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Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change

# Government priorities for mitigation

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# 1. The Climate Change Act: an introduction

# Pillars of the 2008 Climate Change Act



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## There are three main pillars to the Climate Change Act

### 1. Ambitious climate change targets for 2050

**The Act commits the UK to reducing greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050**

(compared to 1990 levels)

This was chosen as an “appropriate UK contribution to global mitigation effort to keep warming to 2°C

### 2. Binding carbon budgets

The Act requires that Government caps emissions over successive 5-year periods

These budgets must be set 12 years in advance

They are set to deliver a cost-effective transition to the 2050 goal

### 3. Clear accountability framework

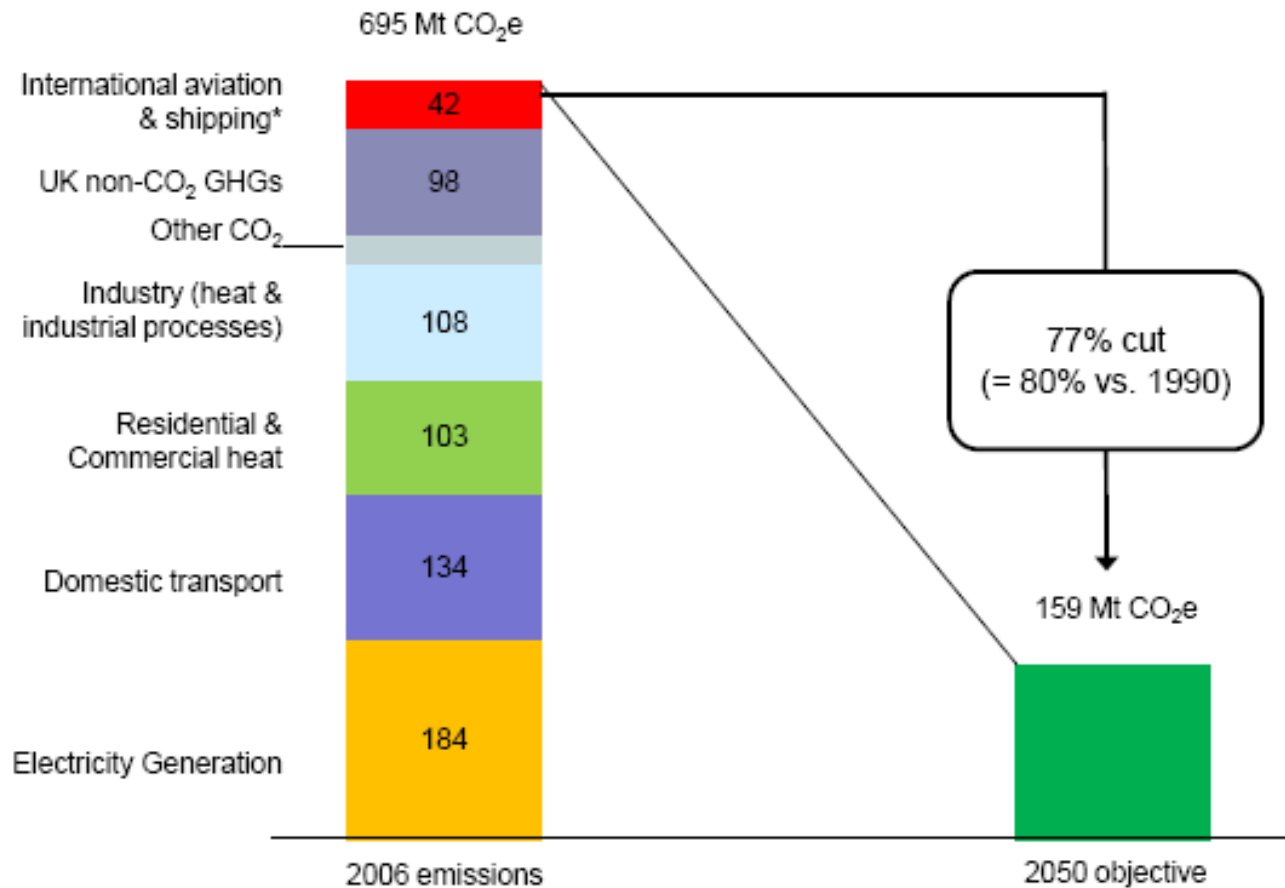
The Act established an independent Committee on Climate Change to provide advice and scrutiny

The Act also reflects the wider benefits (e.g. for air pollution) of tackling climate change

