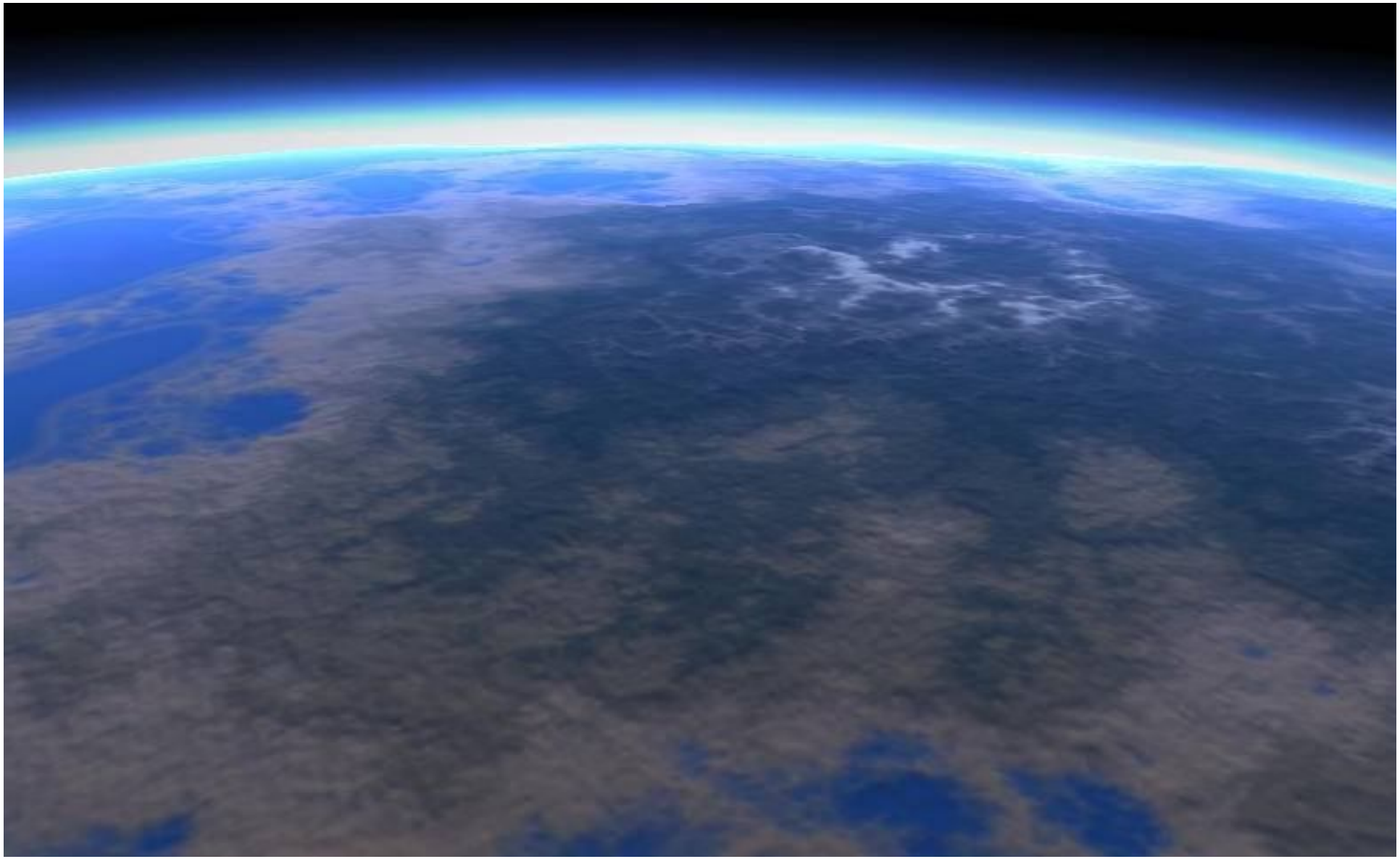
Maternity Services in a Changing World

Head in the sand or Line in the sand?

