

Leading the Bereavement Sector to Sustainability

15th April 2021



**ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP GROUP**

Leading the bereavement sector to sustainability

JON CROSS FIoD

ESG GROUP FACILITATOR

WHO ARE WE?



WHY HAVE WE COME TOGETHER?

- To help the sector to understand and engage with the Climate Emergency
- To act as a focal point for the sector on Environmental issues
- To provide a space for engagement and dialogue
- To listen to concerns, understand barriers and help find common ground for all
- To influence thoughts on regulation and joined up thinking

WHY HAVE WE COME TOGETHER?

- We have a number of interfaces with Government departments who provide, advice, guidance and legislation, all of which is under review
- Now it could be said that the sensitive nature of our activities in part shield it from change
- But we are not excluded from the implications surrounding the climate emergency, we are in some aspects at the heart of it.
- We are responsible for damaging our environment every day and we must take ownership for reversing that impact.
- We therefore need to provide a considered collective response to the Climate Emergency

WHAT ARE OUR OBJECTIVES?

- **Protect the environment**

- To take a series of measures to reduce existing and negative impacts by 2025

- **Promote continuous improvement**

- To establish an industry wide approach to driving positive change and innovation

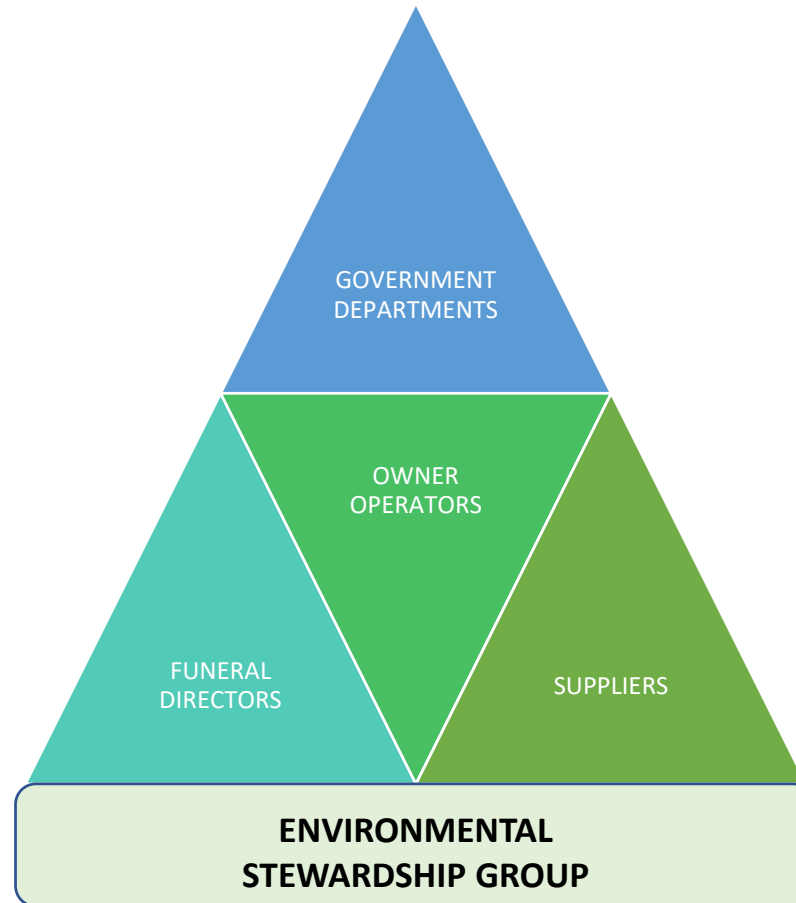
- **Shape regulatory requirements**

- To influence, legislation, guidance and advice that reflects the industry as a whole

- **Communicating commitment**

- To embed within the sector pro active and positive commitment to promoting the sectors actions and efforts.

HOW ARE WE VIEWING THE SECTOR?



