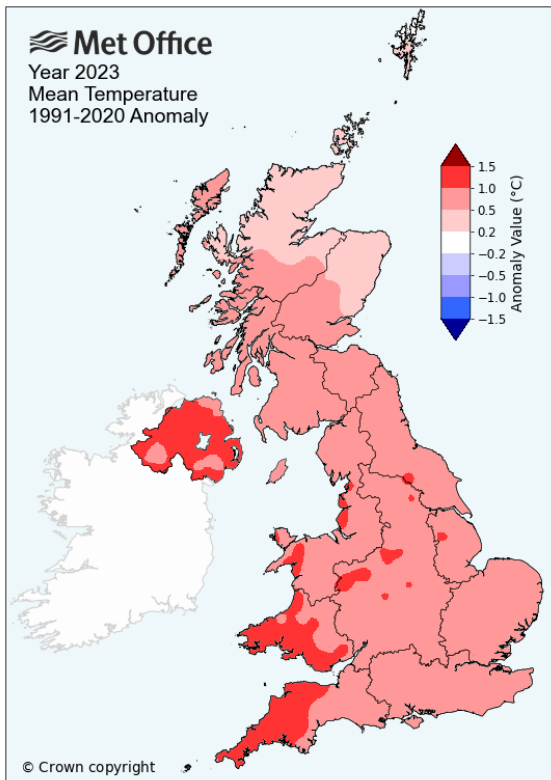
In November 2015, [196 countries signed the United Nation's Paris Agreement](#) – a legally binding international treaty to keep the average global temperature rise to well below 2°C, above pre-industrial levels, and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.

Globally, we have experienced 1.2°C of temperature rise since pre-industrial times. The IPCC released their final instalment of their Sixth Assessment Report in March 2023. The report provides a detailed assessment of climate change, looking at the current rate of warming, impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability to climate change. Analysing current commitments from governments, we are on a trajectory that will see a 2.5°C increase by the end of the century. Emissions need to peak before 2025 and be reduced by 43% by 2030 if we are to keep within the 1.5°C threshold ([source](#)).

In an attribution study looking at the UK mean temperature in 2023, Met Office scientists found that in a climate unaffected by humans, a yearly mean temperature of 9.97 degrees Celsius in the UK would have been around a 1-in-500-year event. In the current climate, it is around a 1-in-3 year event ([source](#)).



The above graph looks at the yearly mean temperature in the UK since 1890. The mean temperature has continued to rise over time.



Globally, 2023 was the warmest year on record and for the UK, it was provisionally the second warmest year on record ([source](#)). June was the hottest June on record for the UK and the joint-hottest September. Wales and Northern Ireland had their warmest year on record. The ten warmest years in the UK have all occurred since 2003. 2023 provisional mean temperature is 9.97 degrees Celsius (2022 was 10.03). Eight months of the year were warmer than average for the UK.

In the UK, we experienced 11% more rain than average. Northern Ireland had its third wettest year on record. Some parts of the UK recorded a third more rainfall than normal. This is something we can expect to continue as a warmer atmosphere has a greater capacity to hold moisture.

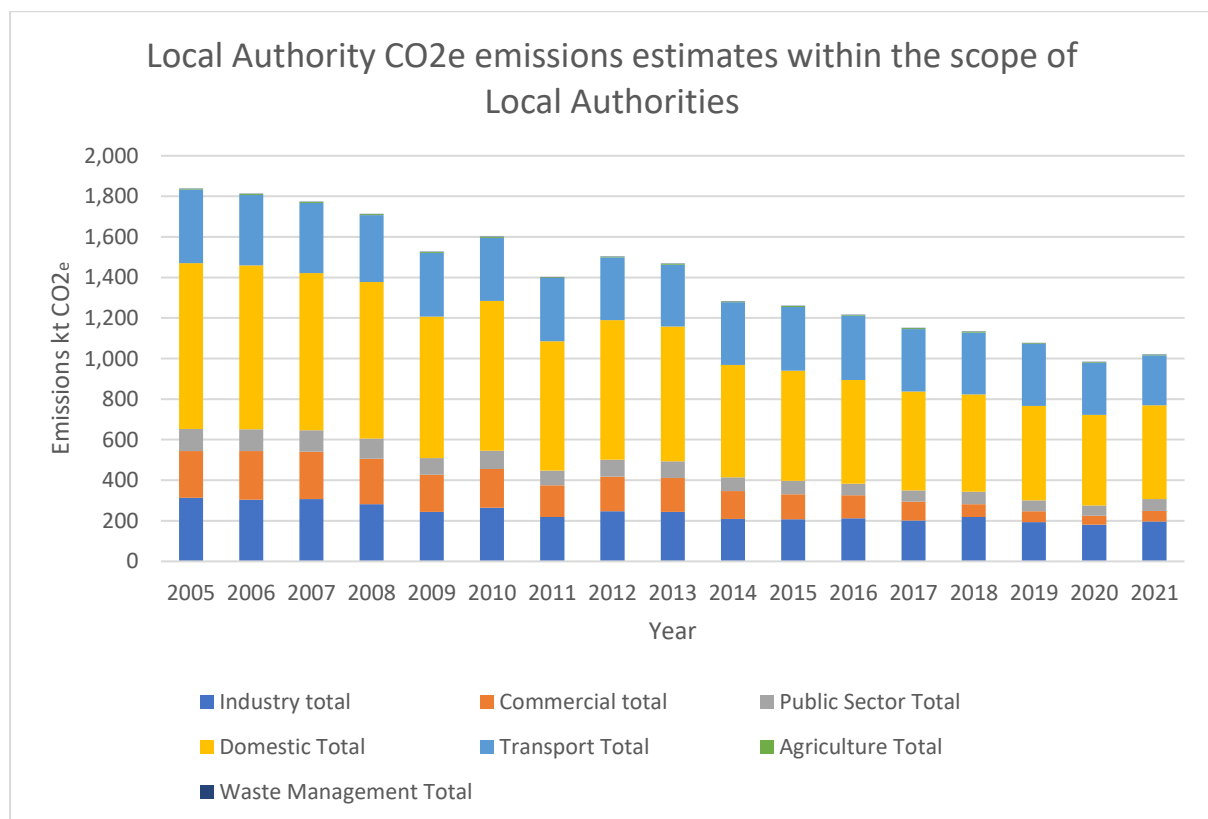
The local response

Wirral has a target to be net carbon neutral by 2041 and the target was agreed by the Cool Wirral Partnership, which is made up of Wirral-based organisations such as businesses, emergency services, community groups and the faith sector.

