



Sustainable Food and the Climate Emergency

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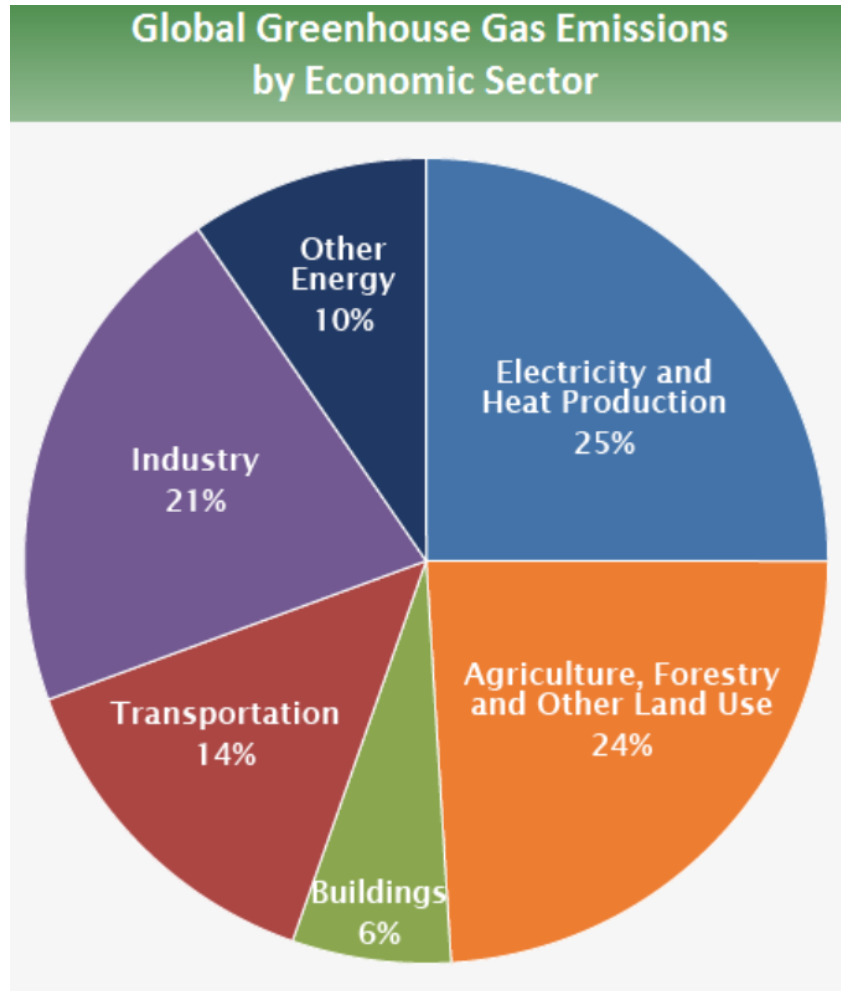
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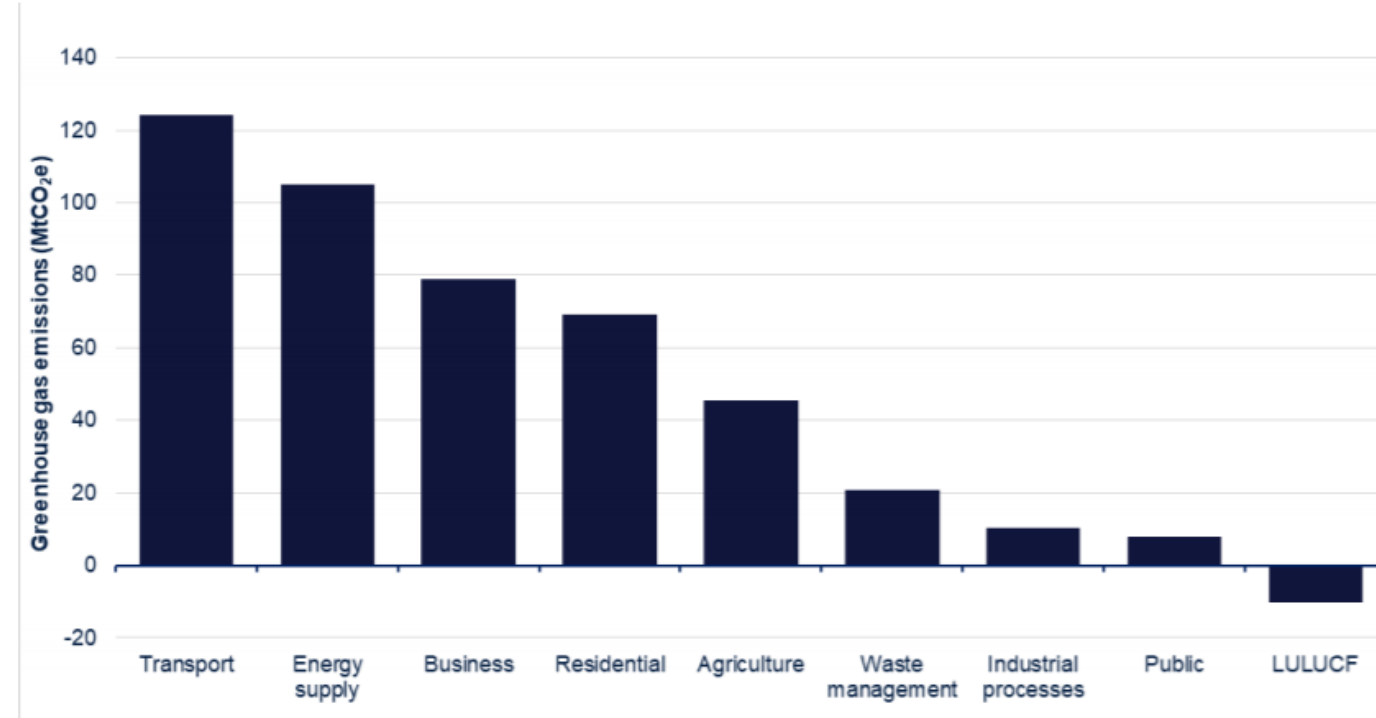
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Emissions overview from AFOLU