Sonia Roschnik
Operational Director



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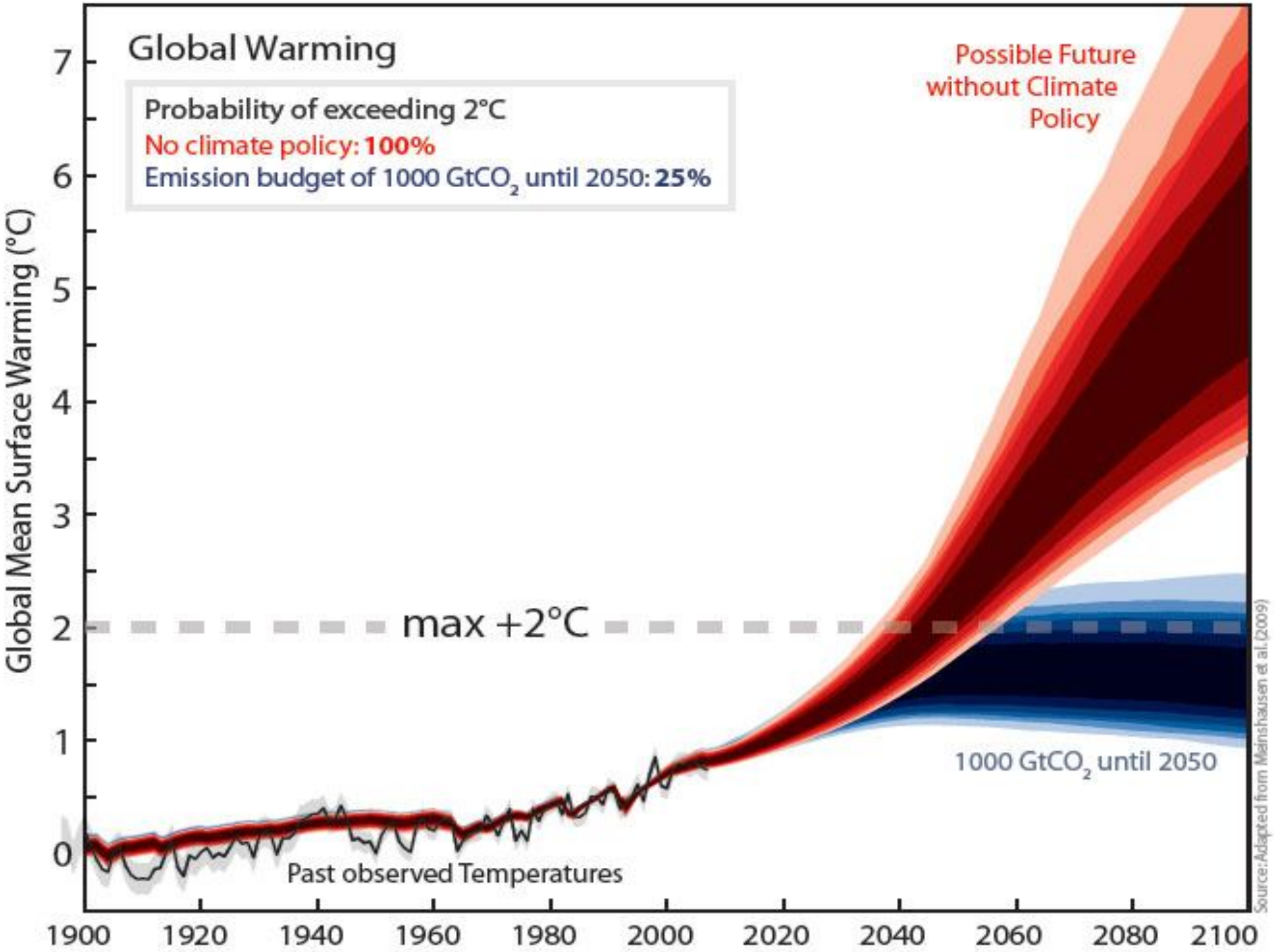
Sustainable
Development Unit


Global Warming
Probability of exceeding 2°C
No climate policy: 100%
Emission budget of 1000 GtCO2 until 2050: 25%
Possible Future without Climate Policy
max +2°C
1000 GtCO2 until 2050
Past observed Temperatures
Global Mean Surface Warming (°C)
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
1900
1920
1940
1960
1980
2000
2020
2040
2060
2080
2100
Source: Adapted from Meinshausen et al. (2009)

