Twitter Thread by Ketan Joshi



Ketan Joshi
@KetanJ0

The UK government's climate advisory body is launching its next carbon budget: basically, outlining what the UK can emit between 2033 and 2037. It's a big deal - launch video starting right now.
Watch along:

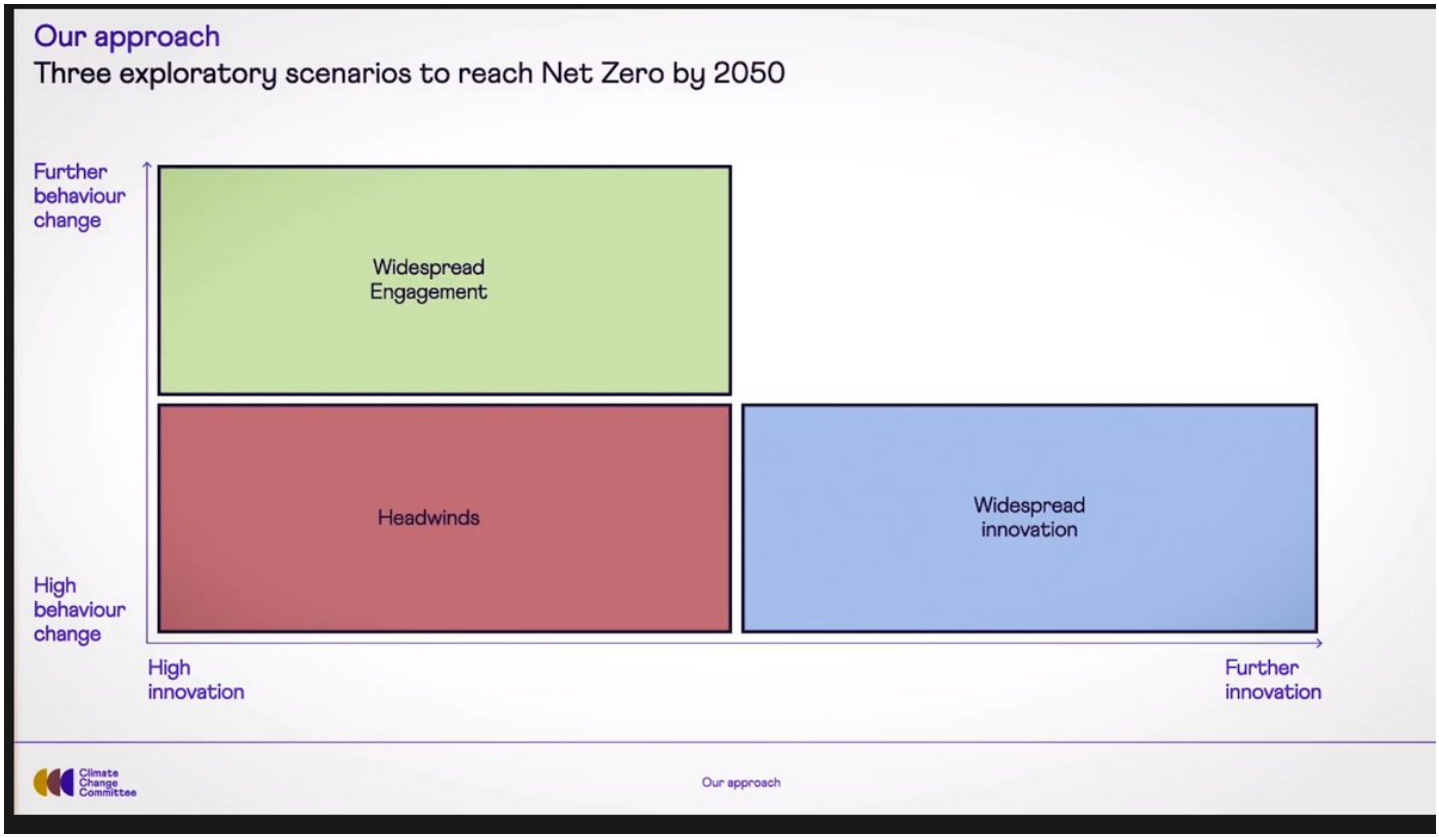
> Just 15 mins until the launch event for our new advice to Government on the Sixth Carbon Budget. If you haven\u2019t registered, you can watch live on YouTube from 10am. Link: https://t.co/PjlcIDSYEC #UKCarbonBudget pic.twitter.com/1zOTfmxDVp
>
> — Climate Change Committee (@theCCCuk) December 9, 2020

Will tweet along snippets. Pretty relevant to.....everything, really. #UKCarbonBudget

"Instead of being just a budget, it's a pathway we have to tread to reach net zero in 2050" @lorddeben

