

# Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group

## National and local background

18 October 2019

# Background

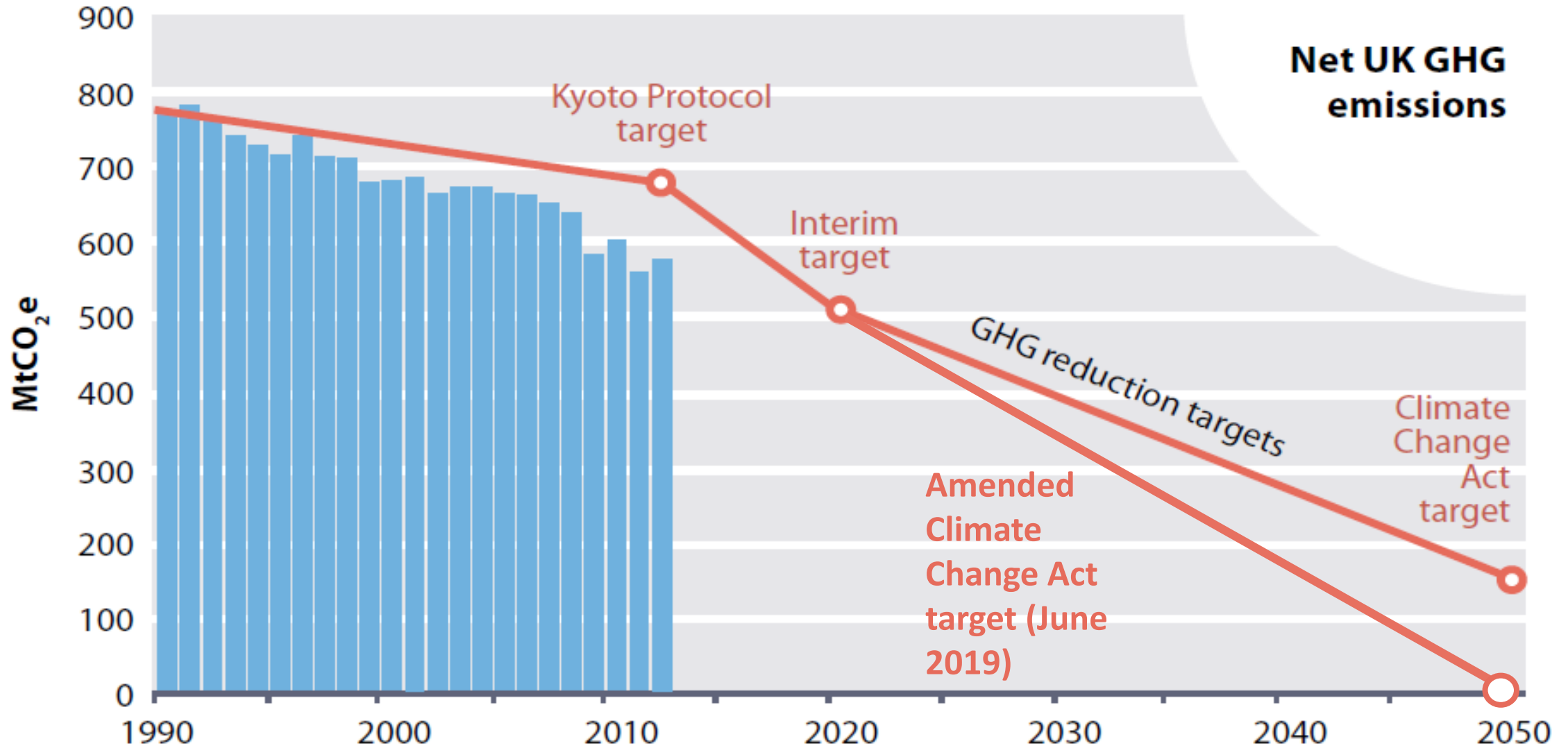
- Climate Change Act 2008 introduced the UK's first legally binding target for 2050 to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% compared to 1990 levels**
- 2015 Paris Agreement – 195 countries adopted the first-ever binding global climate deal
- Governments agreed to goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C
- June 2019 the UK amended the Act and set a legally binding target to achieve **net zero emissions from across the UK economy by 2050**

# Background

“The UK’s 2050 net zero target — one of the most ambitious in the world — was recommended by the Committee on Climate Change, the UK’s independent climate advisory body. Net zero means any emissions would be balanced by schemes to offset an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, such as planting trees or using technology like carbon capture and storage.”