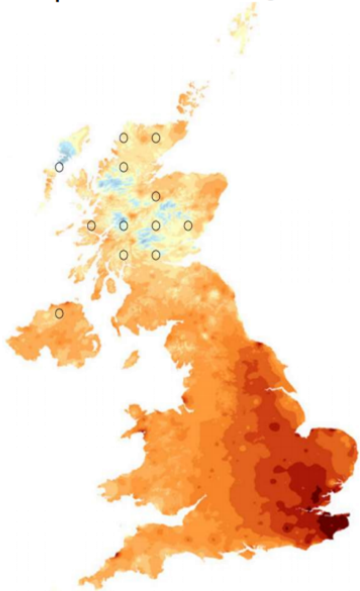
SO WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

- **“Climate Emergency”**, the climate is the long-term pattern of day-to-day weather. Our food and water supplies depend on stable seasonal patterns of temperature, rain, and wind in the UK and elsewhere. In the last 100 years the earth’s average temperature has increased faster than previously seen – **this is known as global warming** or global heating.
- **“Global Warming”**, Glaciers are melting, sea levels are rising, cloud forests are dying, and wildlife is scrambling to keep pace. It has become clear that humans have caused most of the past century’s warming by releasing gases as we power our modern lives. Called greenhouse gases, their levels are higher now than at any time in the last 800,000 years.
- **“Net zero”** refers to achieving a balance between the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere. This in effect is like pulling the plug in a bath and adjusting the water flow to keep the level constant.

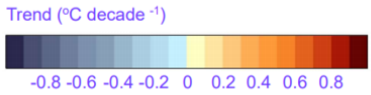
ARE WE REALLY GETTING WARMER?

Climate breakdown

Warmest daytime temperatures in the UK (1960 to 2019)



o: non-significant trends



Source:
Christidis et al, Nature Communications (2020)



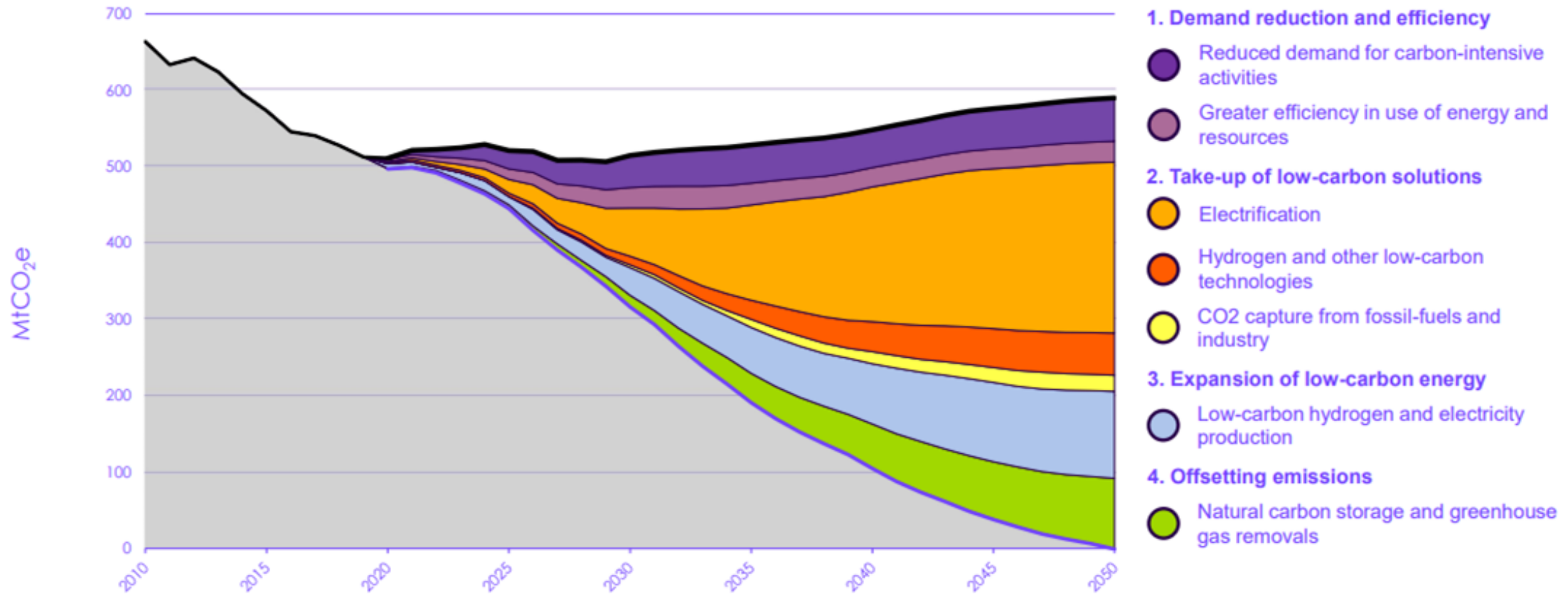
WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