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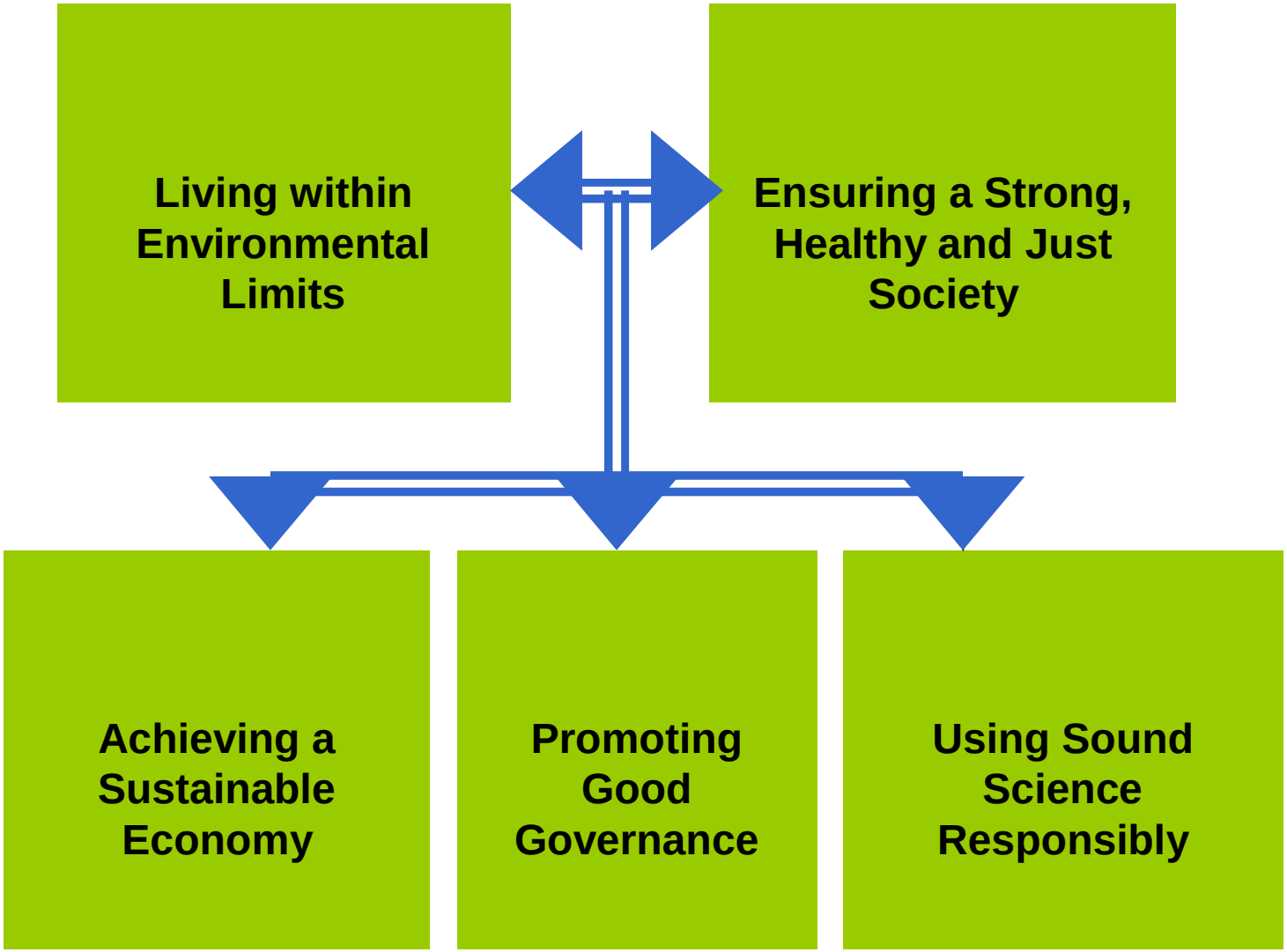