The Cool 2 strategy was launched in 2019 and sets out the direction of travel for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reaching our 2041 target.

Positive climate action requires collaboration and contribution from organisations within and out of the Cool Wirral Partnership. The Cool 2 strategy will be reviewed in late 2024.

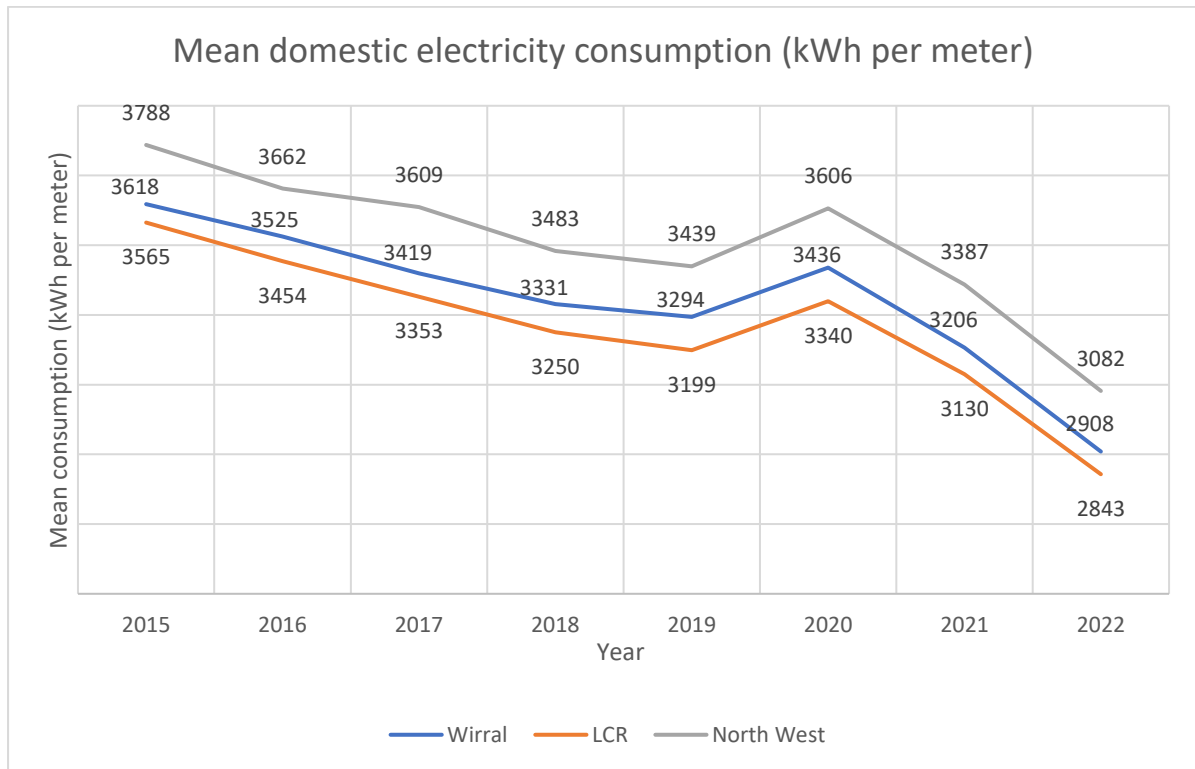
Net Zero Wirral



This graph shows the estimated CO₂e emissions across Wirral from 2005 to 2021 (when the latest data is available for). The data shows that there has been an increase in emissions since 2020, this is likely due to the easing of restrictions from the covid-19 pandemic. Although there was an increase in emissions, the general trend shows a gradual reduction in emissions since 2005.

