



Welcome

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**Leader of the LGA Independent Group and Vice
Chair of the LGA**

Measuring progress on the climate emergency – LGA update

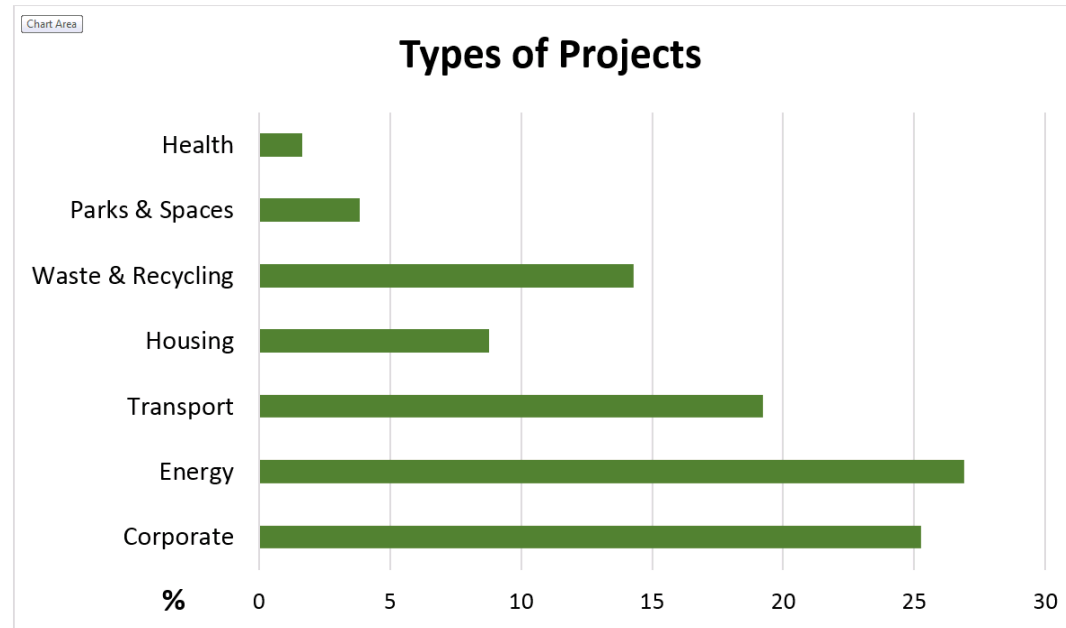
A work in progress – presentation to
Independent Group conference

Climate change at the LGA

- LGA climate change commission in 2010, joint partner in "climate local" programme. More recently environment work wrapped into subject areas such as housing, flooding, air quality
- 2019 declaration of climate emergency
 - Strong cross party political support for action
 - Review of LGA activity and support to councils
 - There is no single solution to climate change, but we have been looking at trends in council activity and potential impact on carbon emissions

Trends in tackling climate change

We analysed 182 projects from 100 different councils



Corporate: developing strategic plans, baselines, consultation approaches, establishing political champions

Potential for impact

- Proactive work by councils to reduce carbon emissions
- 53% of projects are complete or will be finished in the next 5 years
- Potential for significant carbon savings from energy projects (trade off of longer term carbon savings vs high cost of upfront investment)
- Examples of shorter term projects - quick wins?
 - greening of council fleet
 - ensuring council procurement strategy contains climate change action
 - tree planting
 - more efficient street lighting

Snapshot from LGA Climate Emergency conference

- $\frac{3}{4}$ of councils attending had declared a climate emergency
- $\frac{3}{4}$ had developed/are developing a climate change strategy
- Over $\frac{3}{4}$ hadn't identified the funding streams needed to deliver their projects
- Mixed feedback on progress with engaging partner and local people

Delegate feedback to the LGA

- Need for funding – not just capital
- Transport – e.g more control over bus services
- Reform producer responsibility scheme for packaging
- Strengthen planning policy to support sustainable new build
- More government investment in green energy

Current LGA improvement offer



Online hub with published guidance, support and information



Leadership programmes, including Leadership Essentials and a councillor workbook on climate change



Existing programmes, including Behavioural insights, Design in the Public Sector and Productivity experts

Current LGA improvement offer



Case studies and examples of best practice, including opportunity to showcase at Innovation Zone



Re:fit programme to improve energy efficiency and bespoke support through **Local Partnerships**



a forward-looking climate focused ‘peer challenge’-style support to help councils with their action planning on climate change

Next stage of activity

- Incorporate climate change issues into our **wider leadership programmes** for Councillors and officers.
- Explore the potential for the development of a **self-assessment tool or maturity index** to help councils with long term action-planning and setting strategic objectives.
- Publish further information i.e. **'Don't be left in the dark' guidance** and more detailed toolkits
- Publish a **'10 Questions to ask when scrutinising services to tackle climate change'** guide produced by CfPS (Centre for Public Scrutiny)

Next stage of activity

- Produce bespoke guidance on **communicating around climate change** including with residents, activist groups and central government
- Share our review of **100 council actions** and good practice
- Work on **renewable energy and decarbonising transport**
- Climate change **baseline survey** of councils
- **Develop specific funding and policy asks:** on key areas: planning and housing, waste and recycling, transport
- Events

Questions we are asking ourselves

- Are our broader policy asks consistent with our position on climate change?
- How do we provide the best support to councils with our limited resources?
- How can the LGA use our unique position to co-ordinate activity across government?
- How do we develop a new leadership role that keeps us ahead of the game?
- How can we influence the national debate?