- UNDERSTAND THAT: -
- No one person or organisation or government policy will solve the issue of the climate emergency for you and your business. It will require effort from all parts of society and is as much a cultural shift as a policy one. You know your business better than anyone so it's imperative that you get as much information as possible to help know the risks and opportunities so you can create bespoke practical plans to ensure the continued sustainability and success of your sector.

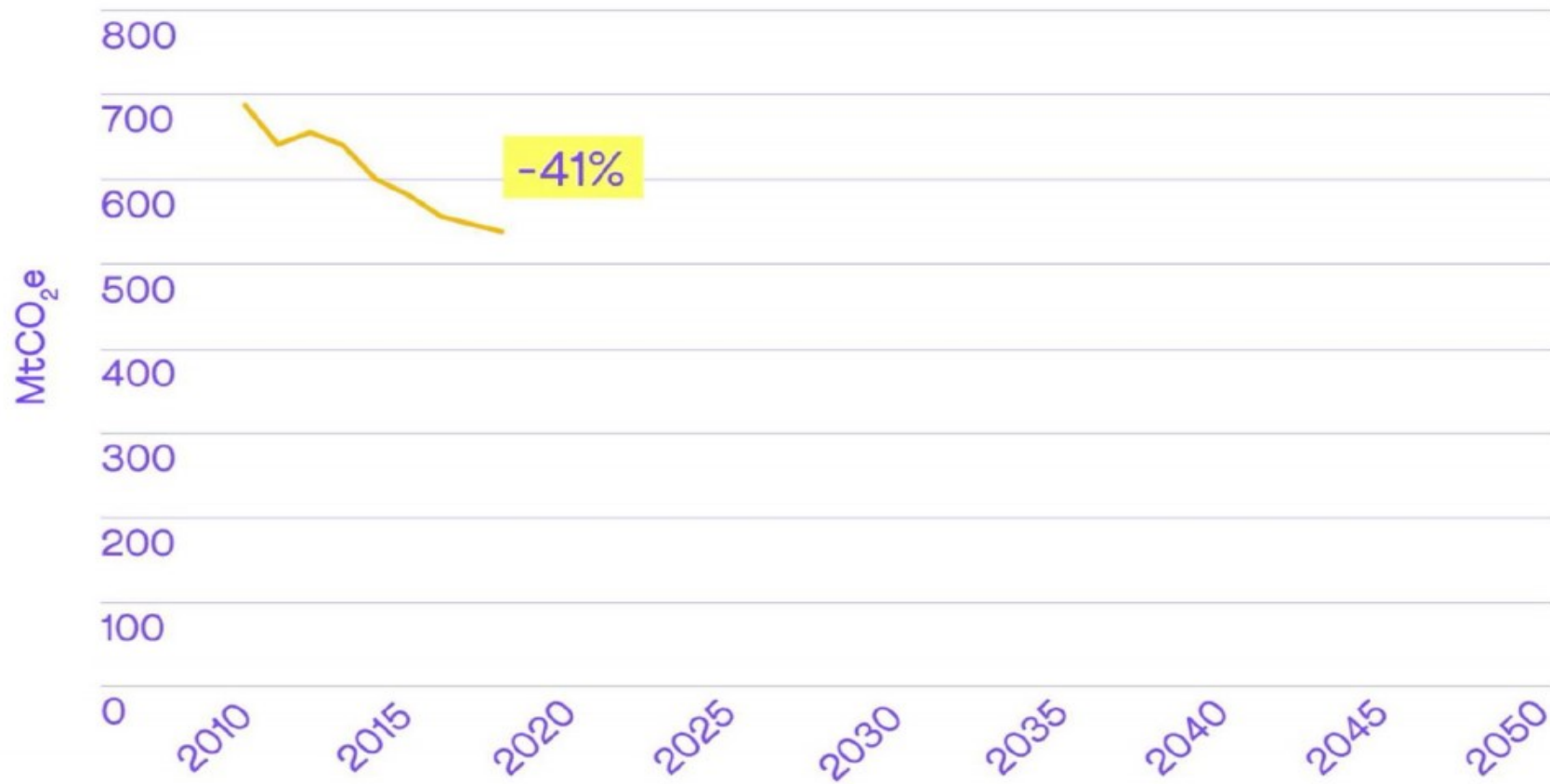
LEE RAWLINSON DIRECTOR REGULATED INDUSTRY – ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Emissions abatement on the balanced path