Leaner use of energy: reducing demand for energy

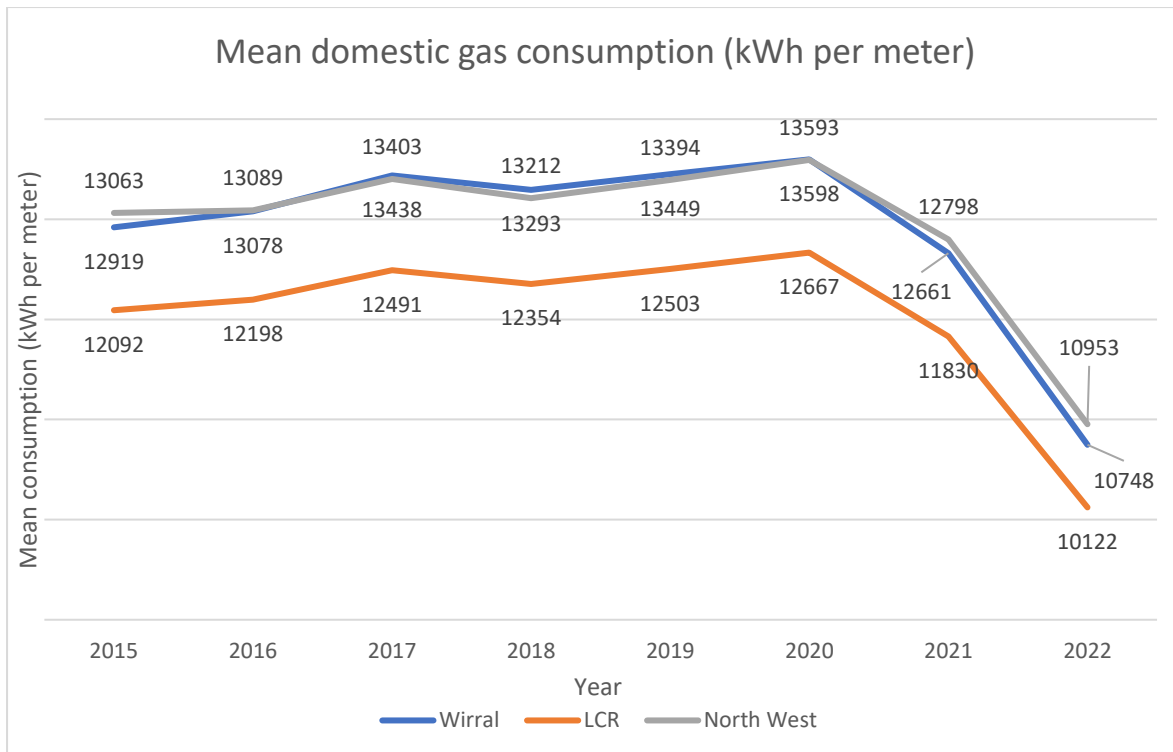
Local energy consumption



This graph looks at mean domestic electricity consumption in the UK and shows a decline in consumption since 2022. Data source: [Subnational electricity consumption](#)
In 2022, the demand for electricity and gas decreased.

This was primarily driven by higher average temperatures and increasing prices. Whilst overall electricity demand fell by 3.8%, generation increased as the UK became a net exporter of electricity for the first time in over 40 years, due to higher demand across Europe.

The domestic consumption of electricity fell by 10%, compared to 2021. This was due to the rising prices and higher than average temperatures which reduced overall demand. Domestic users continue to account for the largest share of total electricity demand.



This graph looks at mean domestic gas consumption in the UK and shows a decline in consumption since 2022. Data source: [Subnational gas consumption](#)

UK gas demand also decreased by 7.9% in 2022 compared with 2021. This is for similar reasons of higher-than-average temperatures and rising prices. Domestic consumption saw the most significant drop of 18% in 2022 compared with 2021². In the UK, natural gas made up 38% of total energy demand in 2022. Although demand in the UK decreased, due to global conflict, UK exports of gas tripled in 2022.

The Wirral Residential Retrofitting Task & Finish Group was formed to take forward recommendations from the Cool Wirral Partnership's Zero Carbon Buildings Taskforce. The group met three times in 2023 and there were representatives from Energy Projects Plus, Wirral Private Landlords Forum, Port Sunlight Trust, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Magenta Living and Wirral Council. Three targets were set out:

1. A comprehensive cross-sector public engagement and awareness raising campaign in the residential sector.
2. Financing mechanisms identified for private owner occupiers, tenants and landlords.
3. Wirral-based case studies written and published on exemplar and pilot projects.

An action plan has been developed to progress with the targets set.

Local Authority	Households with at least one usual resident	Total ECO measures installed	ECO measures per 1,000 households
Halton	55,252	10,401	188.2
Knowsley	62,874	16,259	258.6
Liverpool	219,214	51,587	235.3
Sefton	120,341	32,194	267.5
St. Helens	79,040	13,891	173.9
Wirral	143,281	36,891	257.5

This table shows statistics on the Energy Company Obligation measures, up to the end of December 2023.

ECO (Energy Company Obligation) is a government energy efficiency scheme to help tackle fuel poverty and help reduce carbon emissions. The scheme supports energy efficiency measures in homes of those considered to be in fuel poverty. Under a Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation, medium and large energy suppliers are required to promote measures that can support low-income and vulnerable households to heat their homes. Actions can include insulation work and replacing or repairing boilers, or other heating upgrades. Wirral has received the third highest number of ECO measure installs per 10,000 households.

The [Local Authority Delivery programme 3 \(LAD3\)](#) ran from 2022 to 2023 and was available to households on a low income, living in properties with a low energy efficiency rating and living in properties heated by gas central heating

The [Home Upgrade Grant programme 1 \(HUG1\)](#) also ran from 2022 to 2023 and was available to households on a low income and in low energy efficiency rating properties but were not heated by gas central heating. Across the two programmes, 559 households were supported and a total of 901 measures implemented e.g., double glazing and underfloor insulation. The most common measures were solar photovoltaics (PV) (390 households), and loft insulation (251 households).

EPC rating	Number of dwellings
A	196
B	9474
C	40,573
D	60,416
E	25,988
F	5379
G	1820

Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) ratings: [Energy Performance of Buildings Data England and Wales \(opendatacommunities.org\)](#)

The table above shows the EPC rating of dwellings in Wirral. 35% of dwellings in Wirral have an EPC rating of C or above. Data source shows 88% have the potential to have a A-C rating.

Clean energy: meeting local energy needs from zero carbon and renewable sources

Wirral Council is awaiting a decision from Government regarding the Green Heat Network Fund grant application for the Birkenhead Project. A decision is expected in June 2024. If this application is successful then tenders for commercialisation will be issued around October/November 2024. The Council is also exploring the feasibility of a heat network project in Wallasey/Seacombe. A consultant was appointed in March 2024 to undertake this work and the outcome of the study will be known around October/November 2024.

Peel Energy submitted a planning application for the installation of a District Heat Network as part of the Wirral Waters regeneration. The heat network would bring forward essential infrastructure for a low carbon heat source at forthcoming developments, including Vittoria Studios, West Float and the wider regeneration of the area.