Workshop: Climate Emergency, now what?

Four groups (number on badges)

In one colour: Actions taken

In another colour: Ideas



LUNCH

14 February 2020

Net-zero emissions in the UK

Mike Hemsley

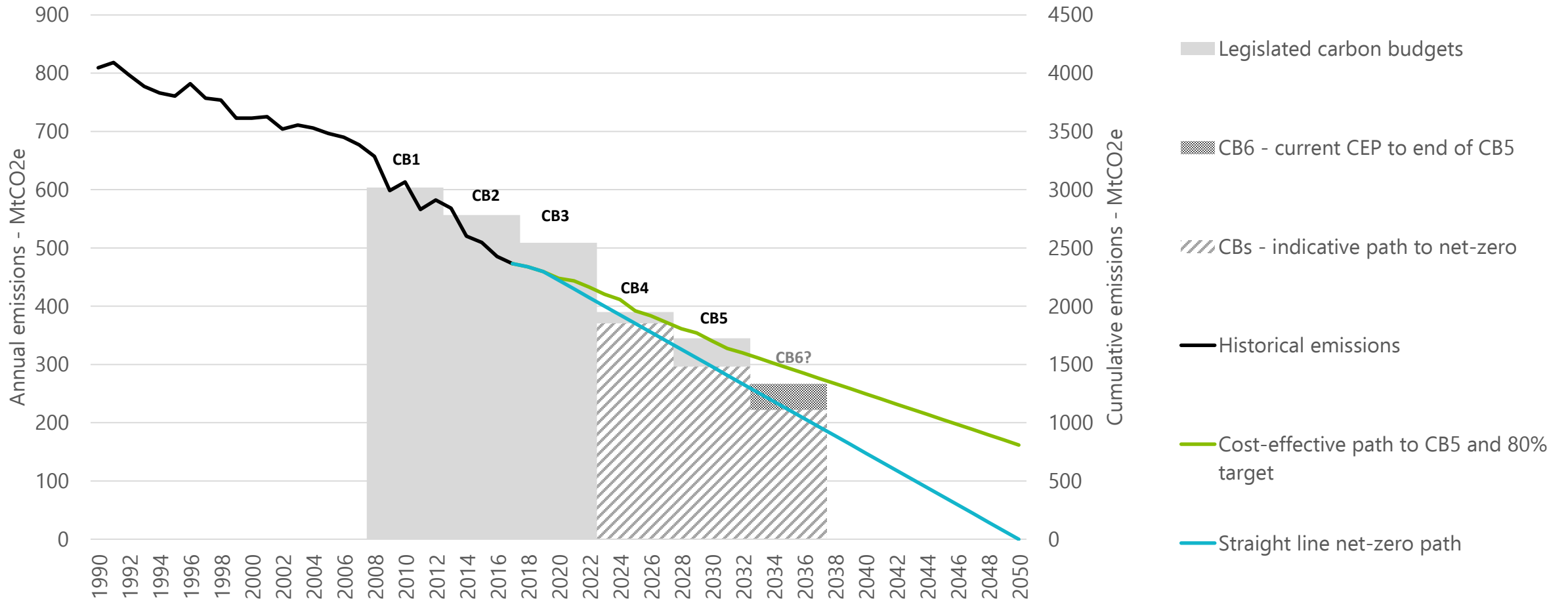


The Climate Change Act 2008

1	A goal	2050 Emissions Target
2	A pathway	Carbon Budgets
3	A toolkit	Requirement that Government brings forward policies
4	A monitoring framework	Committee on Climate Change to monitor progress and suggest changes