Meeting Net Zero requires actions across four key areas



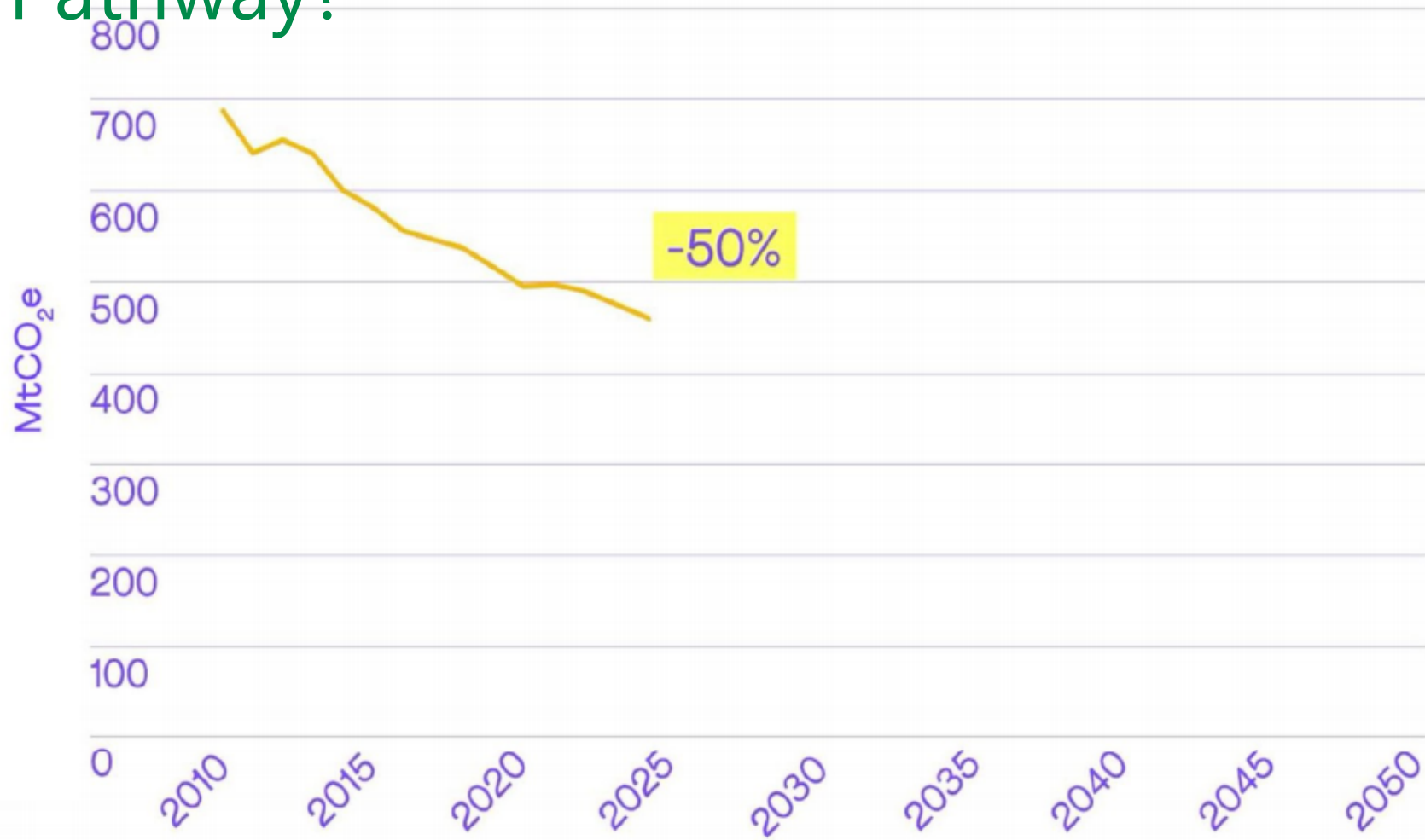
What changes will we see on the recommended pathway



