

UK major retailers to publish figures on food waste... why not as Open Data?

Submitted on 31 Jan 2014 by Luis Meijueiro

Among other commitments announced by the UK retail industry at [A Better Retailing Climate launch event held on 29 January](#), supermarkets signed up to the initiative also committed to publish their data on food waste created at the retail stage, along with annual progress reports.

BRITISH RETAIL CONSORTIUM



Although this may seem a major step that could help in reducing the food waste, the report "[A Better Retailing Climate: Driving Resource Efficiency](#)" issued by the British Retail Consortium says in page 52 that their ambition is "*A Better Retailing Climate commitment to 2020: We will publish our total food waste figures as a sector, and report on progress.*"

We all know that these reports are usually delivered in PDF or HTML formats, and data are usually heavily aggregated, so I do not expect accompanying CSV or XML files, nor data access API to detailed food waste records where you could dig and compare as a consumer, e.g. which supermarket cares more about the use of our finite resources, which are the most wasted kind of products, etc.

Let's see what happens...