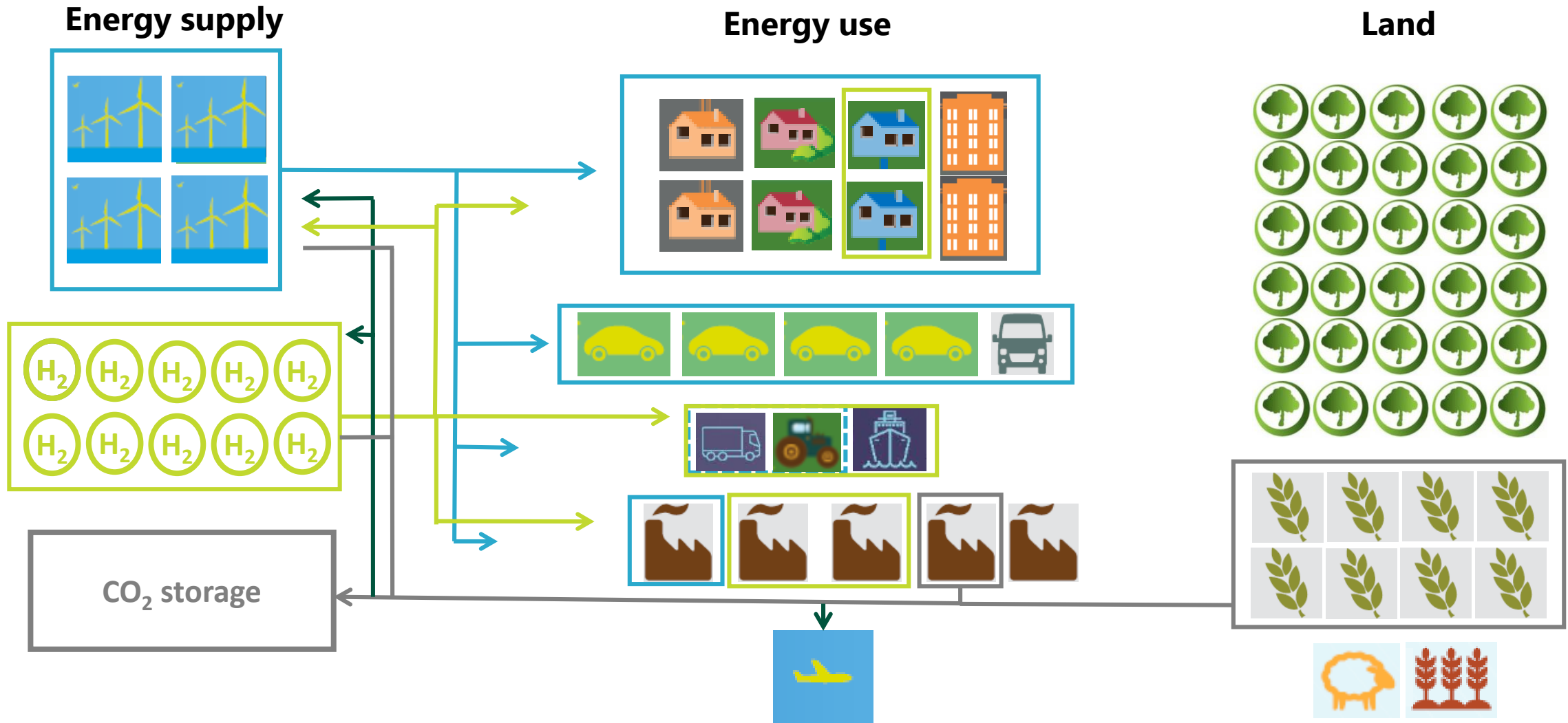
Legislated carbon budgets towards the 80% target