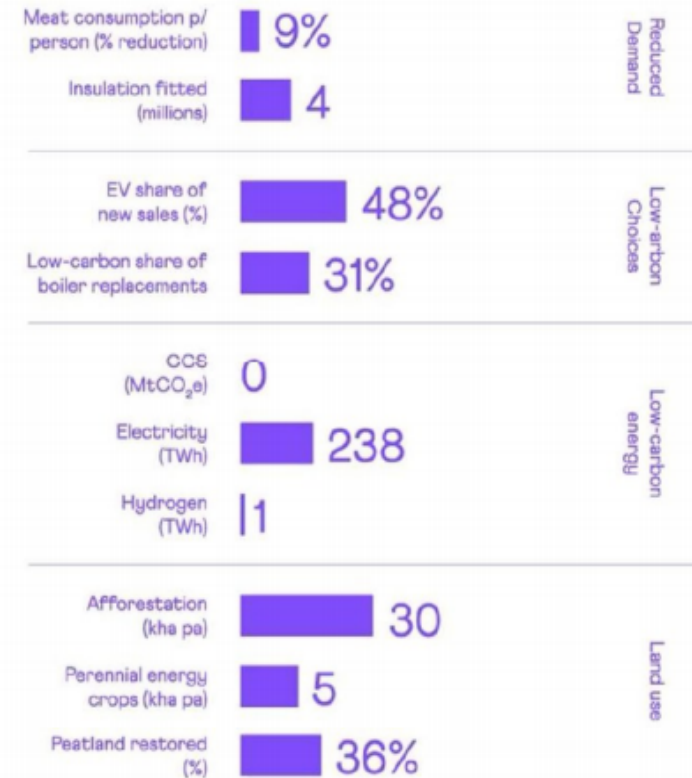
Key developments

Meat consumption p/ person (% reduction)	0%	Reduced Demand
Insulation fitted (millions)	0	
EV share of new sales (%)	13%	Low-carbon Choices
Low-carbon share of boiler replacements	11%	
CCS (MtCO ₂ e)	0	Low-carbon energy
Electricity (TWh)	205	
Hydrogen (TWh)	0	
Afforestation (kha pa)	19	Land use
Perennial energy crops (kha pa)	0	
Peatland restored (%)	25%	