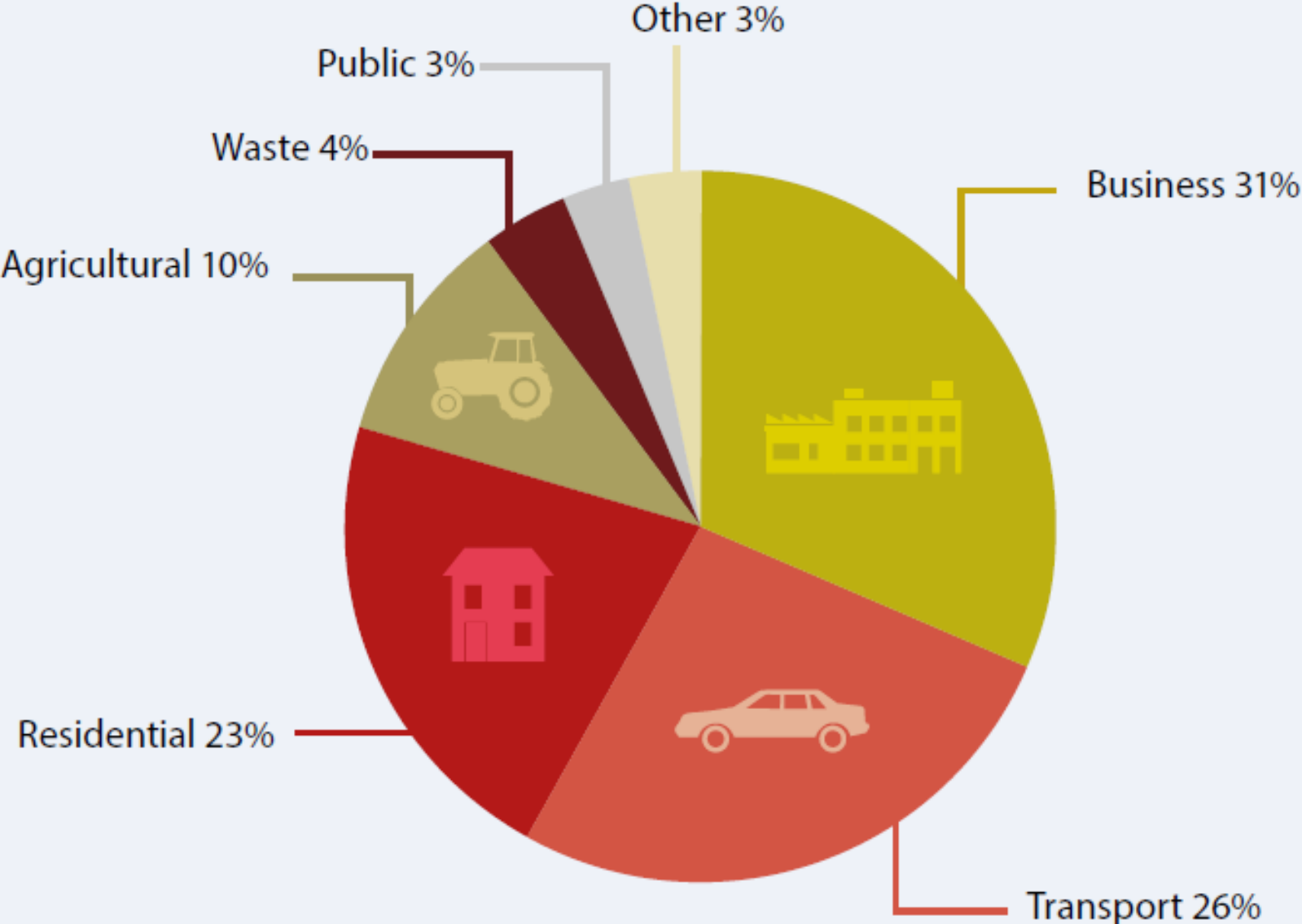
*Chris Skidmore, Energy and Clean Growth Minister, June 2019*

# Background



Annual UK greenhouse gas emissions (excluding aviation and shipping) showing progress against targets