Carbon budgets and indicative emissions trajectory



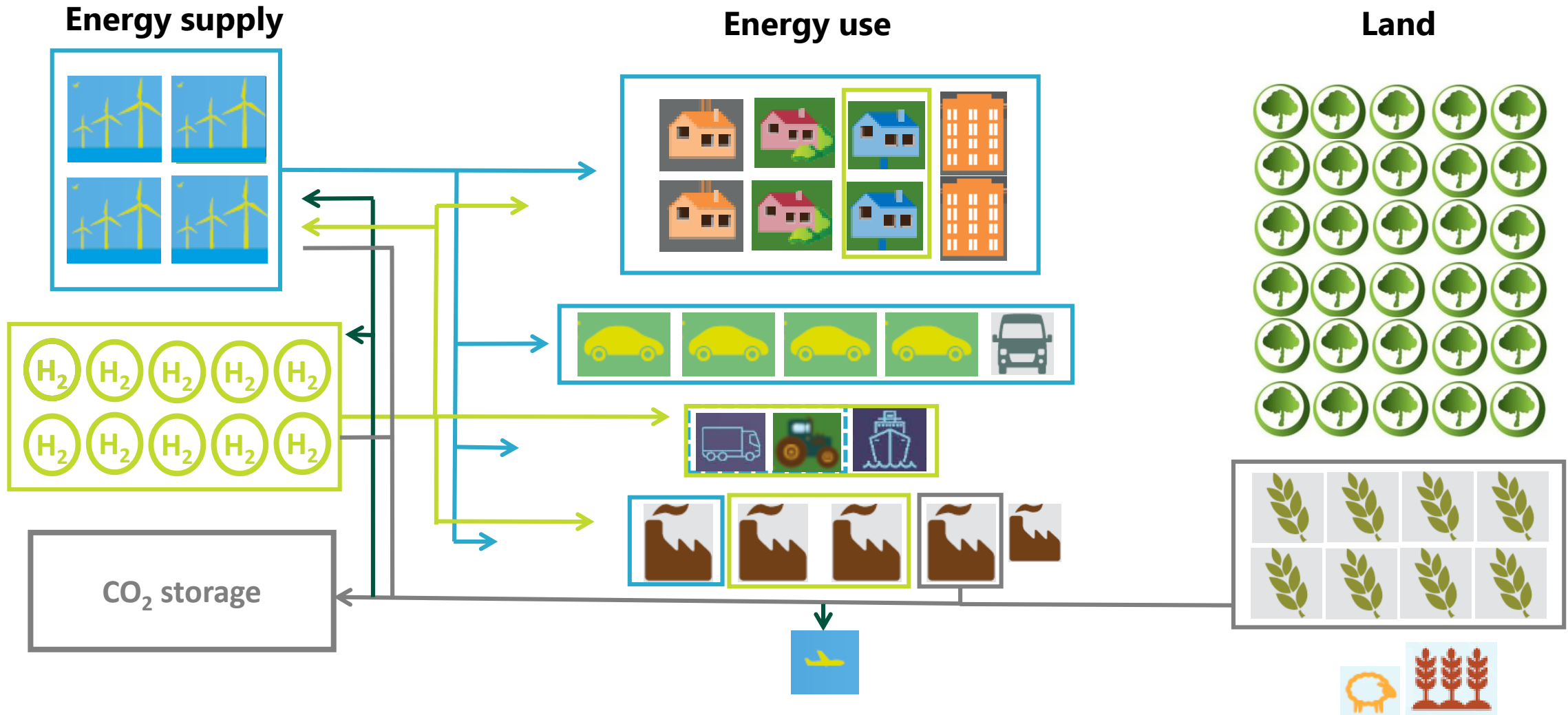
Reaching net-zero emissions in the UK

How UK net-zero scenarios can be delivered



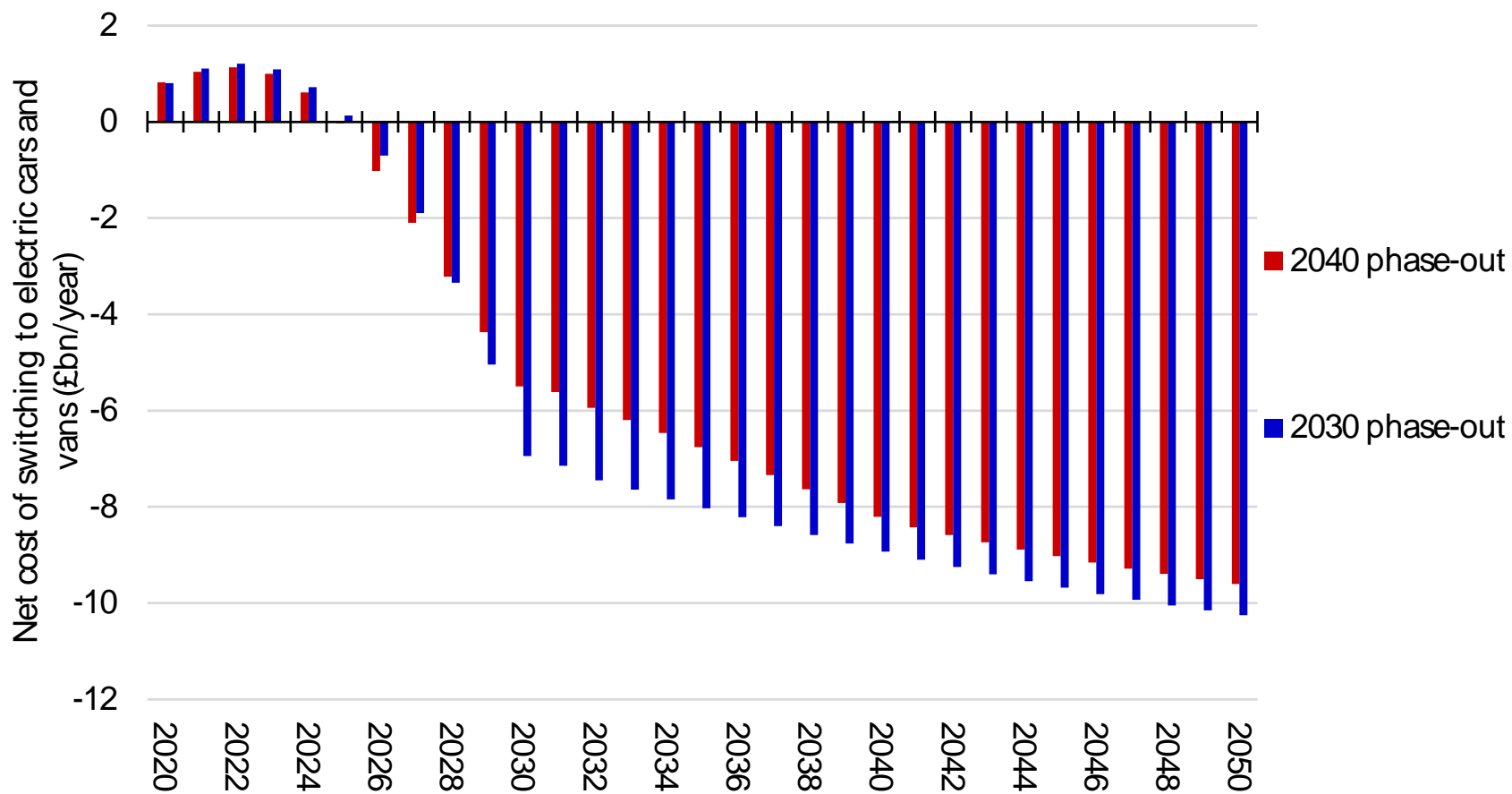
Reaching net-zero emissions in the UK

How UK net-zero scenarios can be delivered



It will be cheaper to decarbonise transport than not

A 2030 switchover to electric vehicles would save more money than a 2040 switchover