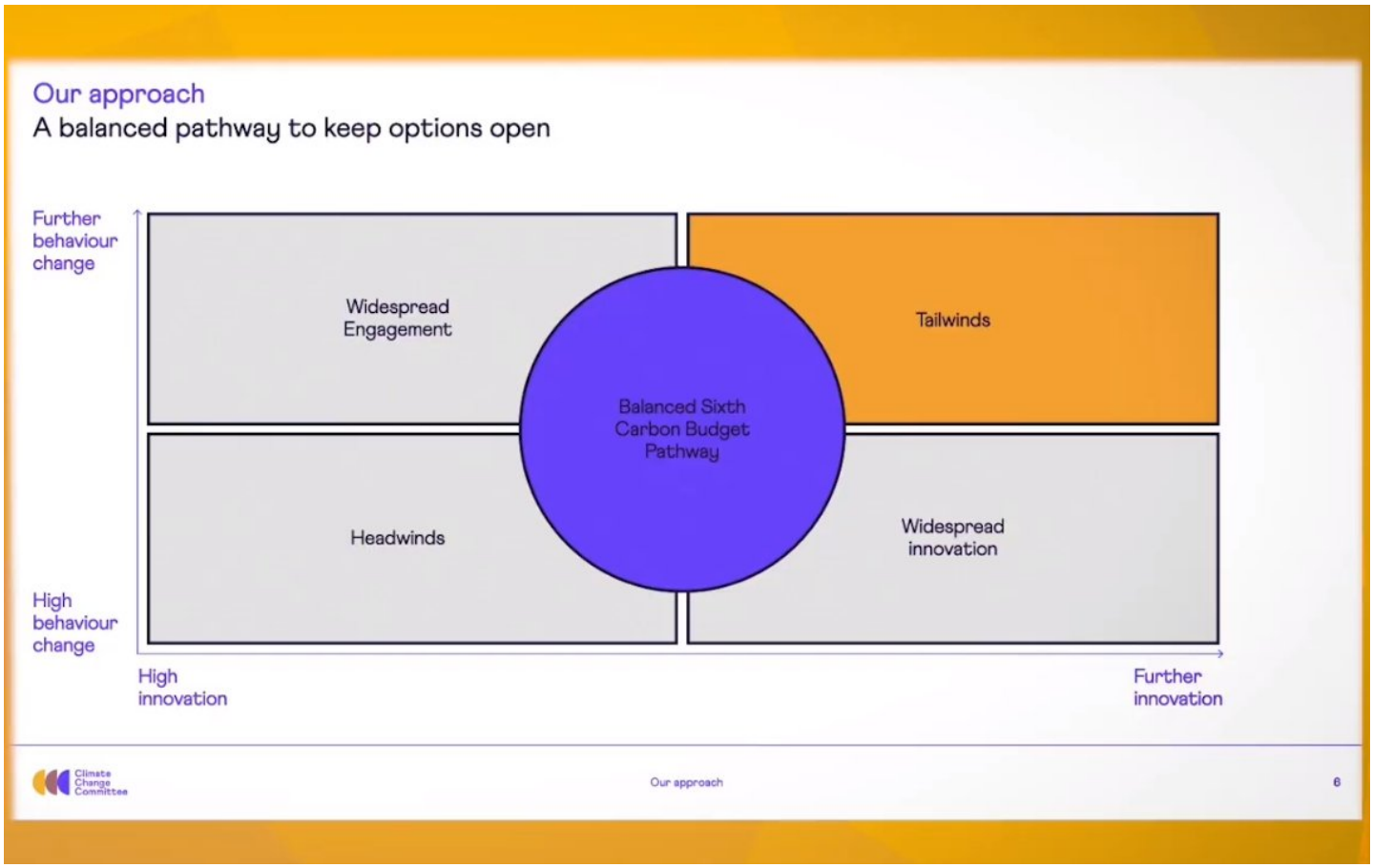
Just like quite a few other modelling exercises, CCC use a spectrum between behaviour change and between technological change. #UKCarbonBudget.

Both = best (just like @AEMO_Media's Step Change scenario in their ISP)