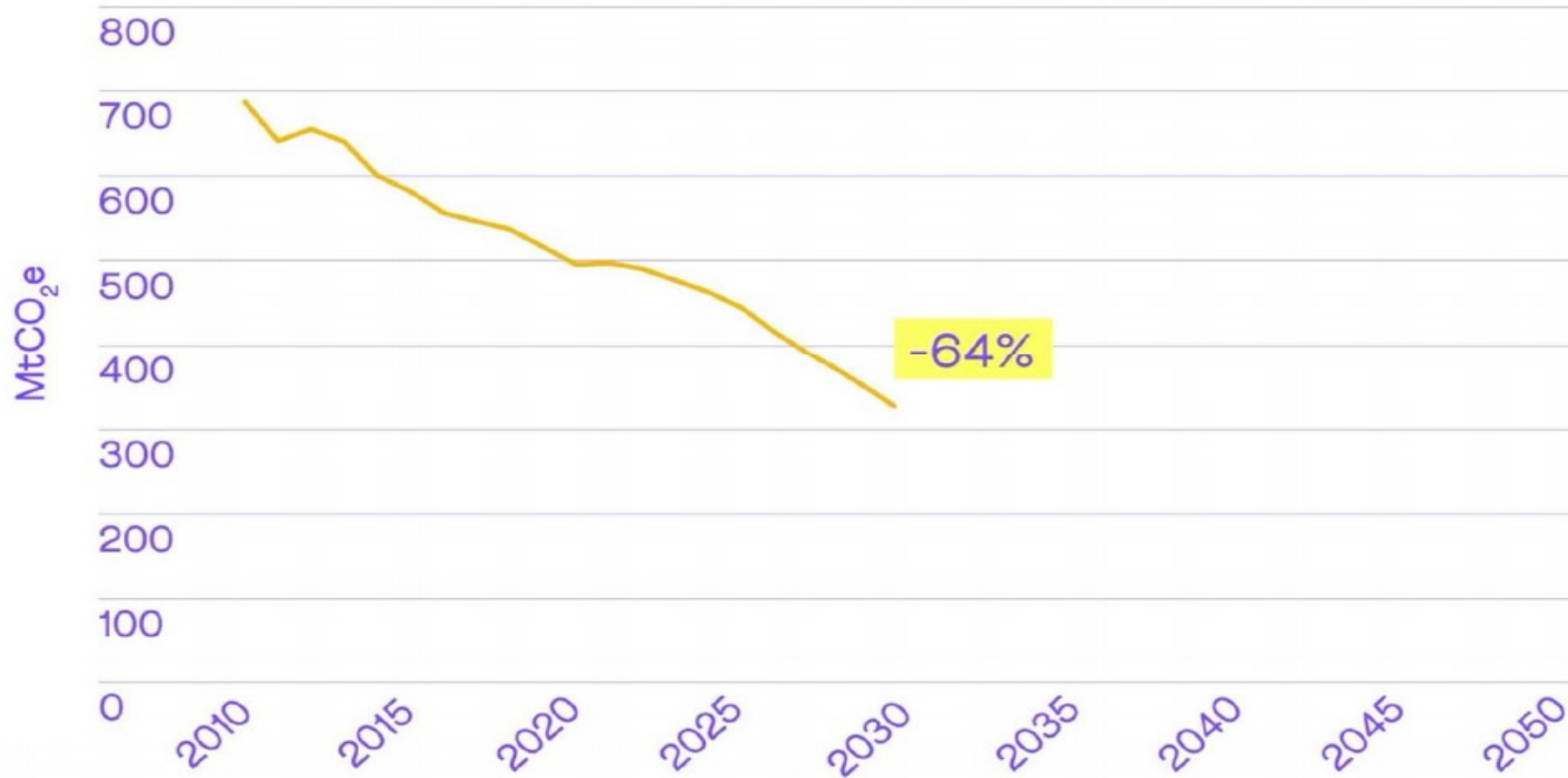
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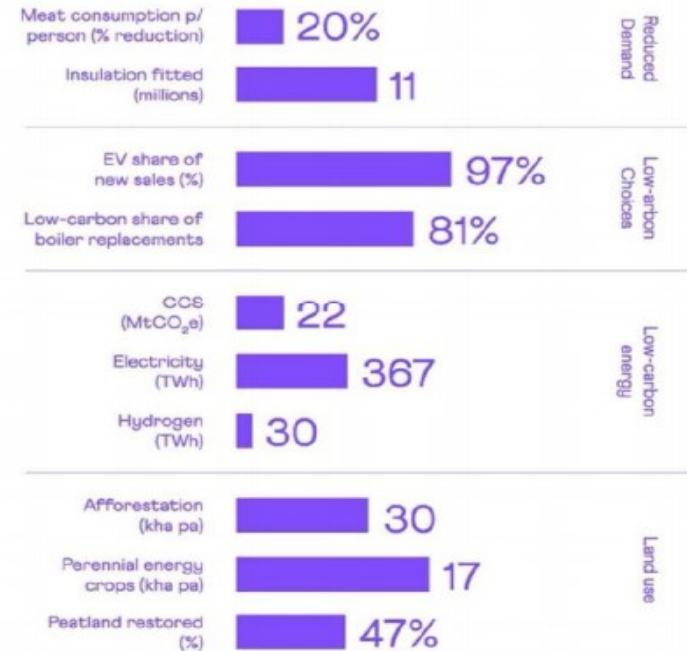
Key developments