Decarbonising transport will require investments in charging infrastructure

Bringing forward the electric vehicle switchover

- Given advantages in cost, greenhouse gas emissions and air quality, aim should be for electric vehicles to have as high a share as possible of the new-vehicle market by 2030. Ideally, ultra-low emission vehicles would reach 100% of sales of cars, vans and motorbikes by 2030 or soon after, but certainly by 2035.
- Scaling up from the current 3% share of car sales will require timely investments in charging infrastructure and policy to encourage uptake and provision of models by the industry.

Actions at the local level

- Specify the need for charging infrastructure as a planning condition for new developments.
- Apply for central government funding for ultra-low emission buses and recharging infrastructure for ultra-low emission taxis. Setting emissions standards for buses and taxis either through licensing or through clean air/ultra-low emission zones.
- Create a strategy to enable people without off-street parking to charge – this can include applying for on-street charging infrastructure funding from the government and either installing chargers on streets or in council car parks near housing of this type – enabling them to park and charge overnight.

Decarbonising buildings will require improvements to energy efficiency and roll-out of low-carbon heating

Making sure UK buildings are fully low-carbon by 2050

- A fully-fledged strategy for decarbonised heat must be developed in 2020. The Government's planned 2050 heat roadmap should establish an approach that will lead to full decarbonisation of buildings by 2050.
- The strategy must include:
 - Clear trajectory of standards covering energy efficiency and heating systems in owner-occupied, social- and private-rented homes and non-residential buildings, announced well in advance.
 - Regulatory and support framework for low-carbon heating (heat pumps, biomethane, and networked low-carbon heat) to address the multi-billion pound funding gap.
 - Review of the balance of tax and regulatory costs across fuels in order to improve alignment with implicit carbon prices and reflect the progressive decarbonisation of electricity
 - Attractive package for householders aligned to trigger points (such as when a home is sold or renovated).
 - Nationwide training programme to upskill the existing workforce.
 - Governance framework to drive decisions on heat infrastructure through the 2020s.

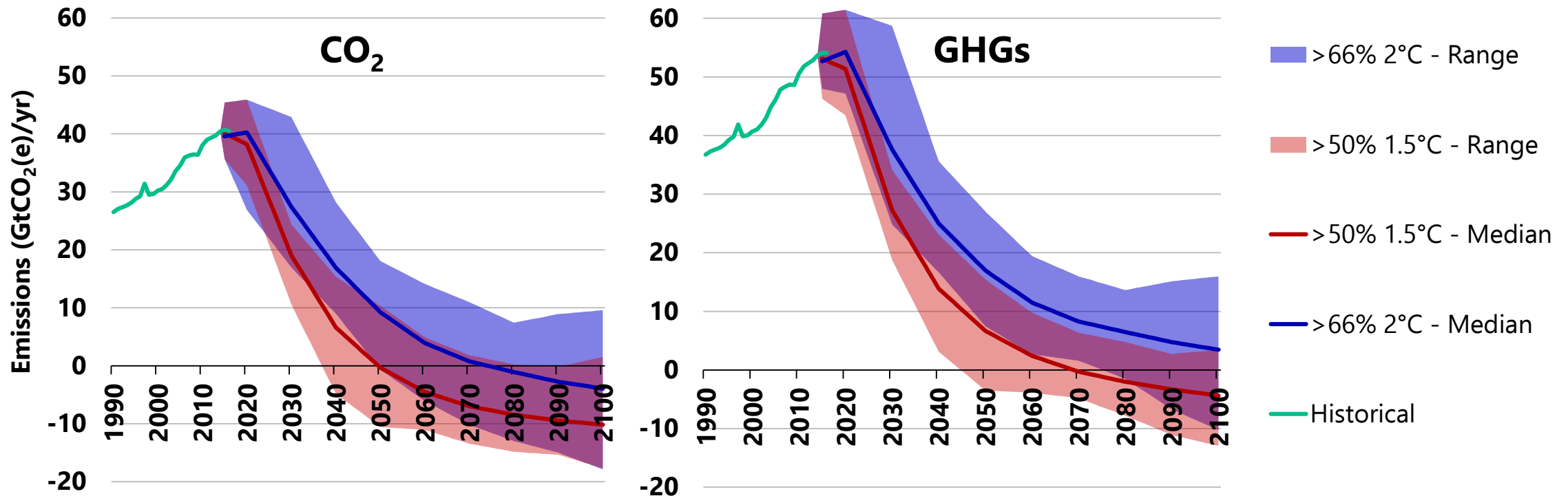
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To keep temperature rise to 1.5°C global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions need to fall to zero by 2070 (CO₂ by 2050)