# Emissions will be cut by 80% by 2050 – requiring emissions cuts across the economy



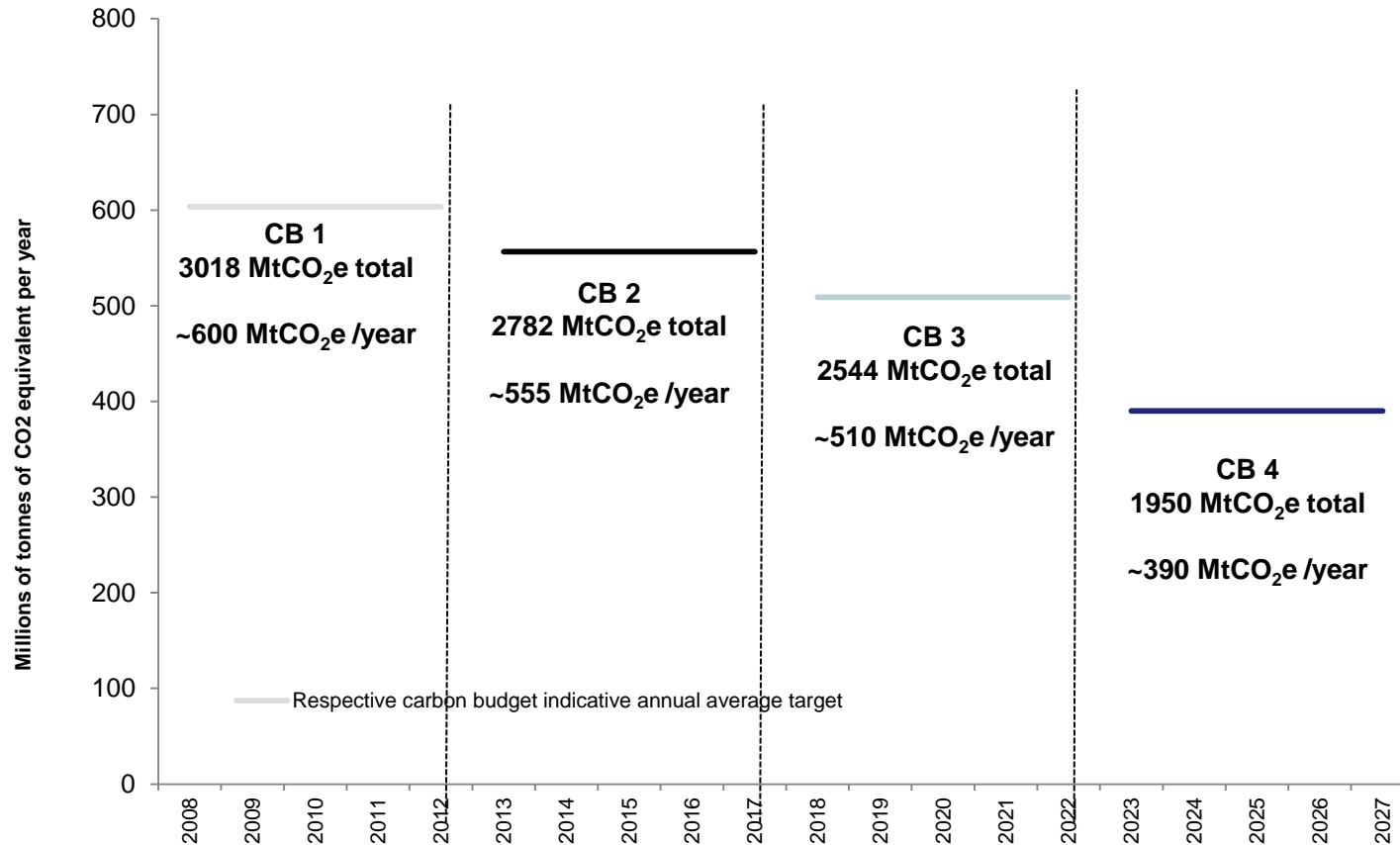
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\* bunker fuels basis