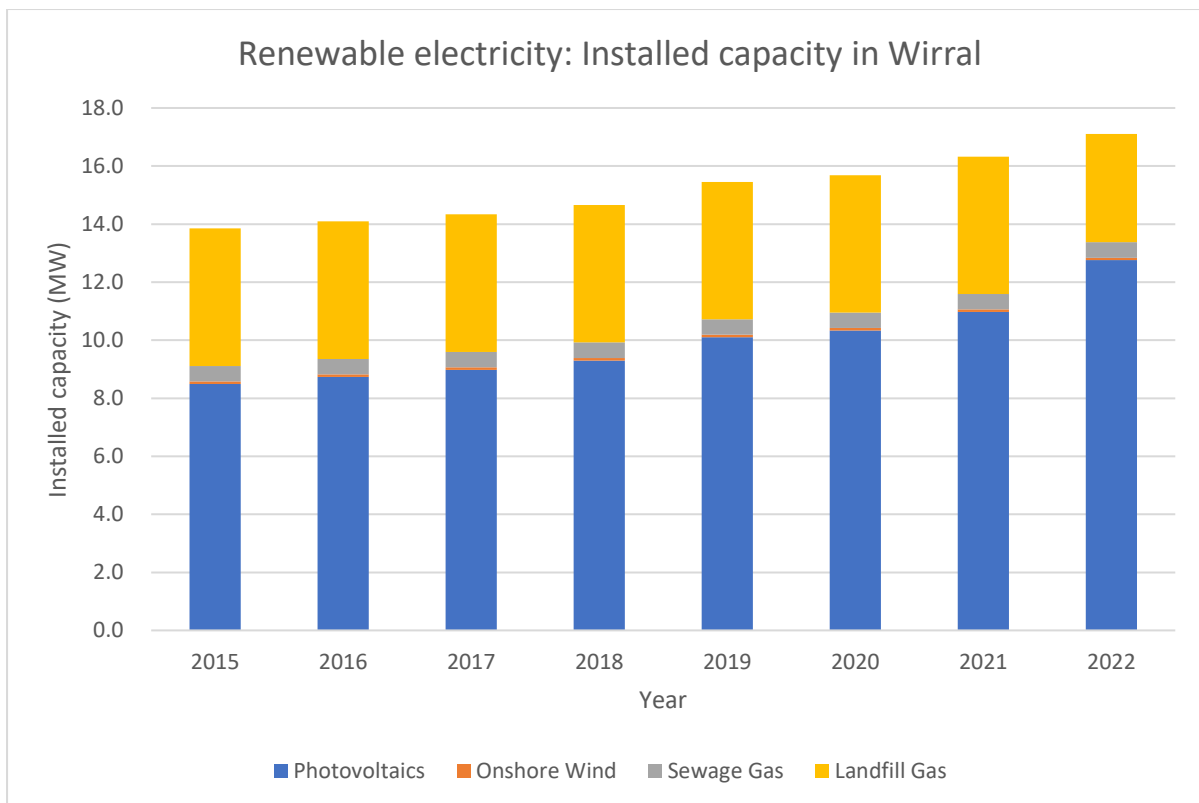
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority launched a second round of the Solar Together scheme, a group-buying scheme for solar panels to help residents and small businesses cut energy bills and carbon emissions. The first round of the scheme saw 585 homes fitted with solar panels across the city region. The scheme was open until November 2023 and all installations will be completed by June 2024. In Wirral, 102 households have registered and financially committed to the process. Wirral Council approved plans for the Maritime Knowledge Hub. The hub will be a high-level industrial and maritime facility, focused on innovation, engineering, research & development, entrepreneurship, and training. Research and innovation will have a particular focus on the decarbonisation of the maritime industry and technology transfer from other industries.

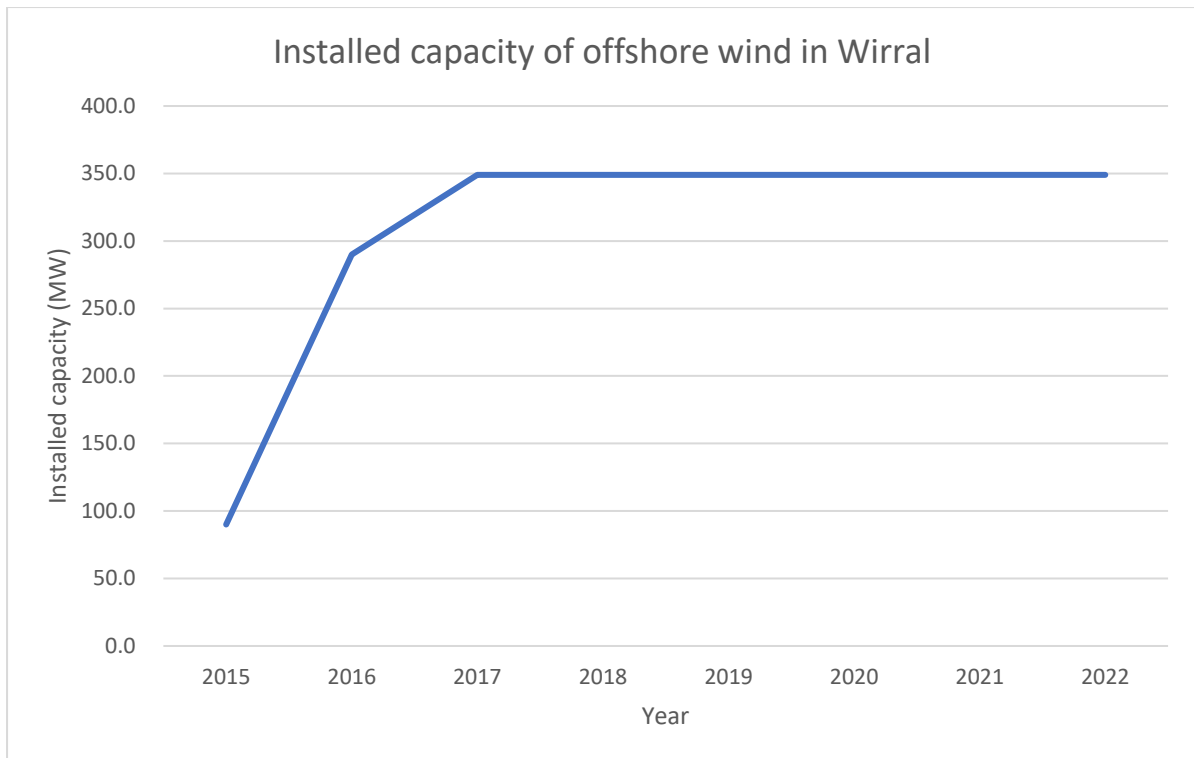
In 2022, Magenta Living secured £1.6 million from Wave 1 of the Government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF). In March 2023, they secured a further £1.8 million from Wave 2 of the programme. 98 homes were retrofitted in Wave 1, in Wave 2, a further 161 homes will see energy efficiency measures installed such as external wall insulation and loft insulation.