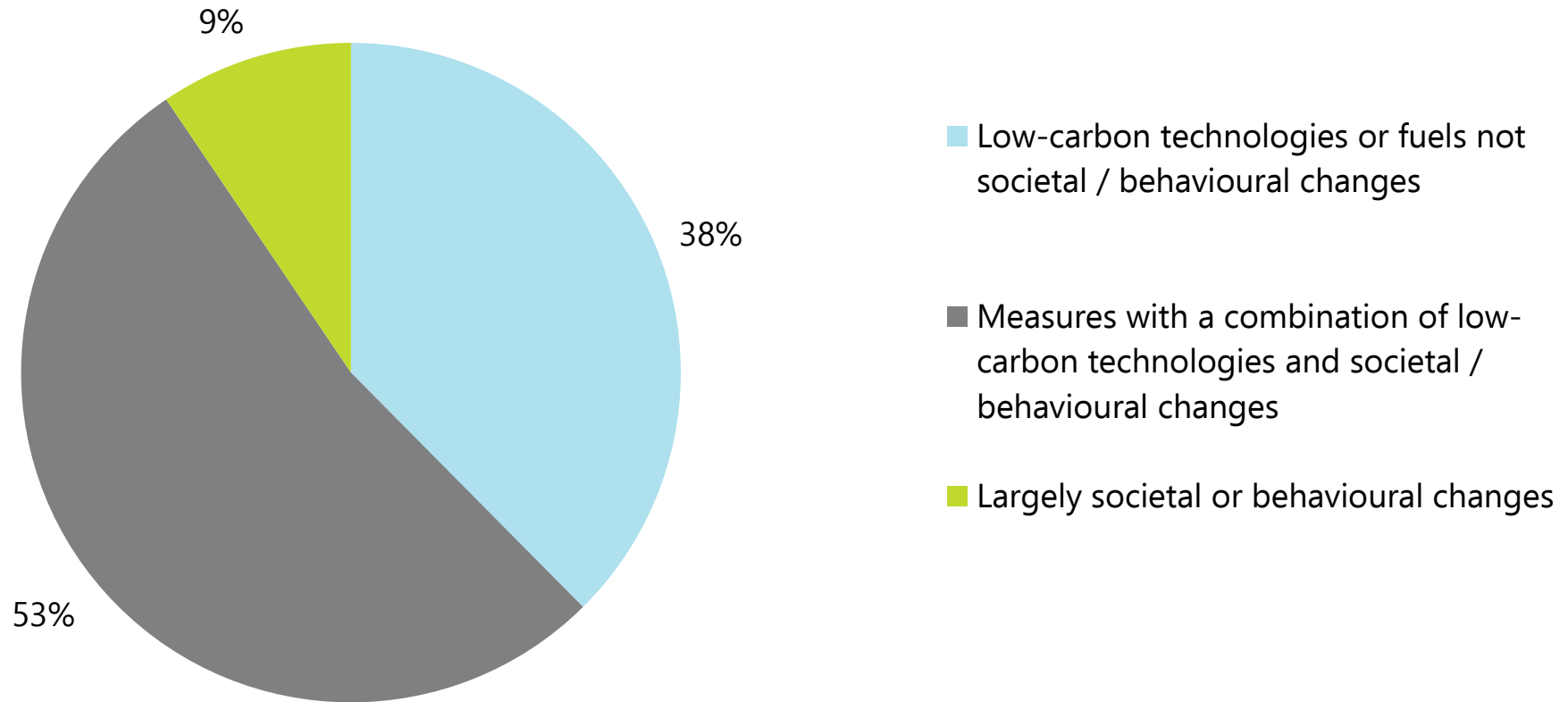
Global emissions pathways consistent with the Paris Agreement