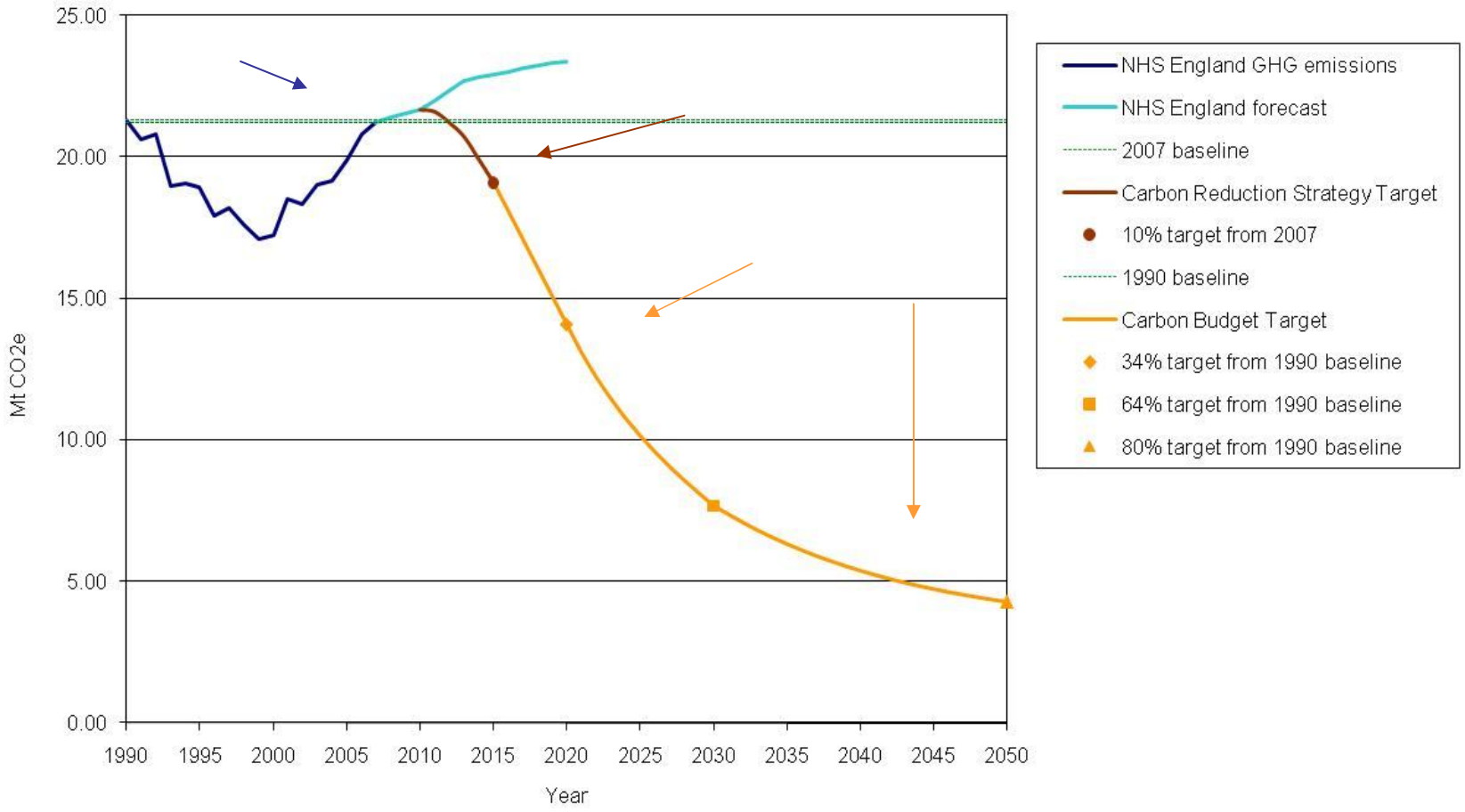
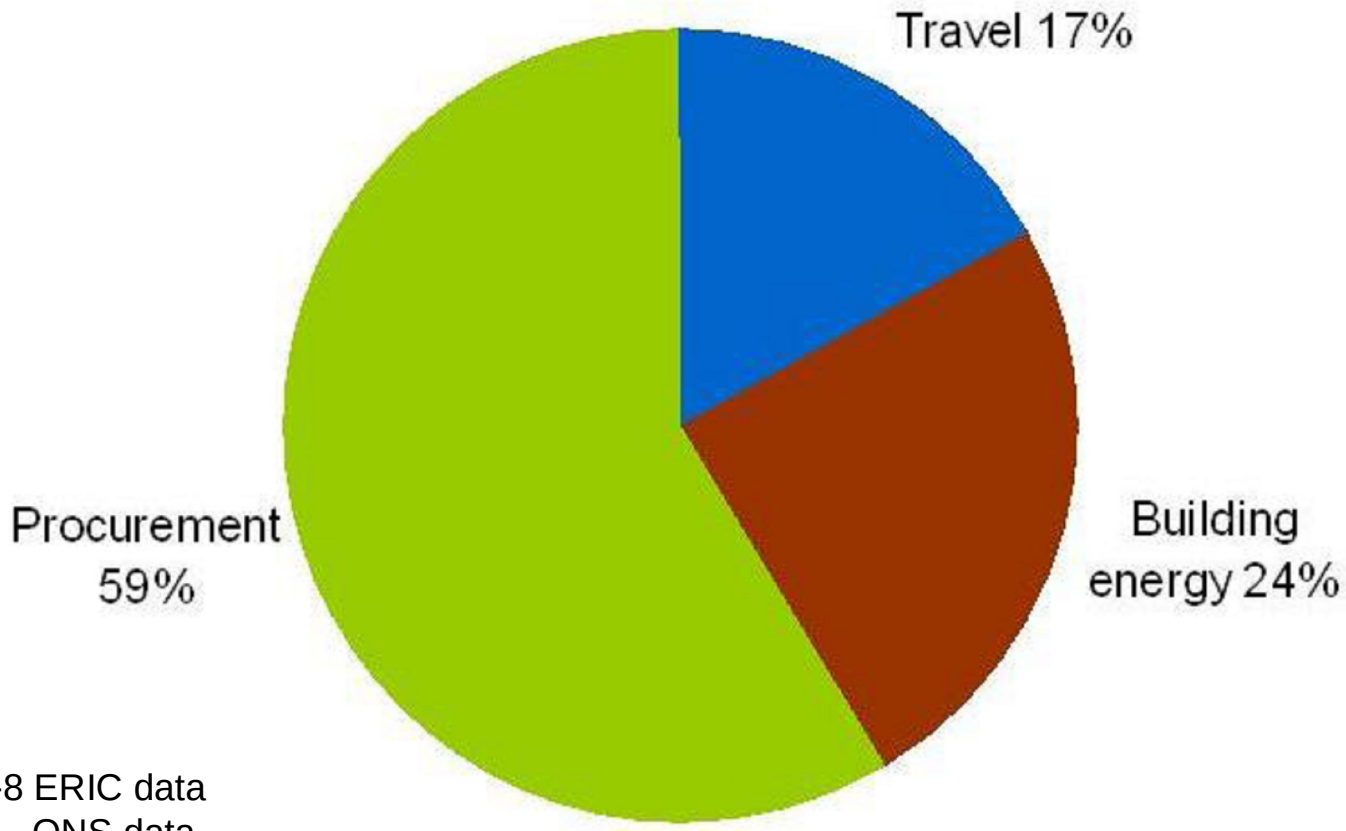
Sustainable Development Unit