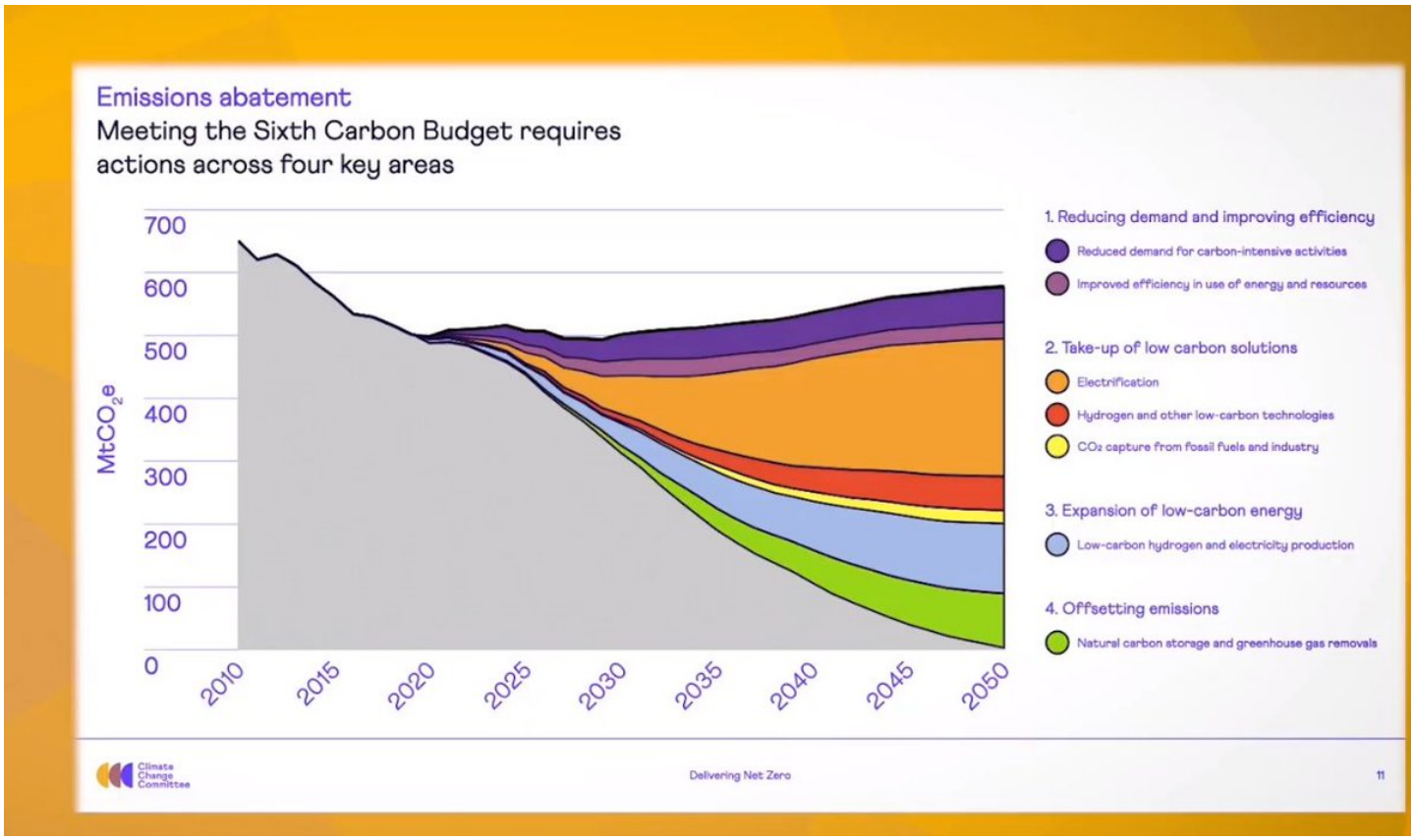
'Balanced' is what they use for their recs. "We're doing 60% of the emissions reductions in the first 15 years, and then 40% in the next".

The slinky kitty curve....good to see. No evidence of delaying action to Dec 29 2049, here. #UKCarbonBudget



"By front loading, we're minimising the UK's contribution to cumulative emissions" - really important point. A slow path to net zero - more climate harm than a fast one. #UKCarbonBudget