Hydrogen is likely to be a large minority of our future energy system acting as a feedstock, fuel or store of energy. UK Gov forecast it to increase from 20% to 35% of final energy demand by 2050. There is a significant amount of existing hydrogen demand, and this is increasing, particularly since the announcement of [Hynet](#), which will enable the decarbonisation of industries such as cement, glass, chemicals and energy from waste. Progress has been made on the LCR Green hydrogen vision to forecast demand for the LCR in 2030 and identify clusters of demand from various sectors and identify locations for strategic hydrogen hubs. The green hydrogen vision will also identify skills, new job roles and attract investment into the region. The Net Zero North West Cluster Plan was published in January 2023 and hydrogen is central in the North West's industrial decarbonisation strategy.

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) are exploring the potential for a Tidal range energy scheme. The concept considered schemes from 600MW to 3,600 MW. Although the exact location hasn't yet been selected, the tidal barrage is planned to provide an active travel route from Wirral to Liverpool. LCRCA now have consent to proceed with a development consent order. This will be a major project with a 120-year operating life and a first of a kind renewable project in the UK providing reliable and predictable domestic renewable generation near to our urban and industrial demand.

Over the last three years, the authority has undertaken early technical work to develop the potential scope of the scheme, which would have a large role in the region's 2040 zero carbon target. The Combined Authority (CA) will carry out a period of engagement, regionally and nationally, with stakeholders. Once the scoping opinion is received, the will hold formal consultations across communities and stakeholder groups.





The above graphs show the installed capacity of renewable energy in Wirral from 2015 to 2022. The renewable energy capacity in Wirral has gradually increased since 2015, with most of the growth in photovoltaics.

The growth of offshore wind has remained stable since 2017. In order to reach our carbon targets, we need to see an acceleration in renewable energy which will require investment and infrastructure that can support the growth needed.

Schemes such as the Solar Together project can support the domestic use of renewable energy in Wirral.

Clean travel: transitioning to fossil fuel free local travel

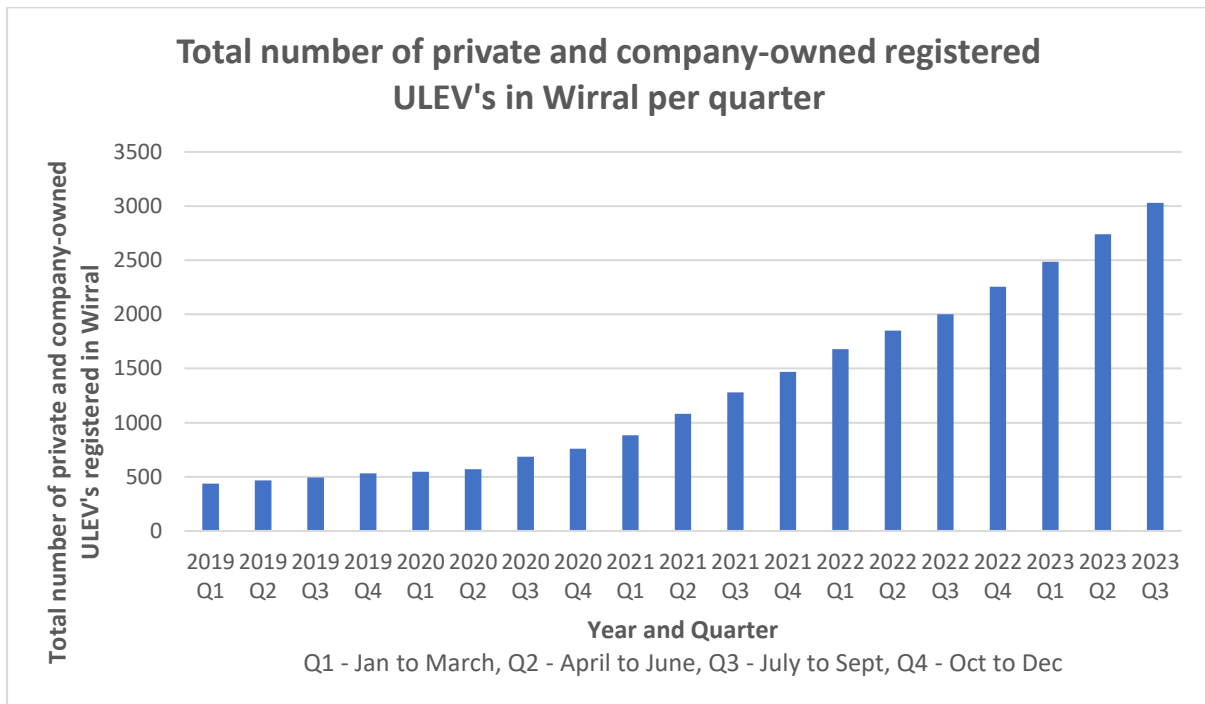
In July 2023, the rollout of Merseryrail's new electric battery-powered trains started on the Wirral lines. The new trains replaced the near 40-year-old fleet that ran on the network. As well as being battery operated, they can also accommodate 50% more passengers and are more accessible.