Living within Environmental Limits
Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society
Achieving a Sustainable Economy
Promoting Good Governance
Using Sound Science Responsibly

NHS England CO_2e footprint 1990 – 2020 with Climate Change Act targets

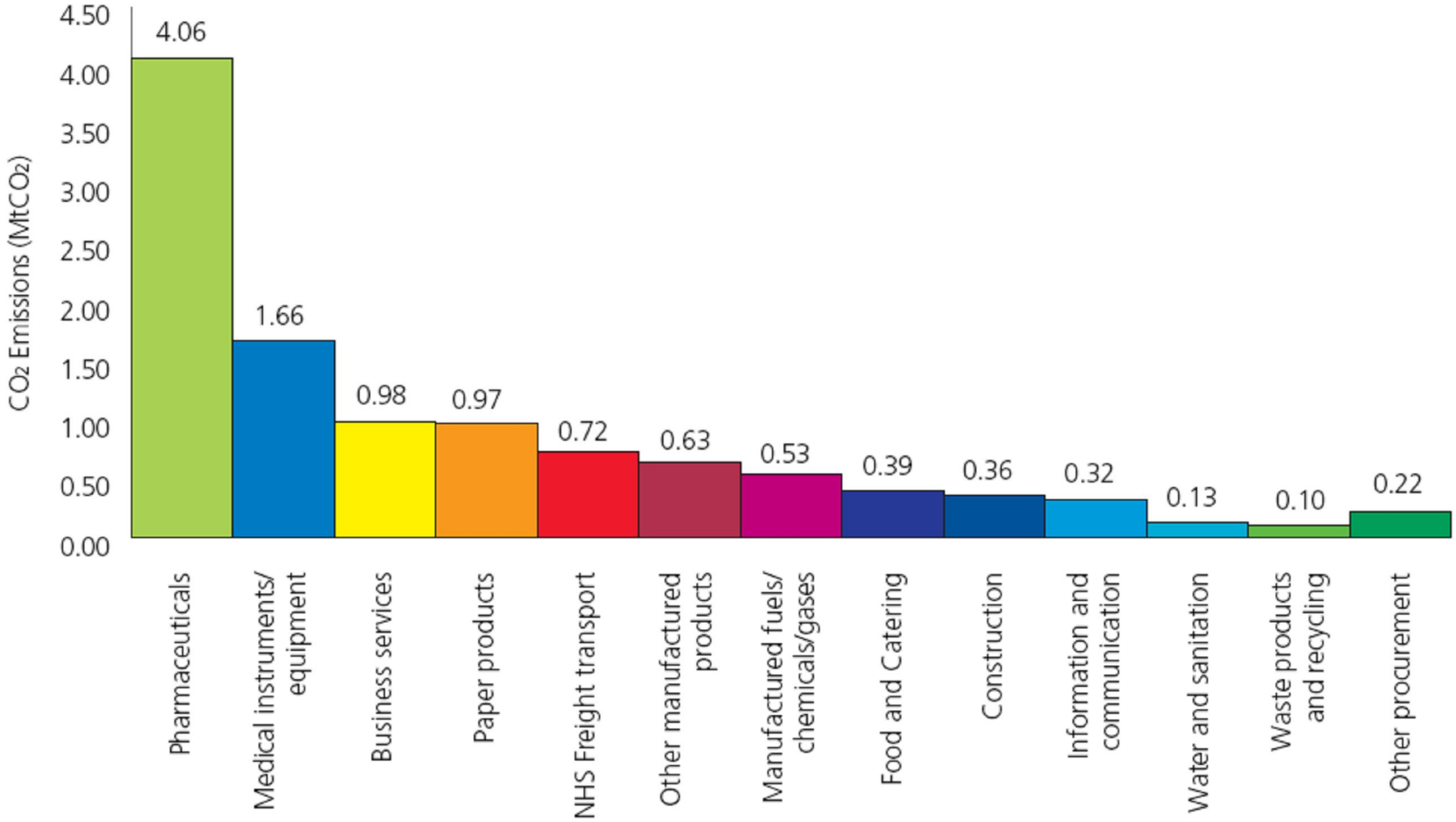


Carbon footprint – NHS England –

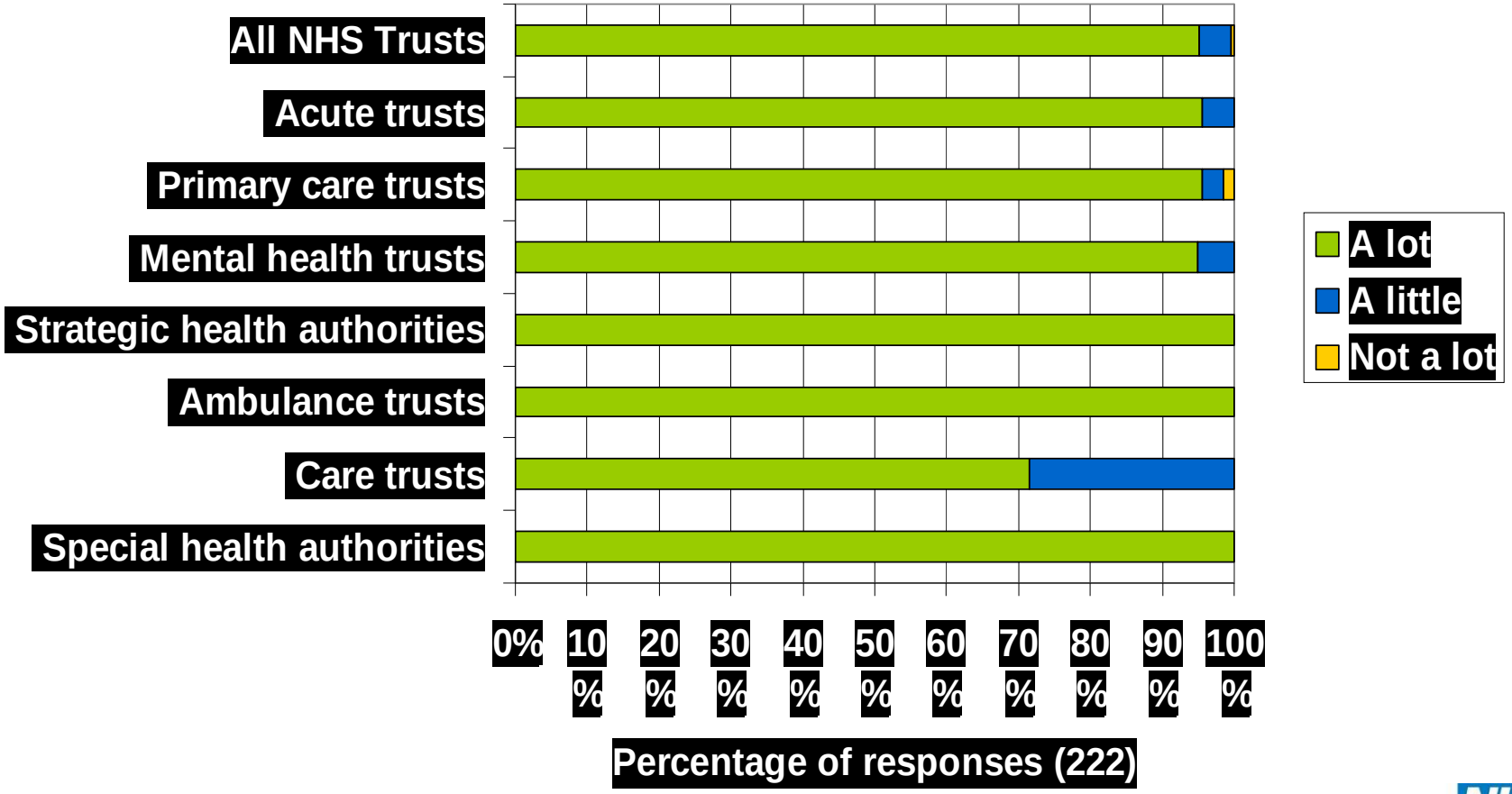


2007-8 ERIC data
2007 ONS data

Procurement Breakdown