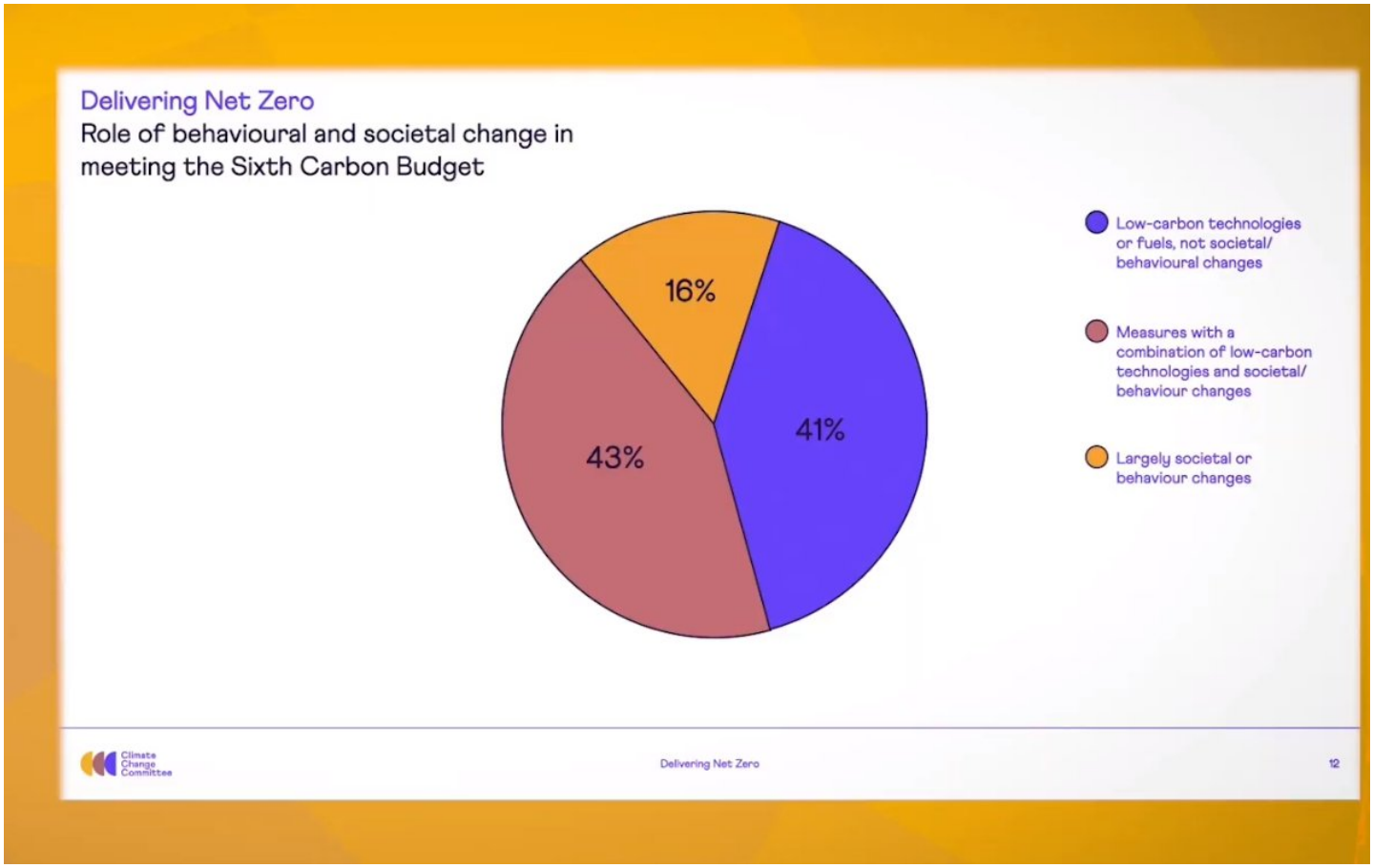
"This is our rainbow of abatement" - nice @IEA-style split-out of how to cut emissions to near-zero by 2050. Reducing demand for CO2 intensive stuff (flying, meat) is quite a big purple chunk there. #UKCarbonBudget



This is a really interesting graphic:

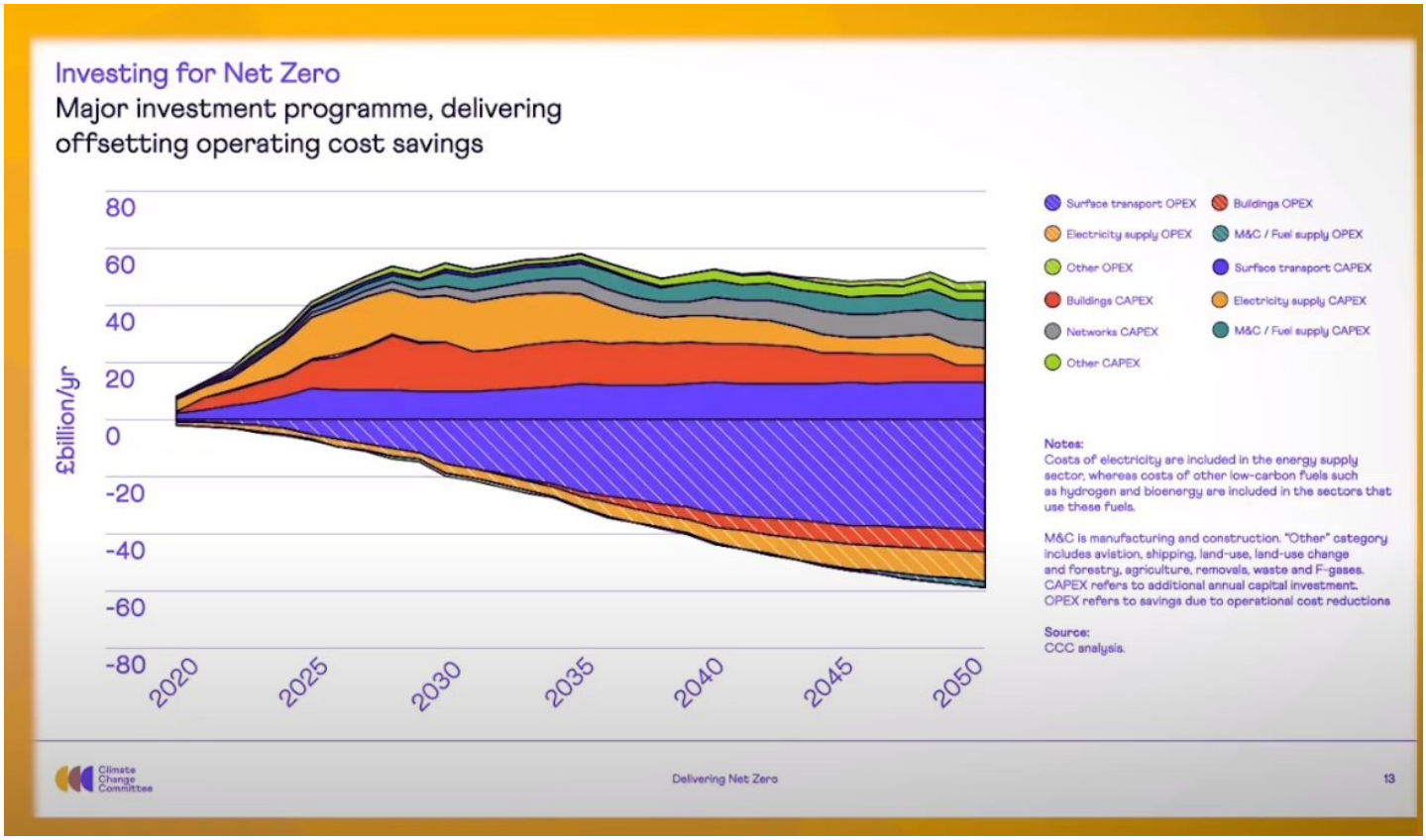
Orange = purely behavioural change
Purple = purely tech
Red (pink??) = a mix of tech and behaviour