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) received £9,400,000 from the Zero Emissions Bus Regional Areas programme. Alongside match funding from the LCRCA, the project will bring 58 electric buses to the region. These buses will be on the Knowsley to Liverpool routes. There are broader plans for further electrification across the city region, including Wirral, over the next 5 years.

The Wirral Waters Greenway opened; it is a sustainable travel corridor, comprising of a walkway and an off-road cycle route. It is separated from the road by a landscaped corridor of native tree species and a wildflower meadow. The greenway is part of Peel L&P's Wirral Waters Active Travel Action Plan and connects to the Wirral Waters Bidston site and recycling centre.

Wirral council is currently developing an EV Strategy which is aiming to be taken to through governance in Sept 24. The city region has been awarded £9.6m in LEVI funding to help support the roll out of charge points focused on residential areas with no off-street parking.

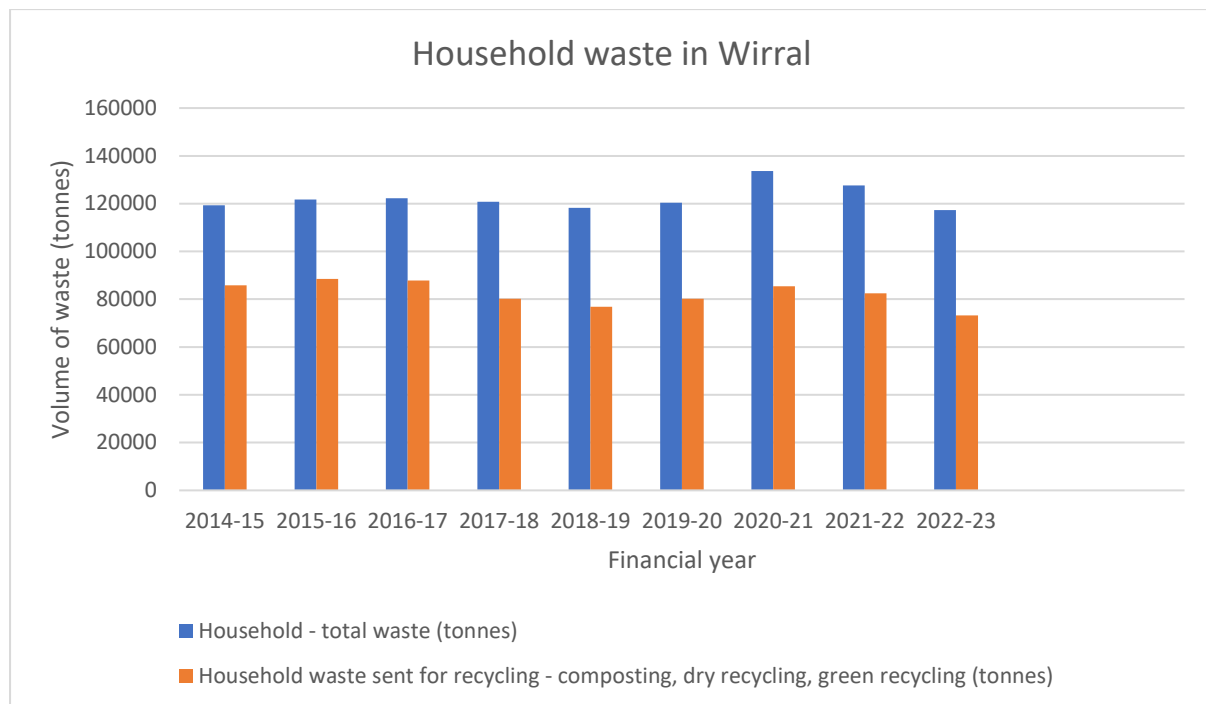
In February 2023, the Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust hosted two Dr Bike sessions for staff, providing free bike maintenance. One was held at Arrowe Park Hospital by Energise Cycles, and another at Clatterbridge Hospital, ran by Just Riding Along.



Data source: [Vehicle licensing statistics](#)

The number of private and company owned registered ULEV's has consistently risen since 2019.

Wiser decisions: using resources, materials, land and food in a sustainable way



The table above shows the total household waste in Wirral and the household waste that is sent for recycling (composting, dry recycling or green recycling). The level of waste generated is returning to pre-pandemic levels and the tonnes of waste being recycled is gradually declining. In 2023, the UK government announced that weekly food waste collections will be introduced for most households across England by 2026. Proposals also look to reform the materials that are collected and the number of bins households use. By having dry recyclables together and having food waste collections, it would be expected that volume of waste recycled would increase.

Nitrous Oxide is a gas commonly used as an anaesthetic and analgesic agent that has an environmental impact 300 times that of Carbon Dioxide. In April this year, Clatterbridge hospital switched off a Nitrous Oxide Manifold which will reduce the amount of Nitrous Oxide that is wasted, it is estimated to reduce their carbon footprint by 100 tonnes CO₂e per year.

Storing more carbon

The iTree-Eco assessment was carried out in partnership with Forest Research as part of our Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy. The report provides a detailed description of the structure, composition, and condition of Wirral's trees, and demonstrates the importance of the tree population to local people.

Wirral Council aims to plant 210,000 trees by 2030 and double Wirral's tree canopy by the time the trees are fully grown. Since 2020, 85,280 trees have been planted. In the 2023/4 planting season, 1,023 trees were given to residents and 460 metres of new hedgerow was planted. 31 different tree events were held in the community with schools and 190 volunteers attended a community planting. An additional 110 parkland trees and 101 street trees were planted.