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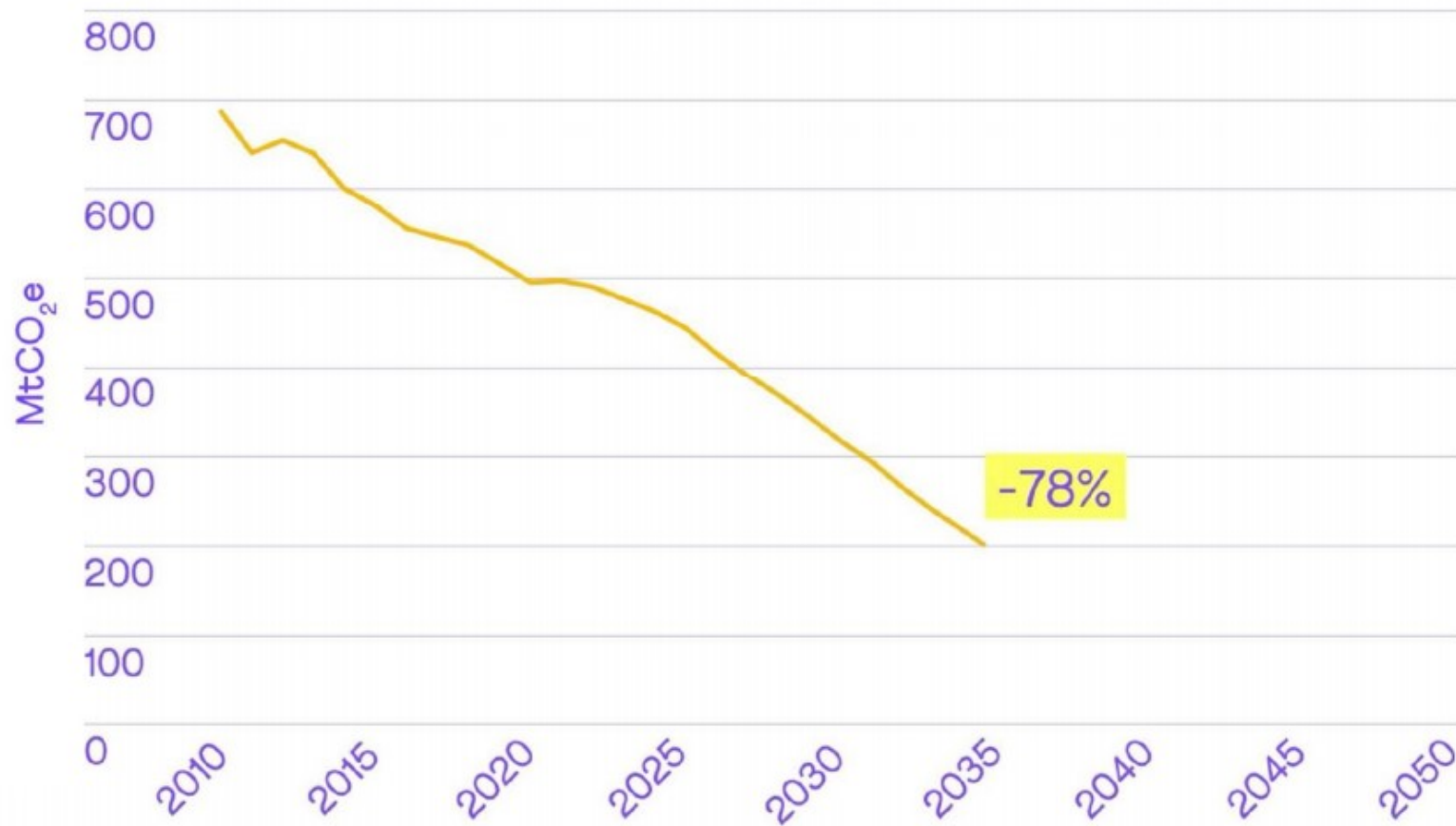