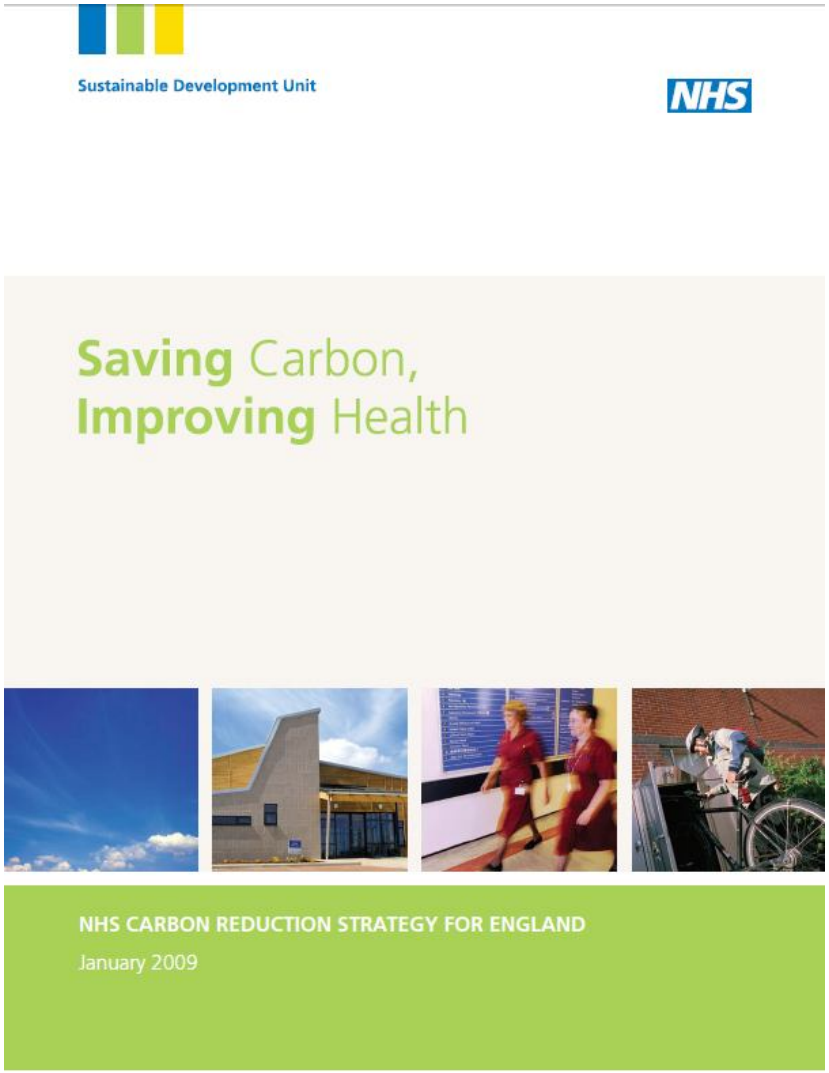


Do you think the NHS should be a public sector leader as a sustainable and low carbon organisation?



“…it’s a very important strategy for the NHS: it is really good for the environment, it's good for our society, it's good for our staff and for us most importantly it's good for our patients”

David Nicholson, CEO NHS England



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Three levels of health co-benefits