"There is nothing to be afraid of at all.....they won't be major change to our lifestyles", on the red wedge #UKCarbonBudget



UK will need a huge amount of (mostly private) investment in new zero carbon assets, but the savings from not buying fossil fuels eventually cancel that out.

"Any notion that we can't afford to tackle climate change is clearly nonsense" #ukcarbonbudget

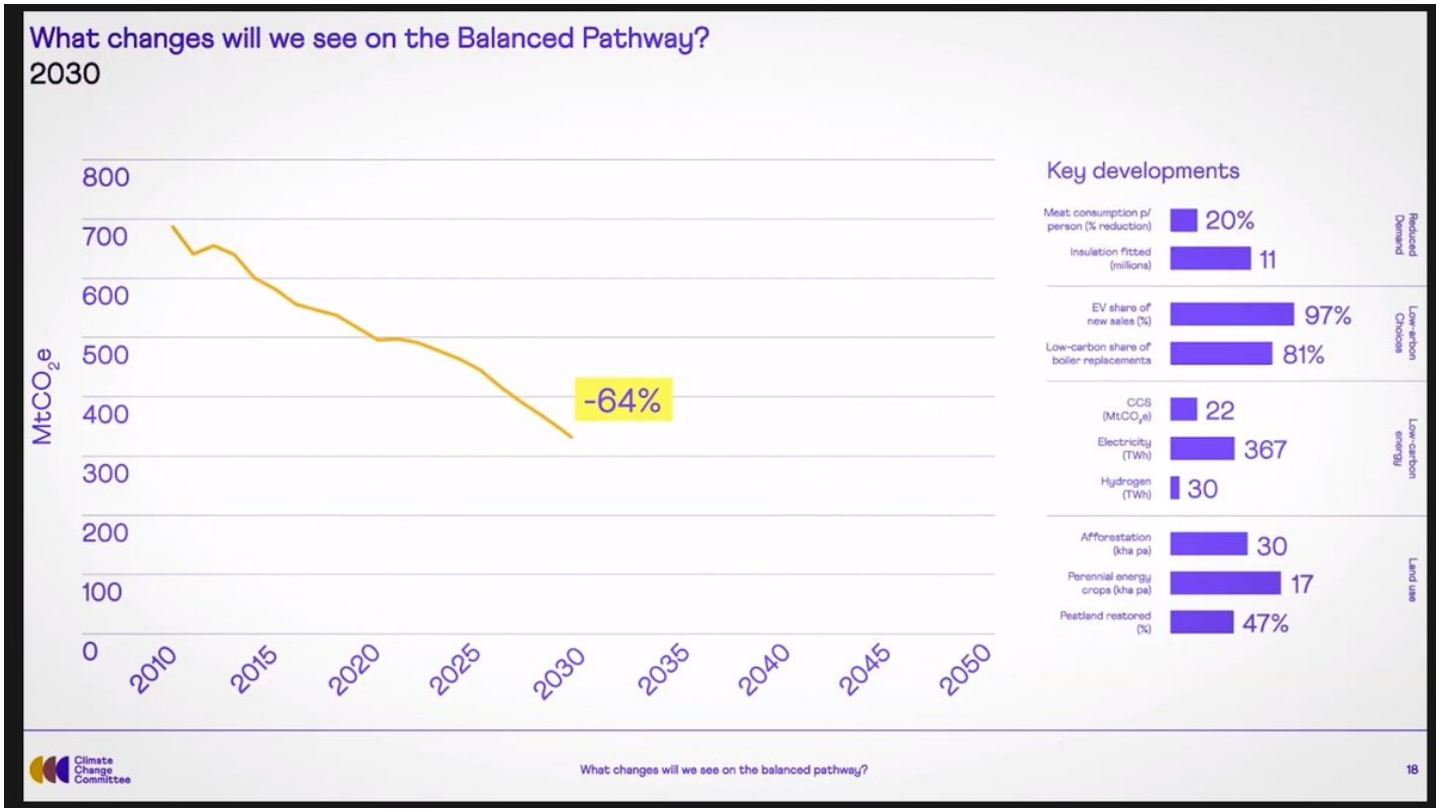


"The challenge is not to rely on a pandemic to cut emissions. The key is to drive changes that last"

CC @AngusTaylorMP #ukcarbonbudget

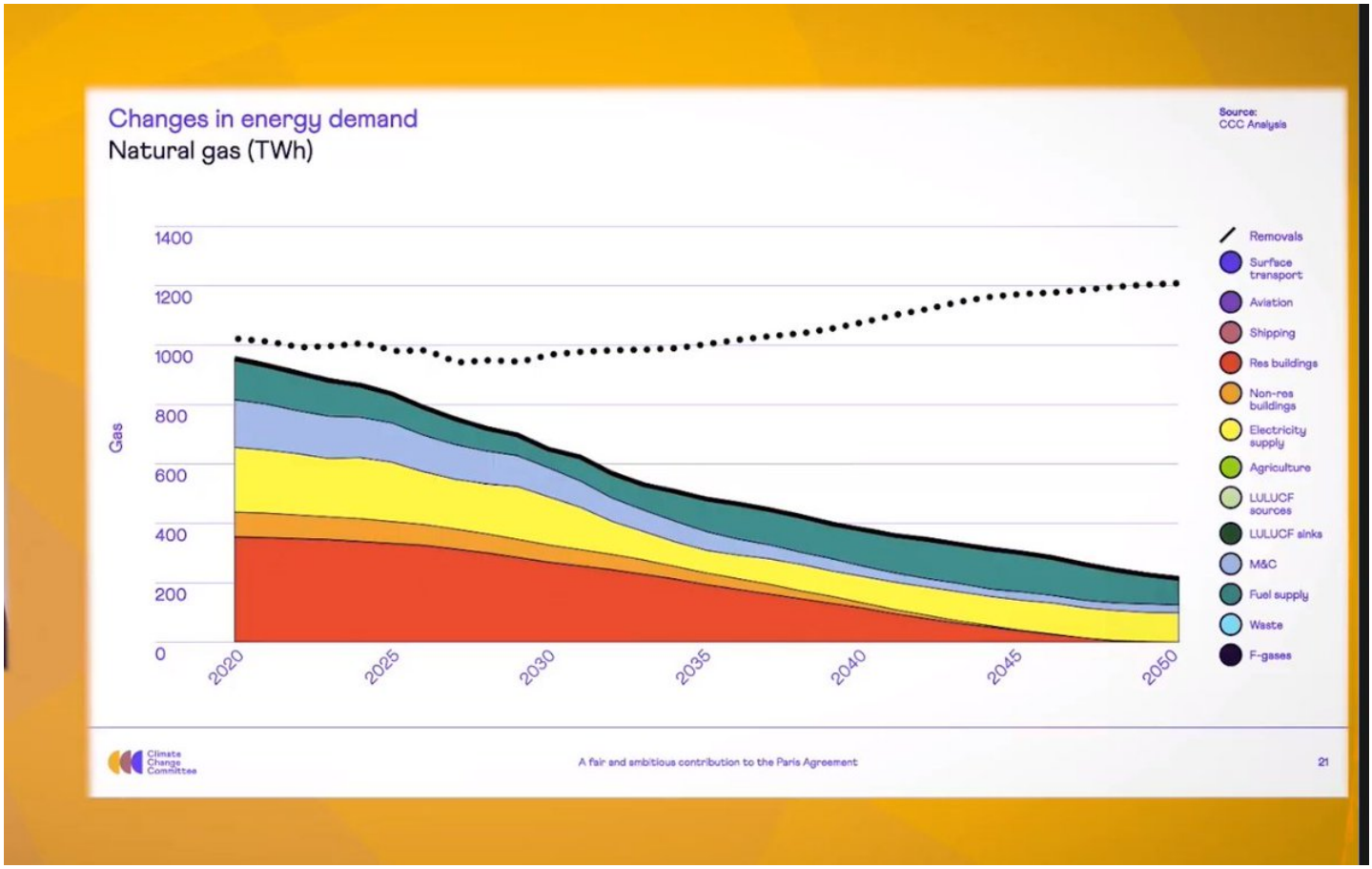
"We're hitting a million heat pump installations by 2030", in addition to nearly 100% of new car sales being electric (small amount of hybrids) #ukcarbonbudget, w/ 30TWh of H2 produced.