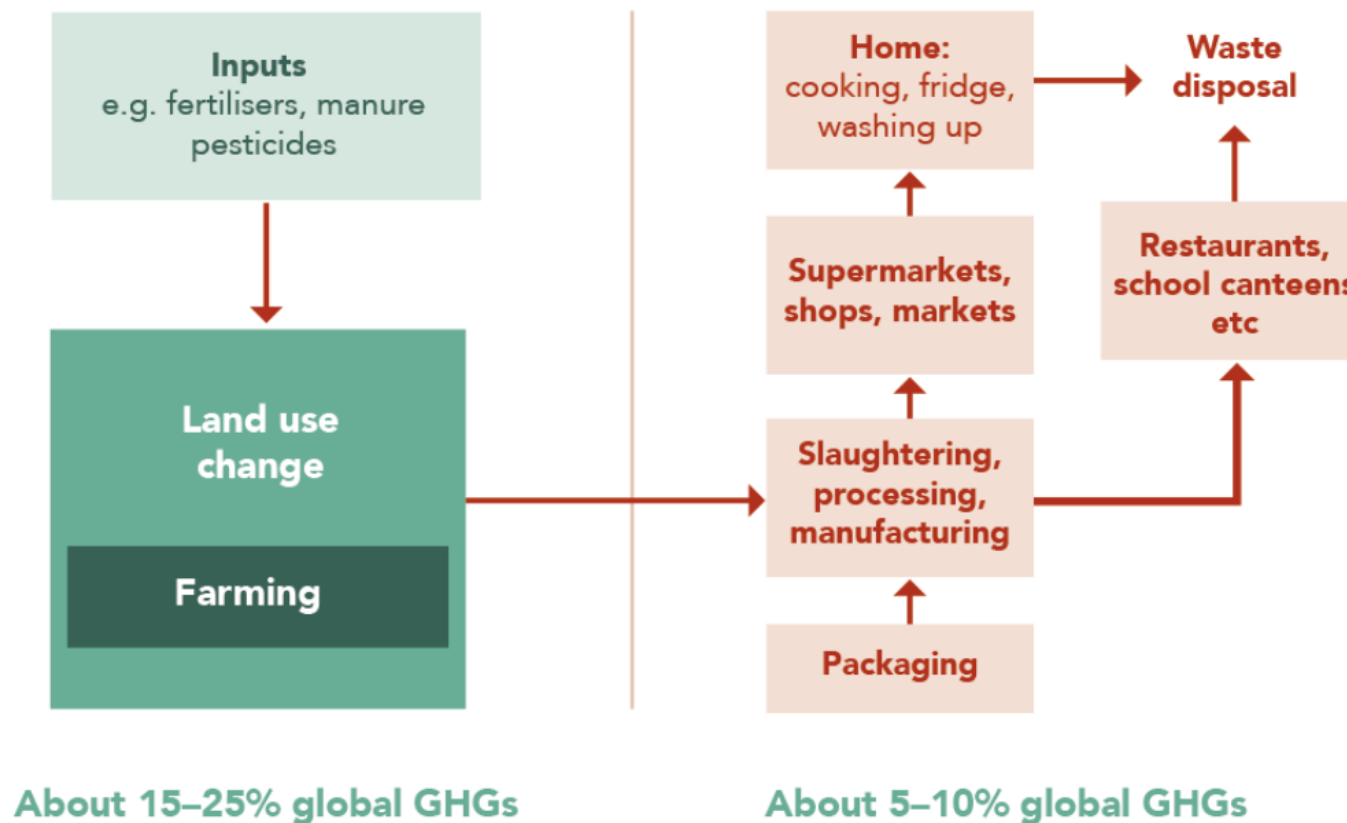
Source: EPA utilising data from IPCC (2014) based on global emissions