A 'no mow' campaign was introduced at Clatterbridge hospital site in certain areas to support biodiversity and there are now Wild Bee Orchids growing on site.



Climate Resilient

Climate risk and adaptation

Climate adaptation is critically important as we are currently on track to see a 2.5 degree temperature increase by the end of the century, based on current global efforts to reduce CO₂ emissions. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) published its first Health Effects of Climate Change in December 2023, that looked at the latest evidence of how our changing climate is already impacting the nation's health. The report also looks at future scenarios of not meeting climate targets and the impact this will have. There is substantial evidence of the health impacts of climate change, for example, we know there are clear links to air pollution and respiratory conditions and how exposure can also exacerbate pre-existing conditions such as asthma. A warmer climate also increases the risk as infectious diseases and the increase in the number of invasive species that can transmit diseases.

The effects of global warming are likely to be magnified in urban areas as they are areas of dense concentrations of pavement, buildings and other surfaces that absorb and retain more heat compared to natural land. Coastal cities also have the additional threat of sea level rise and flooding from storm and tidal surges.

Pathways2Resilience is a 5-year project contributing towards the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change, by supporting 150 UK/EU cities and regions to become climate resilient by 2030. Councils within the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority have met to discuss the funding and potential bid.

The Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust have a 2022 – 2025 Green Plan. As part of the plan, a sustainability action group meets throughout the year. As part of the plan, they have identified a need to create a climate change adaptation action plan.

Climate adaptation is important to consider, alongside mitigation, in order to protect ourselves from the impacts of a changing climate. Cool Wirral's Adaptation and resilience subgroup have developed a draft local resilience and adaptation plan with a number of actions for partners. The final document and action plan will be published in 2024.

In 2023, the UK government directed all local authorities to produce an Air Quality Strategy (AQS). Wirral Council developed a 2024 – 2028 AQS and held a public consultation via an online survey in 2023, as well as a workshop with relevant partners and stakeholders from across the borough and City Region. This workshop identified key priorities aimed at improving air quality for Wirral residents.

The West Kirby flood wall was developed to provide residents on South Parade greater protection from flooding. The wall is 1.1km and provides a barrier from flood waters and tidal surges. The project was completed in 2023. It has been designed to minimise the potential for damage to properties and reduce the power of tidal surges. Overtopped or surface water will drain using existing highway drainage.

Foundation For Change

Wider climate understanding

Energy Projects Plus delivered workshops through Wirral Council's Life Long Learning fund. The workshops focused on teaching residents' new skills to reduce their household energy use. Some workshops were hosted in collaboration with Wirral Environmental Network. There were three workshops – powering your home with sustainable energy, taking control of your energy bills, and wash away your water bills.

The Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) boiler scheme opened again in September and was open to residents that had received a LEAP home visit from Energy Projects Plus. The scheme covers the repair or replacement of mains gas central heating boilers.

St John Plessington Catholic College in Bebington were awarded £2,500 from the Bupa Foundation Green Community Grant. As part of the application, the school outlined plans to develop school's polytunnel and create onsite forest school area. 53 schools took part in the eco schools' programme.

As part of Wirral Country Park's 50th anniversary, the eco school team and Ling Warlow teamed up with children from 25 schools and community groups who attended Wildflower Warrior workshops. They created hundreds of paper wildflowers which formed an exhibition at the park. Eco schools also took part in a climate challenge, during which they presented ideas to a panel on how they can increase wildlife in their school or local area. Their ideas were then incorporated into the eco schools 2023/24 work plan.

Heswall Primary School were named Regional Champions of the Primary Awards for Green Education in schools for their film project 'A Climate In Chaos'. The film was part of their #heswalloceanblue campaign that began in 2019 to reduce single use plastics.

They also held a climate summit for Wirral schools to discuss the changes they could make to combat the effects of climate change with local environmental organisations.

The Cool Youth group resumed in Autumn 2023. As a group, they attended a North West Youth climate meeting in Manchester. One of the group members was asked to present at the Net Zero event in November 2023 at the Museum of Liverpool, on a platform with leaders of North West Business on how they can engage youth further into wider programmes and jobs in the environment. Going forward, the decision has been made to develop the group into a hybrid session as a way of reaching out further to young people across Wirral. With funding from a private donor, Wirral Environmental Network was able to provide grants to 15 schools to improve the biodiversity in their grounds.

The Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust set up a Green Champions Network for staff and have run 4 sessions, with staff keen to get involved in sustainability initiatives.

15 residents took part in Carbon Literacy Training for Carbon Literacy Action Day (CLAD) in December 2023. The training was delivered by Energy Projects Plus, Faiths 4 Change and Wirral Environmental Network. 17 Wirral Council members of staff also took part in the council's first in-house delivery of Carbon Literacy Training for CLAD.

Wirral Environmental Network (WEN) delivered Eco Action in your community workshops as part of Adult Learning, and also a 5-week Eco Action in your Community Course for 8 Wirral MENCAP attendees. They ran a calculate your carbon footprint session for Rotary Northwest Regional Conference with over 60 representatives from across the Liverpool City Region and beyond.

Stronger partnerships and networks

The Cool Places of Workshop Knowledge Platform is an open access website which contains advice and resources to help places of workshop on the Wirral act on climate change. The platform is updated regularly and contains useful links to other websites and documents under topics such as energy, heating, waste and recycling.

Following a successful event in 2022, Cool Heswall was back for a second year in May. Over 30 local environmental groups and businesses came together to highlight the importance of caring for our environment. Activities included a mini beach clean, making seed pots, quizzes, and checking out electric cars, including a mini electric racing car built by young members of Wirral's HIVE Youth Zone.

The event was organised by the Joint Rotary Environment Group in Heswall, supported by members of the three local Rotary Clubs and members of the local community.