Zero carbon elec by 2035 (just like the US). No new sales of gas boilers by 2033



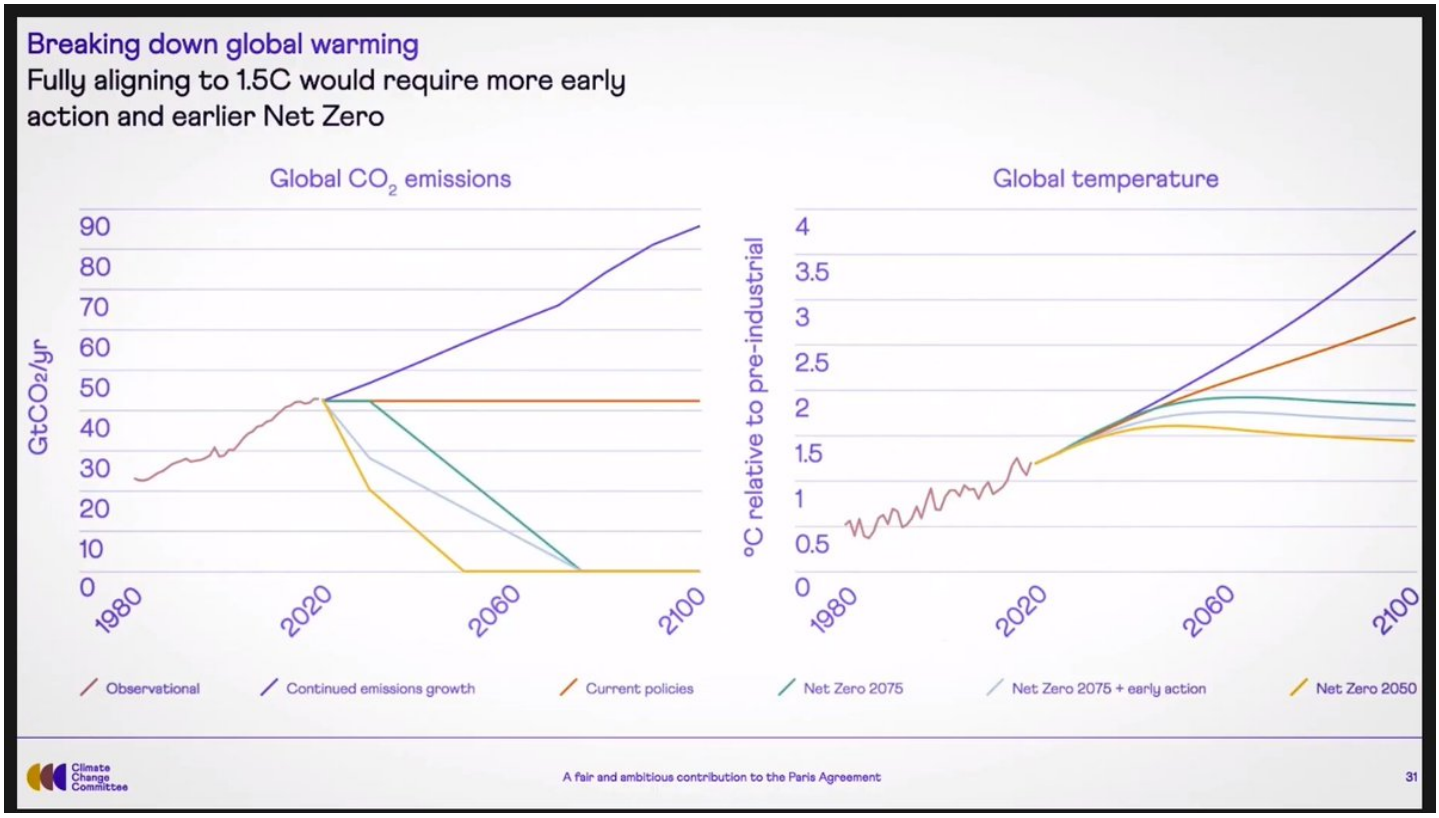
"The crucial point here is that this is all genuinely feasible.....but it is also genuinely challenging" #UKcarbonbduget @ChiefExecCCC

"Gas is not acting as a bridge fuel. It's a fossil fuel and we need to move away from it" #UKcarbondget



Nice comparison of emissions vs temps. The decisions made to cause the problem have mattered - the decisions made to stop it matter too.