Figure 4: Greenhouse gas emissions by source sector, UK, 2018 (MtCO₂e)



Source: Table 3, Final UK greenhouse gas emissions national statistics 1990-2018 Excel data tables

Consumption patterns **DRIVE** production and its impacts...
consumption is also driven by production and associated activities



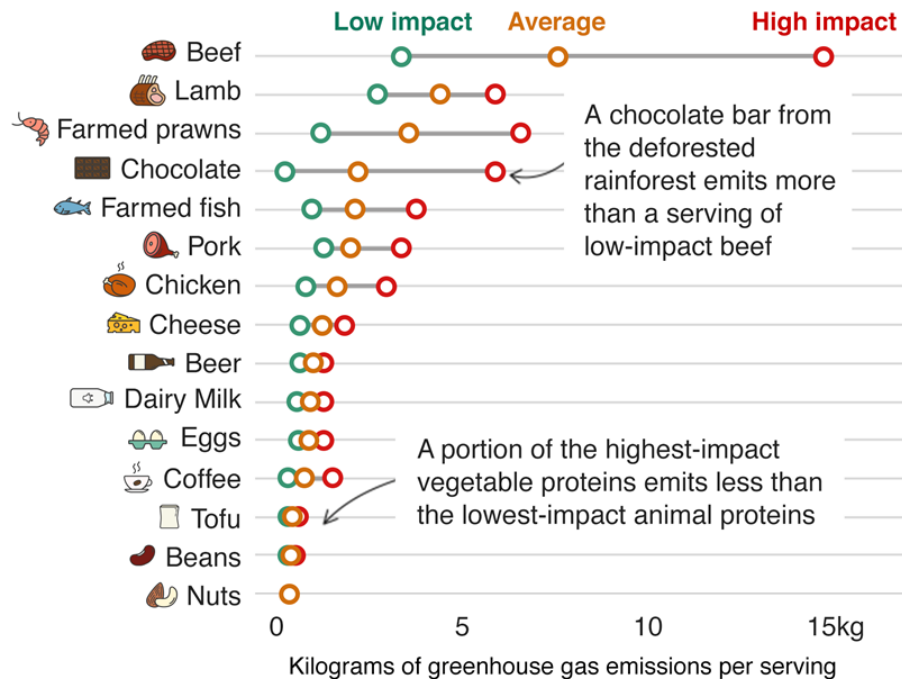
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Arrows indicate transport