Individual

Physical activity, mental health, trauma, air pollution, food and agriculture…

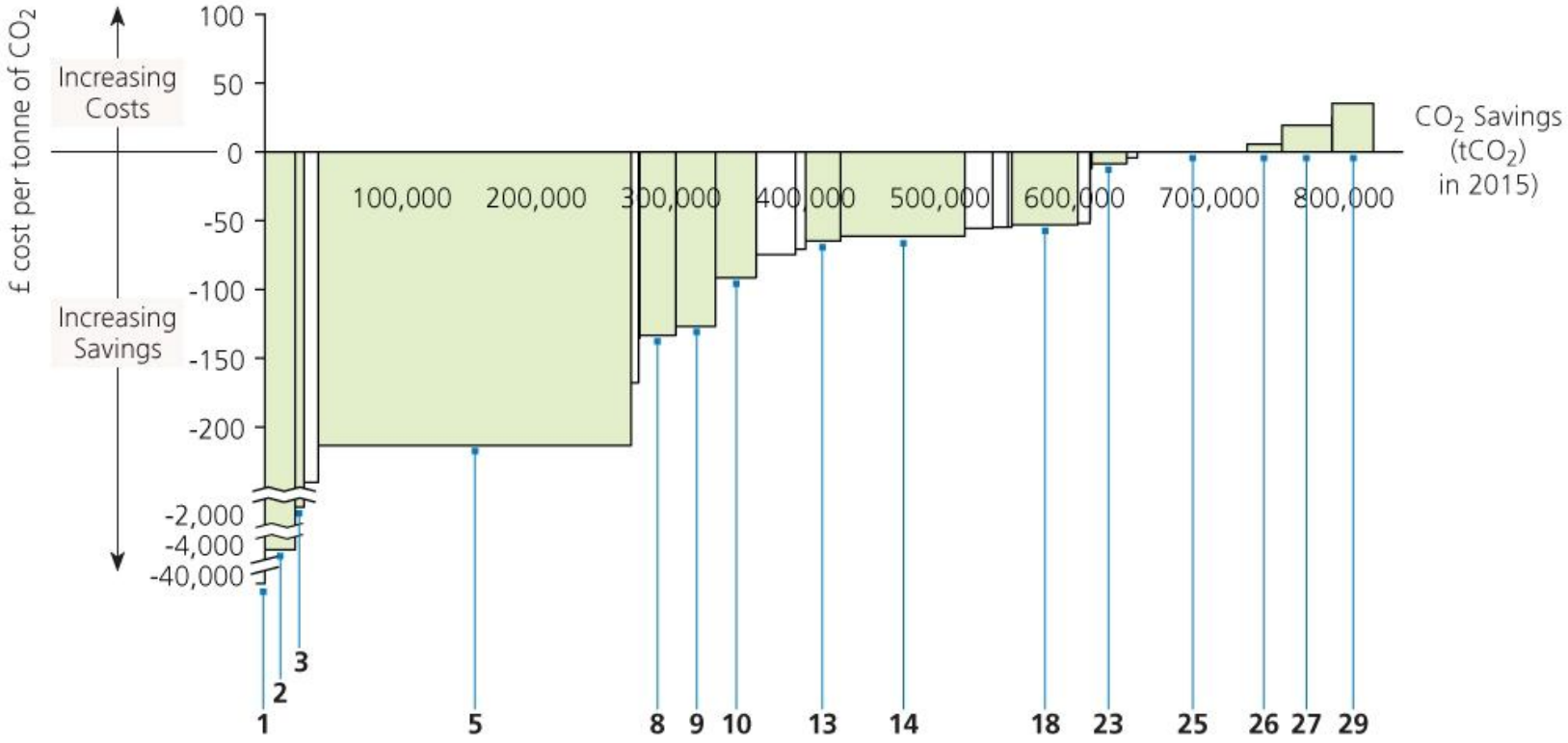
Organisational

Resilience, business continuity, financial returns

Health System

Aligned with policy direction for most health systems: care closer to home, empowered, ICT supported self care, chronic disease management

NHS MAC curve



Quality, Innovation, Productivity, Prevention and Carbon Reduction

- 1 bedday reduces carbon emissions by ~ 80kg and saves £200
- Estimated 33M (of 55) bed days could be saved in NHS if LoS reduced to national median in 2008/9
- This would save 2.6Mt of CO2e (~ 10% of NHS carbon footprint)

What do we need to do?

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Let’s get started!

- Board Approved Sustainable Development Management Plan
- Good Corporate Citizenship Assessment Model
- Monitor, Review and Report on Carbon
- Raise carbon awareness at every level