#ukcarbonbudget



A familiar accent from @pilitaclark during the Q&A session.... #ukcarbonbudget https://t.co/faxRj5KF8x

"If you take the time to guide people through this, they're really supportive of action" on how to integrate behaviour change into net zero. Can't help but think of toxic UK media outlets and how easily they could ruin all that. #UKCarbonBudget

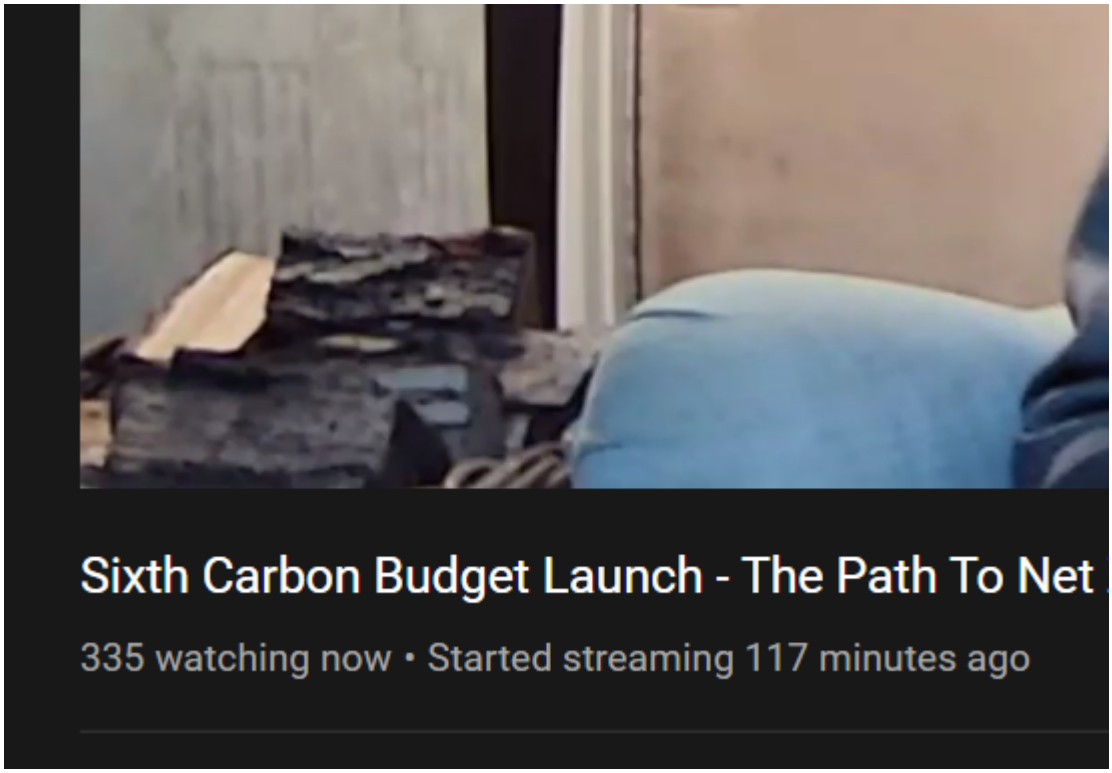
Aus media and conservatives used a "the government is coming to take your car" narrative in 2019 on efficiency standards and it definitely helped them win an election #UKCarbonBudget

A really interesting point from @ChiefExecCCC - the hard, empirical pathway (spreadsheets) and the qualitative, consultation-led pathway (climate assemblies, etc) both end up in really similar places. #UKCarbonBudget

Lord Deben literally having an air-sourced heat pump installed during the call #UKCarbonBudget



He's got biomass backup #UKCarbonBudget



On heat pumps and the suggestion to phase out gas boilers in thirteen years - these are two headline describing precisely the same piece of news:

#UKCarbonBudget



"While its great to hear commitments to net zero.....the path by which we get there is crucial. It's the accumulated CO2 emissions in the atmosphere that are changing the climate.....they must have a tough intermediate target. The 2030 NDCs are crucial"

#UKCarbonBudget

By 2030, the UK won't be building any more new unabated gas plants (that should surely be.....now, right?), under the CCC's balanced pathway scenario #UKCarbonBudget

Previous Next

Table 3
Phase-out dates of high-carbon activities under the Balanced Pathway

Technology/behaviour	Phase out date (sales)	Backstop date (operation)
New fossil-fuelled cars and vans	2032 (including plug-in hybrids)	2050
Gas boilers	2033 (in residential homes) 2030-33 (in commercial properties)	2050
Oil boilers	2028 (in residential homes) 2025-26 (in commercial properties)	2050
Gas power generation (unabated)	2030 (no new build of unabated gas plants)	2035
HGVs	2040	Beyond 2050
Biodegradable waste sent to landfill	N/A	2025 ban on all municipal & non-municipal biodegradable waste going to landfill
Unabated energy-from-waste plants	From today, new plants and extensions should be built with CCS or CCS ready	2050

UK shifting energy from oil+gas into electricity+hydrogen ends up with a total *lower* amount of energy consumption, because electricity is just so much more efficient.

Also see: @GriffithSaul's @rewiringamerica work!

Or: https://t.co/BYvbPTPX6e #UKCarbonBudget

Energy demand falls on aggregate, with fossil fuels replaced by low-carbon electricity and hydrogen.

Figure 2.7 Energy demand (TWh) by sector in The Balanced Net Zero Pathway