# Four carbon budgets have been set in law to 2027





## **2. Meeting carbon budgets: publishing policies and plans**

# The Carbon Plan lays out actions in five main sectors



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Power	Buildings	Industry	Transport	Agriculture, waste and F-gases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Electricity Market Reform</b> deploying low-carbon generation and security of supply</li> <li>• <b>New nuclear</b> programme and competitive <b>CCS pilot</b></li> <li>• Working towards <b>competition</b> between renewables, CCS and nuclear in the 2020s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Energy efficiency</b> in domestic buildings</li> <li>• Transition to <b>low-carbon heat</b> through deployment of Renewable Heat, with heat networks in the 2020s</li> <li>• Financial and reputational incentives for non-domestic buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roadmaps</b> for individual sectors</li> <li>• Focused on uptake of <b>energy efficiency</b> measures</li> <li>• <b>Industrial CCS</b> expected to be needed in some sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tailpipe emissions</b> from cars and vans driven down by EU level emissions standards</li> <li>• £500m support (to 2020) for ultra-low emission vehicles</li> <li>• Industry collaboration for savings in freight and heavy vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenhouse Gas Action Plan (GHGAP) focused on agricultural emissions</li> <li>• Reducing excess waste and increasing methane capture rates</li> <li>• EU legislation will significantly reduce F-gas levels</li> </ul>



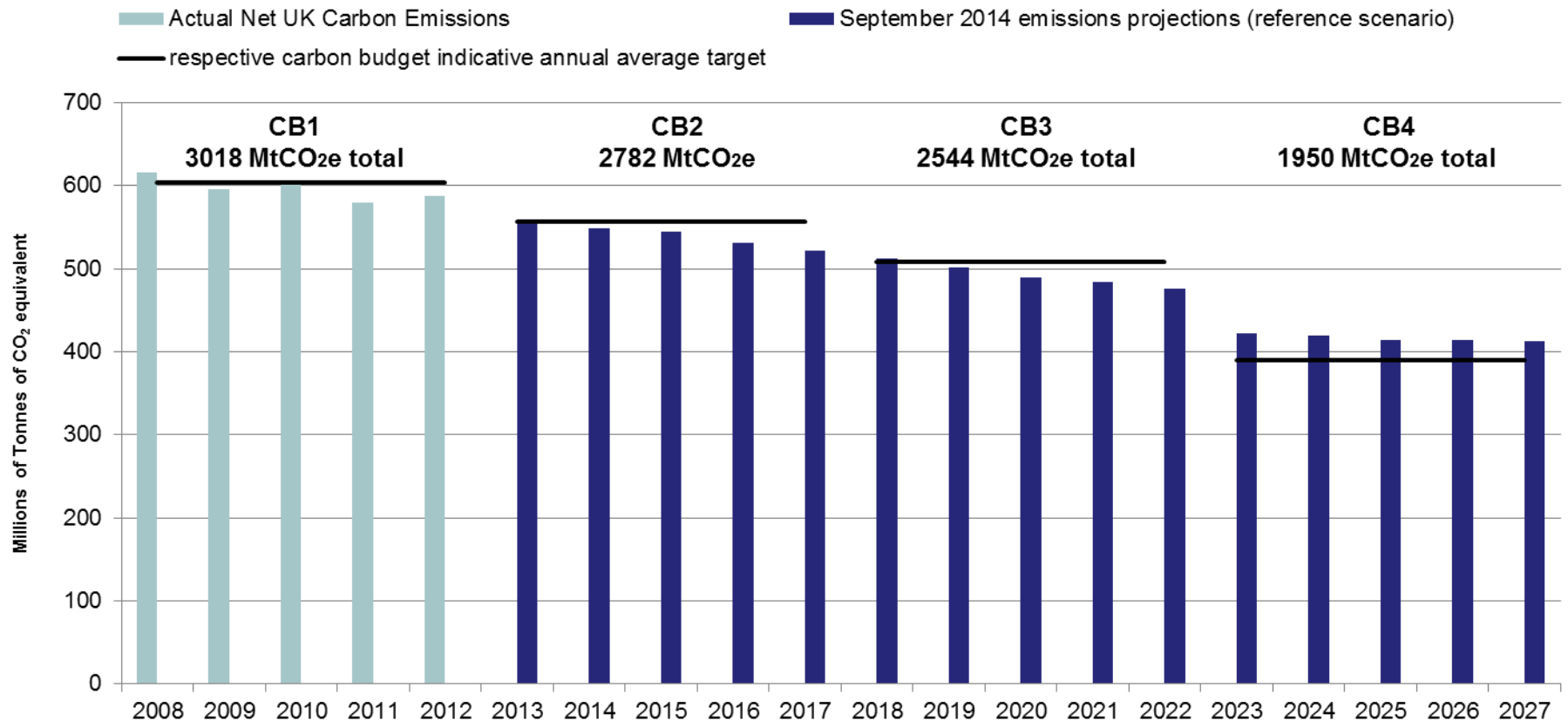


## **3. Measuring performance**

# Government also publishes annual emissions projections to show anticipated performance



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We have met the first carbon budget and are on track to meet the second and third carbon budgets based on latest published projections – but more policies will be needed to meet the fourth carbon budget



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