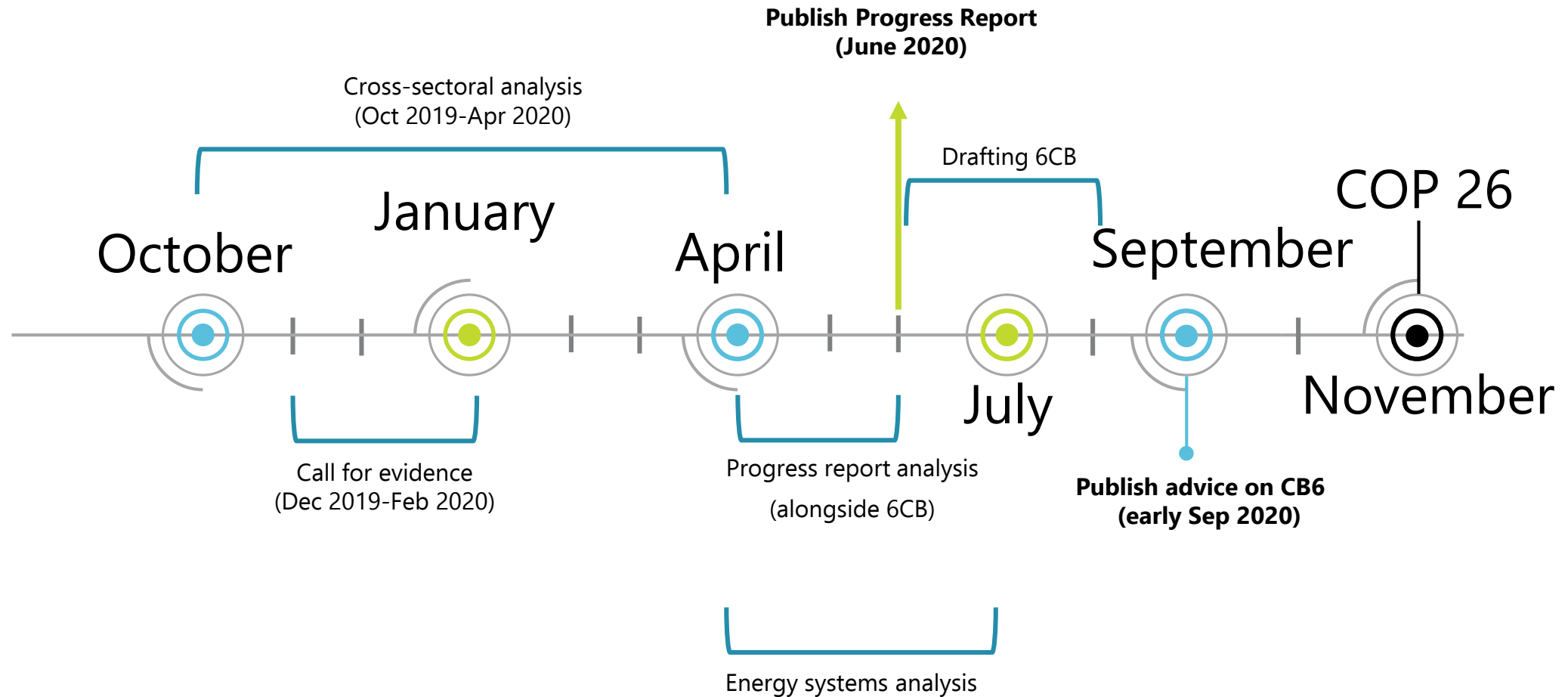
A UK net-zero GHG target for 2050 recognises the UK's capability and responsibility to lead



60% of the emissions reduction in our scenarios involve some societal or behavioural changes

Proportion of emissions reduction from technologies and societal / behavioural changes





Our approach will use scenarios to:

Explore a wider range of ways of reaching Net Zero, with 3x accompanying narratives

Identify actions over the next 10-15 years required to be on track to a range of ways to achieve Net Zero

Understand what we'd have to believe in order for an **earlier Net Zero date** to be feasible
(‘Max’ 6th Carbon Budget pathway)

Develop a ‘Central’ 6th carbon budget pathway

Three main scenarios where **one driver of change dominates**

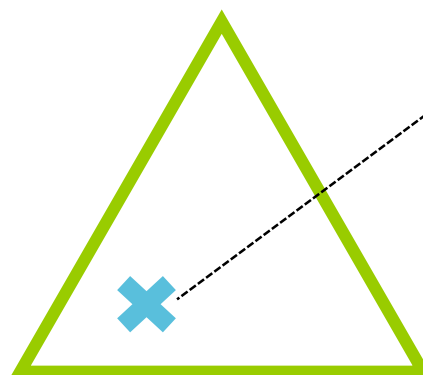
Engaged people change their behaviour and consumption patterns quickly and extensively (e.g. diet shift, changes in home insulation and heating, less flying)