Key developments

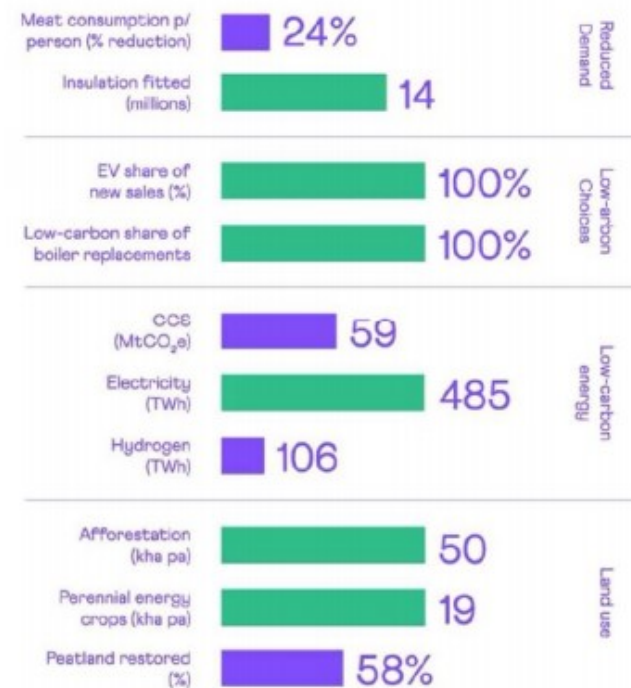


What changes will we see on the recommended pathway

2050



Key developments



Targets and timescales

- In 2020 we had achieved 41% reduction in carbon emissions
- In 2025 we have to achieve and plan for -50%
- In 2030 we have to achieve and plan for -64%
- In 2035 we should be close to the finishing line -78%*
 - Original figure 80% for 2050
- In 2050 we have to be Carbon Net Zero – by Law!

WHAT ISSUES DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER?

- We have to significantly reduce our carbon emissions, our reliance on fossil fuels, our detrimental impacts on the environment:-
- Air Quality
 - CO₂, NO_x, Mercury, PM₁₀'s.
- Water Quality
 - Groundwater, Nicro leachates, Metals, Plastics.
- Soil Quality
 - Chemicals, Resins, Varnishes, Viruses, Bacteria.
- Bio Diversity
 - Choice of Native Trees and Shrubs, Provision of Habitats, Considerate maintenance.

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITY

- The Government has produced its 10 point Green action plan
- The Committee of Climate Change has delivered the 6th Carbon Budget
- The targets and timescales have changed
- This is the biggest impact and opportunity of our lifetime
- Brexit has created a number of changes in terms of Law and Guidance
- The Environment Agency is now leading on UK Emission trading scheme.
- The new Department for the Protection of the Environment
- 2021 will see a raft of new legislation, guidance and advice for our sector.

HOW ARE WE SHAPING THE FUTURE?

- Between March and September this year, we are expecting to undertake at least 3 – 4 round table sessions per grouping within the sector, 12 – 16 in total.
- Feedback in the form of comments, answers to questions and suggestions will be collated to give a view of the overall sector.
- Mid September to mid October these will be utilised to generate the findings in the form of a report.
- In late October that report will be published together with recommendations on the next steps in leading the sector to sustainability.
- We will time the publication for a press event just prior to the opening of COP26 in the first 2 weeks of November in Glasgow.
- www.environmentalstewardshipgroup.org.uk

HOW CAN YOU PLAY YOUR PART?

- Learn more about the Climate Emergency
- Consider how this will affect you and your workplace
- Is there someone who has responsibility for these activities?
- Do you have an Environmental Policy or Policy Statement?
- Have you actively considered your Environmental Impact?
- Do your customers have a view on this aspect of your service?
- Find out who can help you with all of this.
- Above all ask the questions, educate those around you and, get engaged.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- **“In a sector with a great degree of sensitivity around cultural change, the court of public opinion is changing fast, sustainability and environmental issues are at the forefront of market change, those who rise to this challenge will be at the forefront of market advantage, those who lag behind will be at a significant disadvantage”**

Richard Macdonald, Deputy Chair, The Environment Agency

- **“Through partnerships and good communication and being curious we will help understand the challenges we all face better and can work to achieve the optimal results we seek and ensure that we minimise the impact of the inevitable change that’s coming through the climate emergency.”**

Lee Rawlinson Director of Regulated Industry The Environmental Agency

“The biggest threat to the environment is the belief that someone else will save it.” *Robert Swann OBE*



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