Image – Cool Heswall 2023

The Great Swap Shop was a project collaboration between Faiths4Change and Liverpool World Centre, funded by Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority. It ran from October 2022 to March 2023 and aimed to change behaviours around textile/clothing consumption whilst exploring the creativity that sustainable fashion offers. The project ran across Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral and provided free school activities. These included teachers' workshops, and mock UN Textile and Climate Conference and Swap Shop events.

One activity took place at Gilmoor Recovery Discovery Centre, which students from Wirral primary schools attended. There was a panel discussion to answer questions about climate change, sustainability and community action.

Transition Town West Kirby organised their annual Wirral Earth Festival which was held in September 2023. It was designed to be a 'celebration of creativity, community and care for our planet'. Local organisations and volunteer groups had stalls at the event and there were workshops run by local artists, storytelling and music. Cool Yule took place in December 2023 and was a celebration of climate and environmental achievements in Wirral. The event started with workshop sessions based on themes of food, homes, adaptation, circular economy and travel and resulted in some positive actions that the group could take.

The second half of the event featured local makers and community groups with an environmental theme. The event attracted over 200 visitors and was a really positive showcase of partnership activity.

Energy Projects Plus won a grant of £350,000 to develop a 'retrofit buddies' scheme that provides one-to-one support for people having energy efficiency measures installed in their homes.

The retrofit buddy will work with the householder to co-design a Personal Action Plan and will then provide advice and support throughout the process. The scheme is one of seven across the North West, supported with £4m from the Government's Local Energy Advice Demonstrator (LEAD) Programme for England.

13 community groups were awarded a share of £165,000 to help the Liverpool City Region reduce, reuse and recycle more. The money came from the Merseyside Recycling & Waste Authority and Veolia Community Fund which helps to support local waste prevention, reuse and recycling initiatives.

Programmes included a tool lending library, cookery lessons to reduce food waste, clothes repair clubs, upcycling and restoration of unwanted furniture, food growing and community composting. Successful projects in the Wirral:

- Bee Wirral C.I.C Refresh: preloved furniture project. The project took unwanted furniture left in empty Housing Association properties for reuse. Volunteers were trained to repair and refurbish the furniture before it was passed onto a new home. Project volunteers were also included on the Bee Wirral staff and volunteer training programme where they receive first aid, safeguarding and employability skills training. Bee Wirral hopes to have saved 25 tonnes of material from going to waste by the time the project ends, engage with 100 people and deliver 340 hours of training to 16 volunteers. May 2024 marked the end of the second year of the Refresh Furniture project, in total 72 deliveries were made distributing 345 items of furniture and household items that collectively weighed 8,764kg in total.
- St Mary's Church – St Mary's Eco Garden, food growing and cookery project at St Mary's Eco Community Garden in Wirral, hosting weekly cookery sessions, recycling craft clubs and growing/composting classes.



Image - Bee Wirral Refresh: preloved furniture project. Volunteers learn skills in furniture refurbishment and restoration.

The Community Climate Action website was launched in the summer. It is a one stop website for residents to reduce their carbon footprint and support climate action. There is a wide range of information and advice relating to climate action in the home, travel, nature and personal actions. Residents can also find out about opportunities to get involved with and climate projects in Wirral.



In September 2023, Wirral Chamber held the first Cool business workshop during Global Goals week bringing together businesses to hear speakers from the 2030 hub and Bristol Myers Squibb.

Further workshops are planned in 2024.

Image – attendees at Wirral Chamber’s Cool Business workshop.

Wirral Environmental Network ‘Big Green List’ now has over 300 organisations, groups, charities and business who are actively doing something to protect and enhance Wirral’s environment and reduce our carbon emissions.

Evidence informed action

Wirral Council Climate Emergency team ran a climate survey in July 2023. The survey was designed to give people an opportunity to tell us what they think of climate change, their views on it and to provide information about what we all need to do collectively to achieve the target. The survey will also be used to monitor how people’s attitudes and thoughts about the climate may change over time, by running the survey again in the future. When asked ‘how concerned do you feel about the climate emergency?’, just over 60% said they felt concerned or very concerned. When asked about what effects of the changing climate people were most concerned about, the top five responses were: reduction in biodiversity, increase in cost of food supplies, shortage of food supplies due to weather, warmer weather and flooding.

The Cool Wirral Climate Challenge was launched in December 2023, with calendars made available at Cool Yule and local libraries. The Climate Challenge runs throughout 2024 and is a way to engage residents in adopting environmentally positive habits. There are six themes: food, waste, nature, travel, energy and shopping. These themes change every two months and there are two actions to choose from, relating to the theme, every month. For example, in January, residents can choose between eating less meat or giving composting a go. At the end of the two months, residents can share feedback and enter a draw to win a Wirral Independent card.

Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority launched Zero Waste LCR website which is a platform of helpful information around waste and the circular economy. On there, you can find out more about working towards zero waste, recycling advice, the Zero Waste Community Fund and waste policy updates. The Circular Economy Club Liverpool City Region is organised by MRWA and is open to businesses across the city region to join. Members can attend meetings and events around circular initiatives and projects and connect with others.

In 2023, the club held a series of practical Circular Economy Club Liverpool City Region (CEC LCR) events in collaboration with partners such as University of Liverpool's Centre of Sustainable Business and Matchstick Creative. Sessions included presentations and panels from local organisations on projects and initiatives demonstrating the opportunities that a circular economy presents for creating social value and thriving communities.

The topics in 2023 included "Sustainable, Circular Transport Solutions", "Circular Economy Food and Our Community", and "Circular Culture around Technology, Manufacturing and Hospitality".

Plans are continuing to develop for the proposed Wirral Waters Sustainability Action Hub.

For further information

Email Cool Communities at coolcommunities@wirral.gov.uk