Driver: engaged people

Net Zero Further Ambition scenario

Driver: government intervention/infrastructure

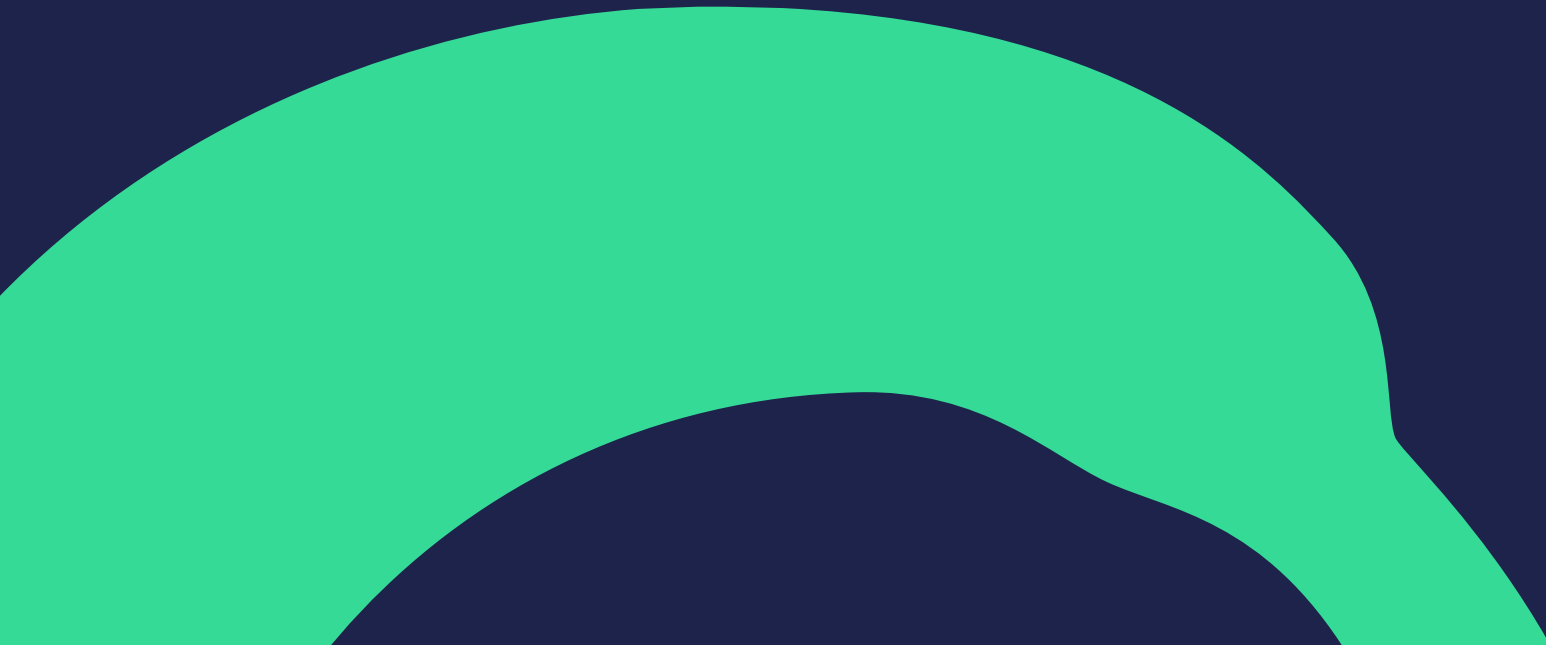
Lesser progress on innovation & lower public engagement requires more government regulation, GHG removals & big infrastructure solutions (e.g. CCS networks)



Driver: innovation

Further strong progress in core techs (e.g. offshore wind, electric vehicles) as well as rapid cost reductions for immature techs (e.g. DACCS)

Responding to the climate emergency: engaging with people





Listen to the most vulnerable

12,705 neighbourhoods

Identified as being particularly vulnerable to extreme weather AND

with a large proportion of people least able to respond / cope.

Young people + future generations are particularly vulnerable.

There is a need to:

- Ensure voices of the most vulnerable communities are represented in council decision-making and council-citizen deliberations.
- Ensure these people are engaged in additional decision-making approaches for complicated or contentious choices.

Climate and nature are linked

Climate = energy, housing and transport AND nature.

Nature is a climate ally BUT ONLY IF peatlands, forests and soils are in good condition.

UK habitats and species are declining and underlying ecosystems (soils, water etc) are eroded.

Land use and decisions directly affect BOTH efforts to stabilise our climate AND to restore nature in the UK.

Degraded nature and unstable climate = DOUBLE TROUBLE.

The 25 Year Plan and Environment Bill aim to leave our environment in better condition within a generation.

UNCLEAR that the government's package of

- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Local Nature Strategies
- a new Biodiversity Duty

will be up to the task of restoring nature to be able to be deployed in dealing with the climate emergency.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

FOR COUNCILS

A 50-point plan to tackle the
climate and nature emergency.

Use a simple check list on what you can and can't do

Our 50-point Climate Action Plan covers **what local authorities can do.**

Ashden have produced a costed **prioritisation guide:**

- Decision-making
- Raising money
- Protecting the vulnerable
- Buildings
- Transport
- Power
- Waste
- Land-use
- Influencing others
- Campaigning



Get on with it... ...and stop digging

You will lose trust if you declare an EMERGENCY but continue to promote high carbon or nature wrecking activities and projects.

Stop digging...

You should also:

- Ensure all our decisions are informed by an analysis
- Align plans, policies and guidance
- Identify Cabinet and officer level Climate and Nature leads who are required to publish a bi-annual independent and audited progress report.



Whitehall can help councils cut carbon by giving them...

- A duty to cut carbon
- A fit-for-purpose planning system (NPPF)
- And by LEPs being solely advisory bodies

Increased powers to:

- raise money
- produce Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies, as piloted in Scotland
- raise standards in new buildings and in the private rented sector

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Climate Emergency: How members are responding

Cllr Louise Pepper, Uttlesford

Cllr Dr Sue Roberts, South Oxfordshire

Cllr Pete Elliott, Lambeth

Cllr Coral Ross, Victoria (Australia)

Shaping our key messages to government

Hilary Tanner

LGA calls to government on climate change

- Set up a joint local and national government taskforce to co-ordinate and drive climate change action
- Switch from siloed national growth funding pots to joined-up local funding pots

Conference Close

Cllr Marianne Overton MBE

www.local.gov.uk/lga-independent