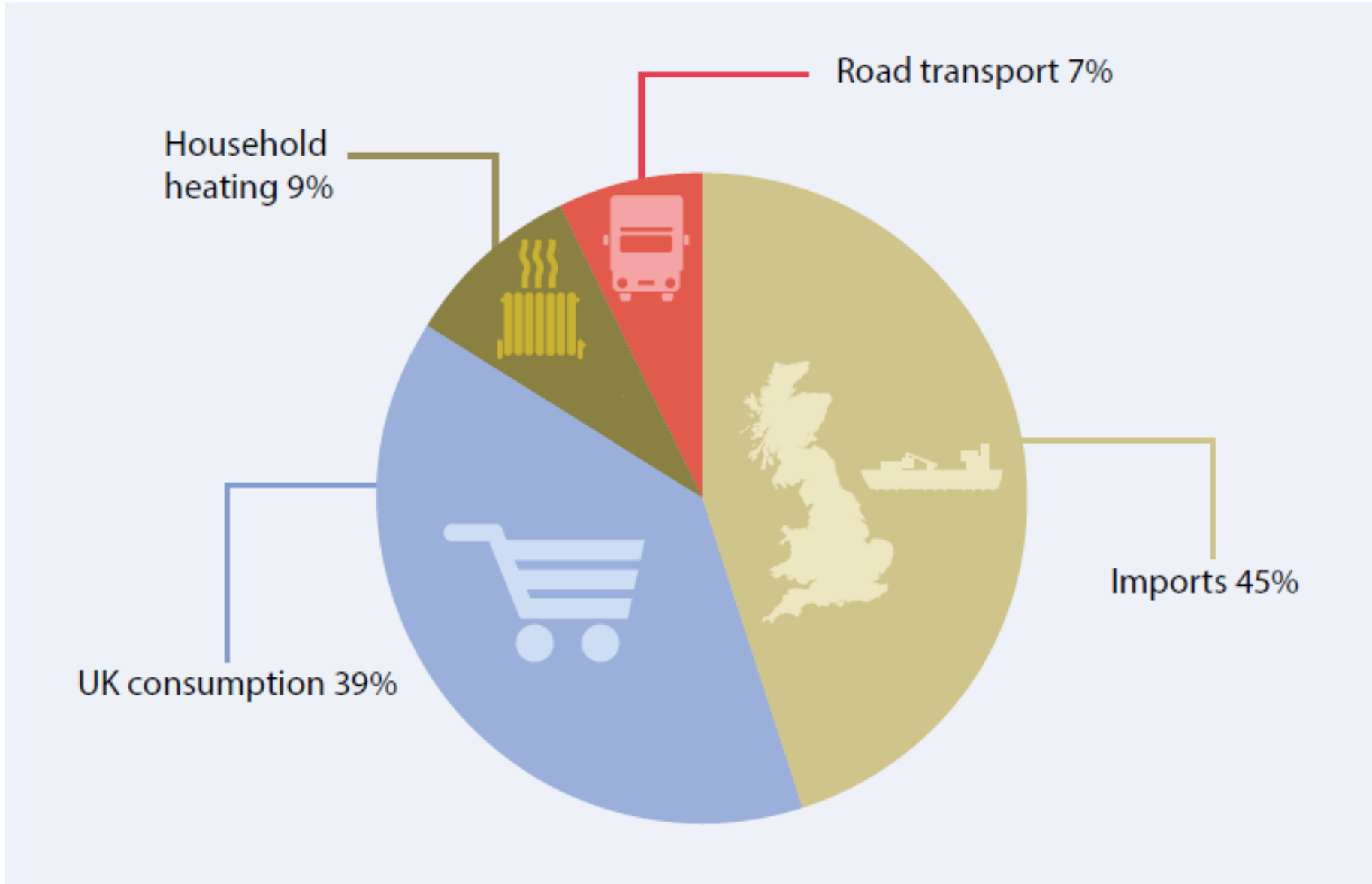
# Emissions generated in UK (by user)



Total UK generated emissions – **514 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent**

Greenhouse gas emissions generated in UK by user (DECC, 2016)