Adapted from: Climate Change and Food Systems
Sonja J. Vermeulen, Bruce M. Campbell, John S.I. Ingram
Annual Review of Environment and Resources 2012 37:1, 195-222m

Emissions per food group

Beef has the biggest carbon footprint - but the same food can have a range of impacts

Kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions per serving

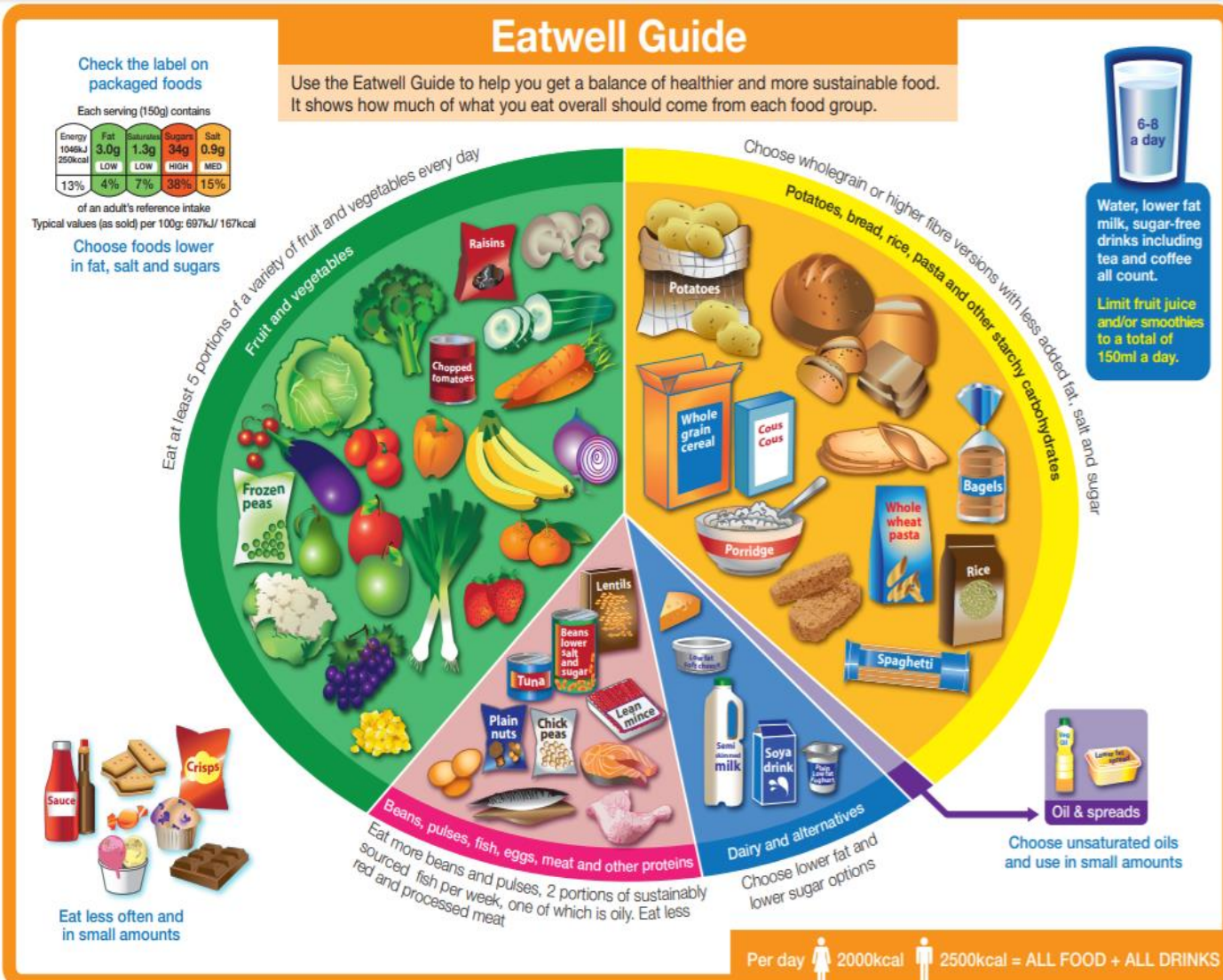


Source: Poore & Nemecek (2018), Science



- GHG Emissions from the food system could reach 20.2 billion tonnes of CO₂e per year by 2050
- Foods with the highest overall GHG impacts are ruminant meat, followed by white meat and fish and other animal products.
- Plant based foods have the lowest impacts although emissions can be substantially decreased further still with reductions in long-haul flights and growth in heated, lit greenhouses
- Dietary patterns have a tangible impact on overall GHG emissions
- Climate friendly consumption would include: less and better meat and much less food waste
- Climate friendly production: improve productivity, efficiency and energy demand, as well as investing in more domestic and sustainable production of fruit, veg and pulses
- IPCC Special Report on 1.5OC – emissions could be reduced by slowing the demand for meat and dairy
- In the UK, consumption is above recommended levels with meat contributing to the over-consumption of saturated fat and salt.
- 64% of adults and 43% of children exceed recommended levels of red and processed meat
- 90% of secondary school children do not eat their '5 a day'
- Hundreds of studies reviewing the environmental impacts of dietary recommendations support the environmental benefits of reduced consumption of animal products and increased consumption of plant based food.

What is a sustainable diet in the UK?



‘Sustainable diets are those diets with low environmental impacts which contribute to food and nutrition security and to healthy life for present and future generations. Sustainable diets are protective and respectful of biodiversity and ecosystems, culturally acceptable, accessible, economically fair and affordable; nutritionally adequate, safe and healthy; while optimizing natural and human resources.’ (FAO 2010)