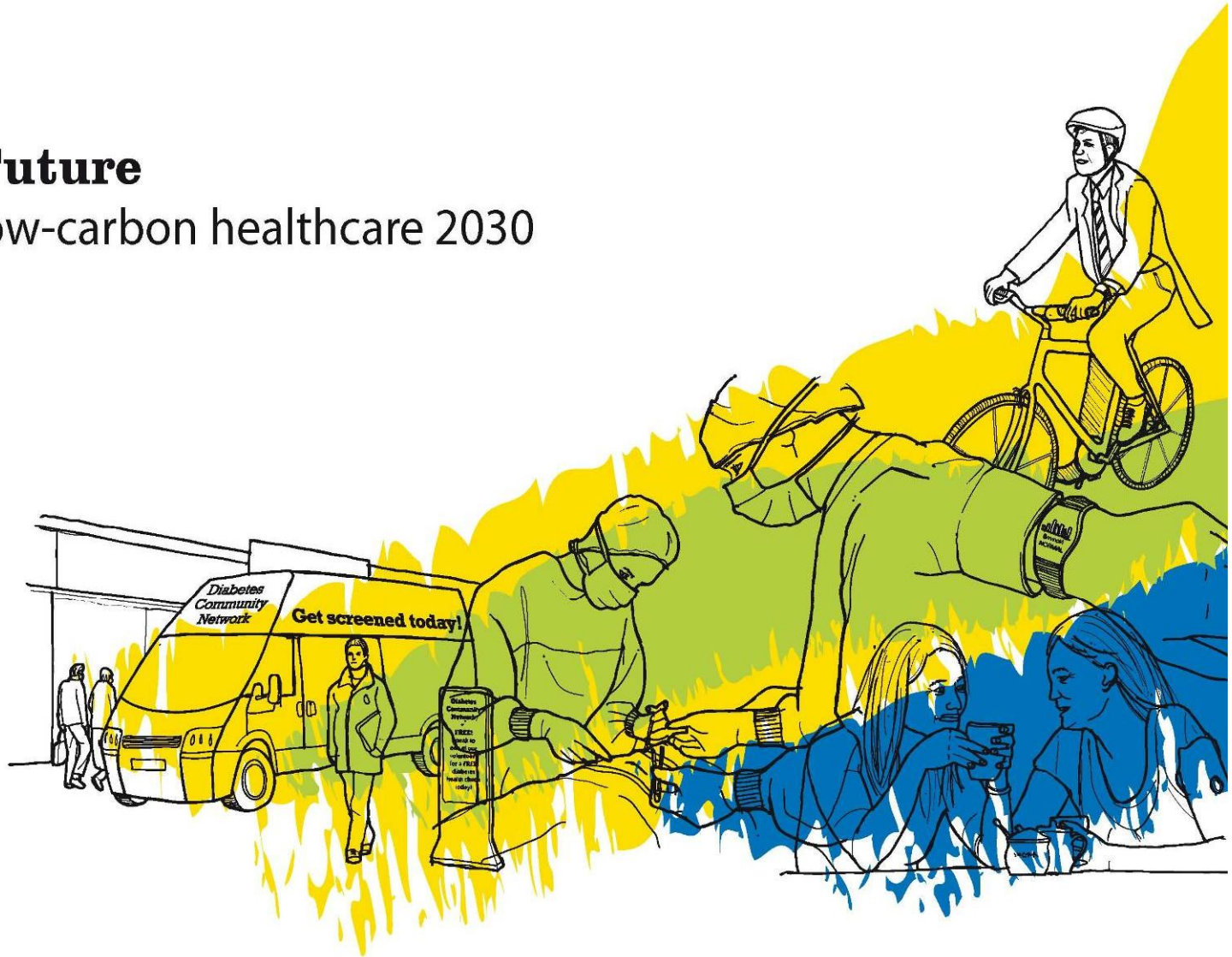
Sustainable Development Unit

NHS

Fit for the Future

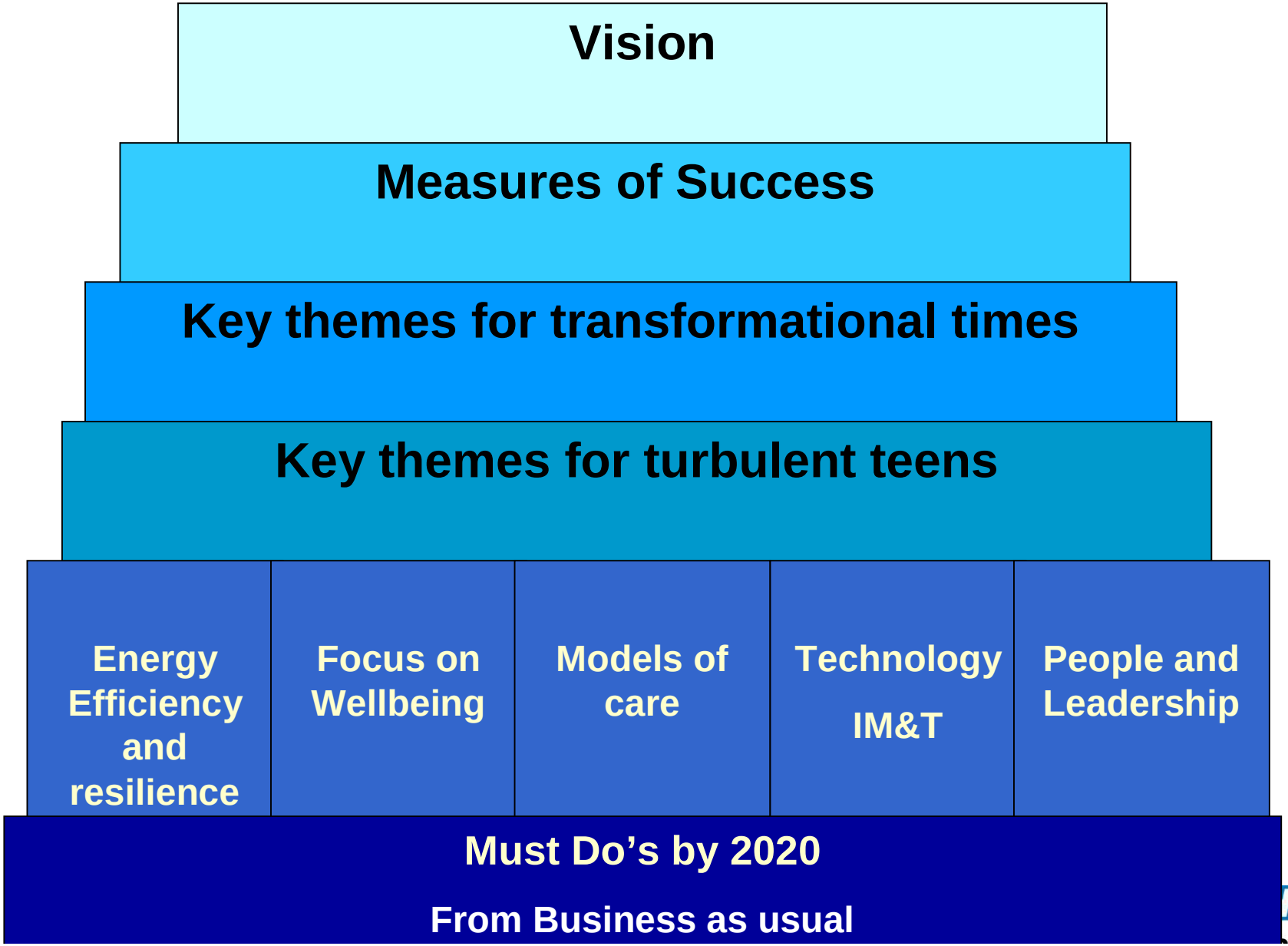
Scenarios for low-carbon healthcare 2030

September 2009



forum for the future
action for a sustainable world

To a Sustainable Health System



When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills

(Chinese proverb)