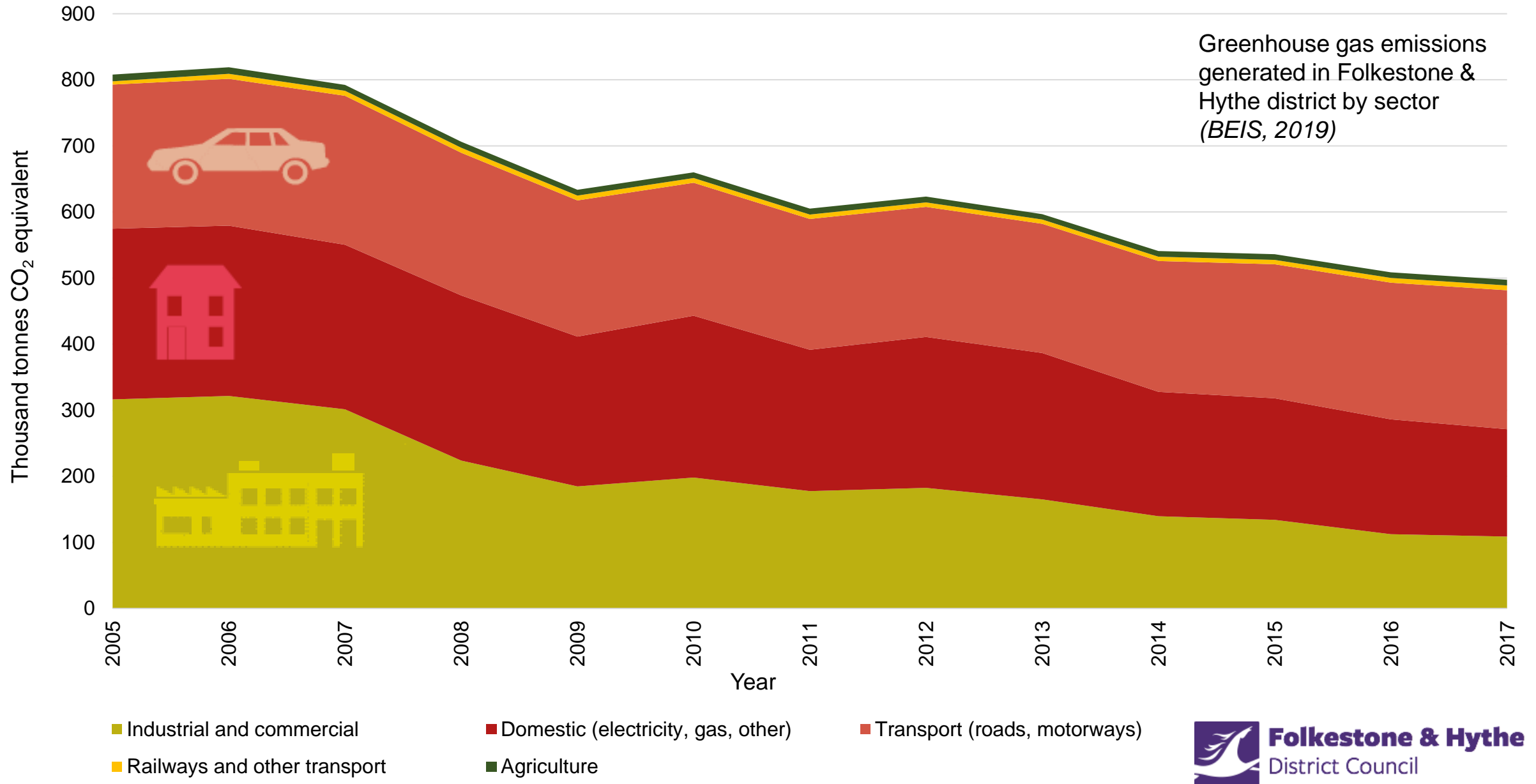
# UK emissions (including imported goods and services)