IPCC (2020): Special Report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems

“Balanced diets, featuring plant-based foods, such as those based on coarse grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables, nuts and seeds, and animal-sourced food produced in resilient, sustainable and low-GHG emissions systems, present major opportunities for adaptation & mitigation (of climate change) while generating significant co-benefits in terms of human health.”

Barriers to sustainable diets

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- Habits as a barrier to behaviour change
- Economic
- Cultural / gender / societal issues
- Time and lifestyle
- Access
- Lack of understanding / knowledge on foods / nutrition
- Portion control



The food we eat

Poor diet is now the biggest risk factor for preventable ill health in England.

Everyone should have enough good food to live a healthy life. Healthy food needs to be:

Affordable
for everyone



It is three times more expensive to get the energy we need from healthy foods than unhealthy foods

A bigger part of
the food supply



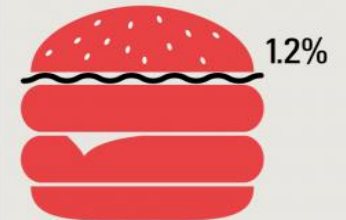
One can of cola contains nine cubes of sugar – two cubes more than an adult's maximum daily recommended intake

Available in
our local area



It is harder to buy health foods in deprived parts of the UK – there is also a higher density of fast food outlets in these areas

Promoted
and valued



1.2% of food advertising spend each year goes on vegetables, yet 22% is spent on confectionery, cakes, biscuits and ice cream

The role of local authorities in shaping food systems

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- LAs still control 'old infrastructure' of markets, food safety inspections and highways – responsibility for food and food production
- School meals, meals on wheels and the provision of allotments
- LA 'the voice of local food'

What can local authorities do to promote sustainable food?

- LAs can promote and protect land for food growing in the Local Plan: including allocation of land for starter farms
- Promotion of food growing in public places and new developments
- Core Strategy can include the provision for the protection of high-grade agricultural land
- Supplementary planning documents can restrict the development of fast food near schools – Section 106 Agreements could be used to request funds from fast food outlets to contribute to tackling obesity
- Land ownership – land management encouraging low ecological impact production
- Food procurement – drive demand for locally sourced, sustainable healthy food with the adoption of minimum buying standards
- Food system infrastructure
- Promoting health and sustainable diets across Council estates

What's going on in Wigan?

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Metrofresh

- Serving 23,000+ meals in nursery, primary, secondary and special schools
- All fresh vegetables locally farmed
- 95% of school food suppliers are local
- 80% of food purchases are produced by local businesses
- Fresh meat products are ethically sourced
- 'Good Egg Award' for cage-free eggs
- Working in partnership with schools to recycle more
- All menus are nutritionally balanced meals based on high fibre, low sugar and low sat diets
- Work closely with children centres and public health to educate children on good food choice and share cooking skills



Sustainable Food Initiatives

- Deal for Communities Investment Fund providing opportunities for funding for community groups and projects towards improving outcomes for residents
- Greenslate Community Farm – provides volunteering, training, education and therapeutic activities as well as providing naturally grown food to the local community and private allotments, local hub for idea sharing and community enterprise development
- Funding provided to 'Growing Together' a local food initiative to achieve a goal of creating a community garden
- Working with Eco Schools to promote campaigns including Love Food Hate Waste



Not another
day in the office

VOLUNTEERING TEAM DAYS
AT GREENSLATE
COMMUNITY FARM

'Fur Clemt' Organisation

- Part of the global 'Real Junk Food' movement
- Dedicated to reducing edible food reaching landfill or animal feed
- Intercept food from wholesalers, producers, manufacturers and retailers
- Make food available to the public through 'Pay as you Feel' cafes and 'Food Outlets' across the Borough
- Offer volunteering opportunities for cooking sessions and basic food hygiene training
- Partnered with Wigan Council via the Sustainable Food Network
- Provide surplus to tea rooms, day centres, food banks, communities, churches etc

Fur Clemt = Very hungry in Wiganese!



Food support during COVID-19

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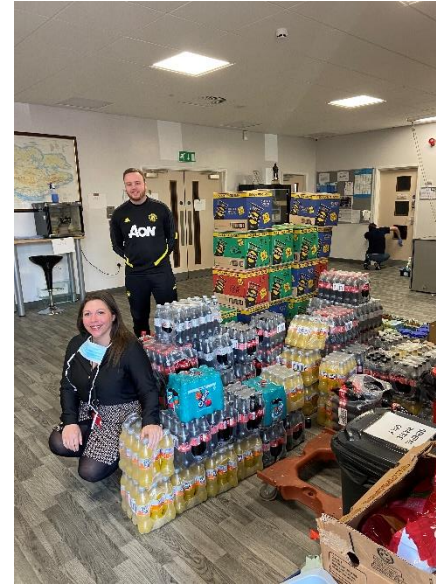
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- 7 Area Profiles across Wigan (Service Delivery Footprints)
- Armed Forces team worked as logistical lead whilst continuing full time work on AF support
- Over the last 3 months – 7 days per week cover providing PPE to care homes, food parcels to those shielding and weekend support
- Bulk deliveries to struggling food banks
- 1000 parcels delivered supporting 2000+ residents and 400+ children
- 7500 volunteer hours covered
- Metrofresh providing locally sourced, fresh food
- Food parcels are nutritional and fresh wherever possible and have included information sheets for recipes
- Local companies incl. Westwood Motor Group, Ainscough Industrial and T Wilson & Sons have provided multiple vans and refrigerated vans / trailers
- Wigan Athletic provided 2 vans and a volunteer team to support



Any Questions?

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Thank you for listening – happy to take any questions at this time

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