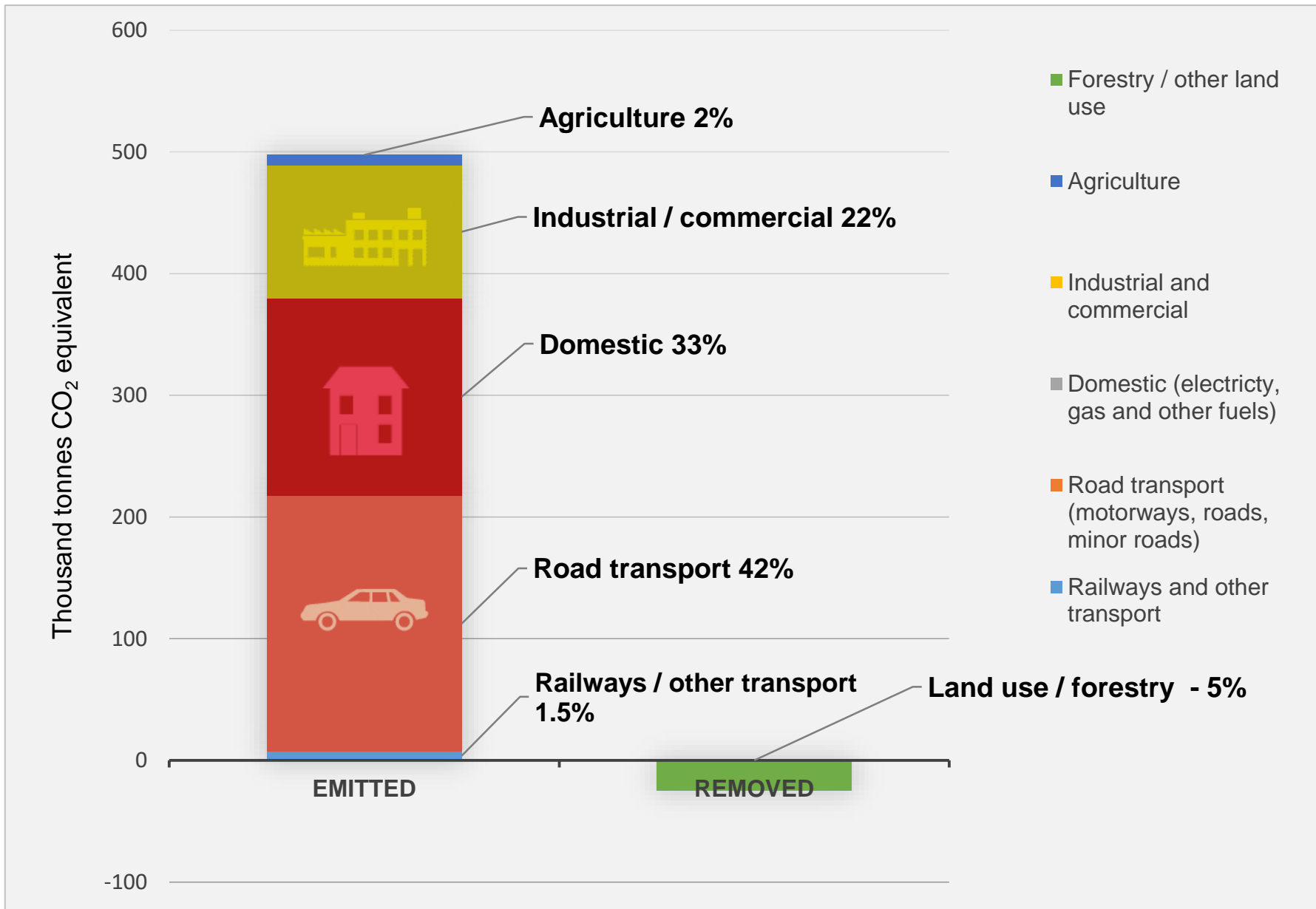
Total UK emissions including imports – **863 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent**

UK total consumption emissions, including goods and services imported (DEFRA, 2016)

# Folkestone & Hythe district - direct emissions (2005-17)



# Folkestone & Hythe district - direct emissions



Folkestone & Hythe generated emissions (2017 figures) - **472,500 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> net** (497,400 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent gross)

Greenhouse gas emissions generated in Folkestone & Hythe district by sector (BEIS, 2019)



# Four key areas



- Road transport
- Domestic
- Industrial and commercial
- Agriculture, forestry and other land use

# Transport

- Road transport (motorways, main roads, minor roads) is responsible for around **42% of the district's greenhouse gas emissions** (gross)
- Opportunities:
  - Reducing the need to travel (e.g. home working)
  - Replace driving with walking and cycling for short trips (e.g. the school run)
  - Promote public transport
  - Reduce dependency on the car (e.g. car sharing, car clubs)
  - Promote electric vehicles for unavoidable journeys

# Domestic energy

- Domestic energy is responsible for around **33% of the district's greenhouse gas emissions** (gross) – mainly space heating (electricity, gas and other fuels)
- Opportunities:
  - Reduction in energy demand – insulation of existing homes, improved energy efficiency of appliances
  - Managing energy demand more efficiently – smart meters and energy storage
  - Switch to renewable energy technologies for remaining energy needs – heat pumps, solar hot water and district heat networks

# Industrial and commercial

- Industrial and commercial activities are responsible for around **22% of the district's domestic greenhouse gas emissions**
- Opportunities:
  - Reduction in energy demand – reducing heat loss, improved energy efficiency of processes
  - Managing energy demand more efficiently – smart meters and energy storage
  - Switch to renewable energy technologies for remaining energy needs

# Agriculture, forestry and land use change

- Some agricultural activities emit greenhouse gases (e.g. vehicles, equipment, fertiliser use)
- Some land use changes remove emissions (e.g. tree planting)
- Agriculture is responsible for around **2% of the district's emissions** (gross) but land use change **removes around 5% of emissions**
- Opportunities:
  - Promoting more healthy diets
  - Reduction in packaging and transport ('food miles')
  - Reduced food waste (in production and consumption)
  - Improved farming practices
  - Improved management of other open spaces
  - Increased woodland planting and street trees, recreation of lost habitats (e.g. wetlands)

# Discussion