



Carbon Reduction Plans: PPN 006 & NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap

Jon Burrow & Charlie Zhu

[circularecology.com](https://www.circularecology.com)

Today's Webinar

- ⊖ Introduction
- ⊖ Understanding PPN 006 & the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap
- ⊖ A Practical Approach to Data & Reporting
- ⊖ Developing a Carbon Strategy
- ⊖ Carbon Reduction Plans in Action
- ⊖ Common Challenges & Improving Over Time
- ⊖ Q&A

Your Presenters Today



Jon Burrow

Head of Carbon Accounting

- *Over a decade working in carbon reporting and carbon reduction strategies*
- *Background in UK / EU carbon regulatory compliance*



Charlie Zhu

Senior Analyst

- *Background in carbon consultancy, data assets, and machine learning*
- *Category Lead on ICE Database*



Background & Introduction

Circular Ecology – Introduction



Environmental consultancy, founded in 2013

Offer a range environmental services:

- Organisational Carbon Footprints, Scope 1, 2 & 3
- Net Zero Carbon Strategy
- Carbon Footprint Verification & Assurance
- Whole-Life Embodied Carbon Assessments for Construction Projects
- Product Carbon Footprints & Life Cycle Assessments (LCA)
- EPD Development & Publishing
- Carbon Footprint Database (library) Development
- Online E-Learning Training Courses
- Carbon Offsetting and Tree Planting



Hosts the Inventory of Carbon & Energy (ICE) Database

Celebrating 850,000 Trees Planted

Facilitated the planting of **over 850,000 trees**

In partnerships with **Eden: People+Planet** and **Ripple Africa**

Tree planting available on our online store - **£1 (ex. VAT) per tree**

25% of tree planting sales diverted to Circular Ecology's **SCRI fund**



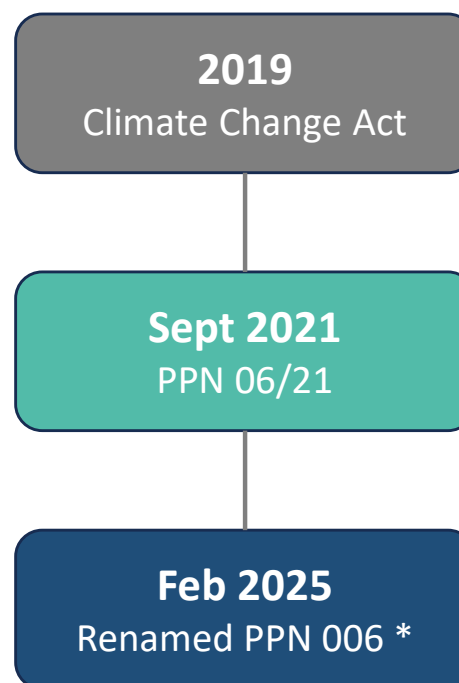


Understanding PPN 006 & the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap

What is PPN 006?

- UK government **committed by law to reach Net Zero by 2050**. Procurement is a powerful lever to do so, by using its buying power to reward suppliers with favourable sustainability credentials. **PPN 006 is the mechanism for achieving this.**
- A **Procurement Policy Note (PPN)** is official guidance issued to **public sector buyers of goods and services**.
- PPN 006 specifically requires that suppliers of government contracts **must demonstrate a credible plan to get to Net Zero**.
- A **Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP)** is the document that suppliers are required to produce to comply with PPN 006.

Policy Lineage



* No change to requirements

CRP Requirements

Net Zero Commitment



Public pledge to reach net zero by 2050, covering UK operations

Emissions Data



Baseline & current year figures for Scope 1,2 and relevant Scope 3

Reduction Targets & Actions



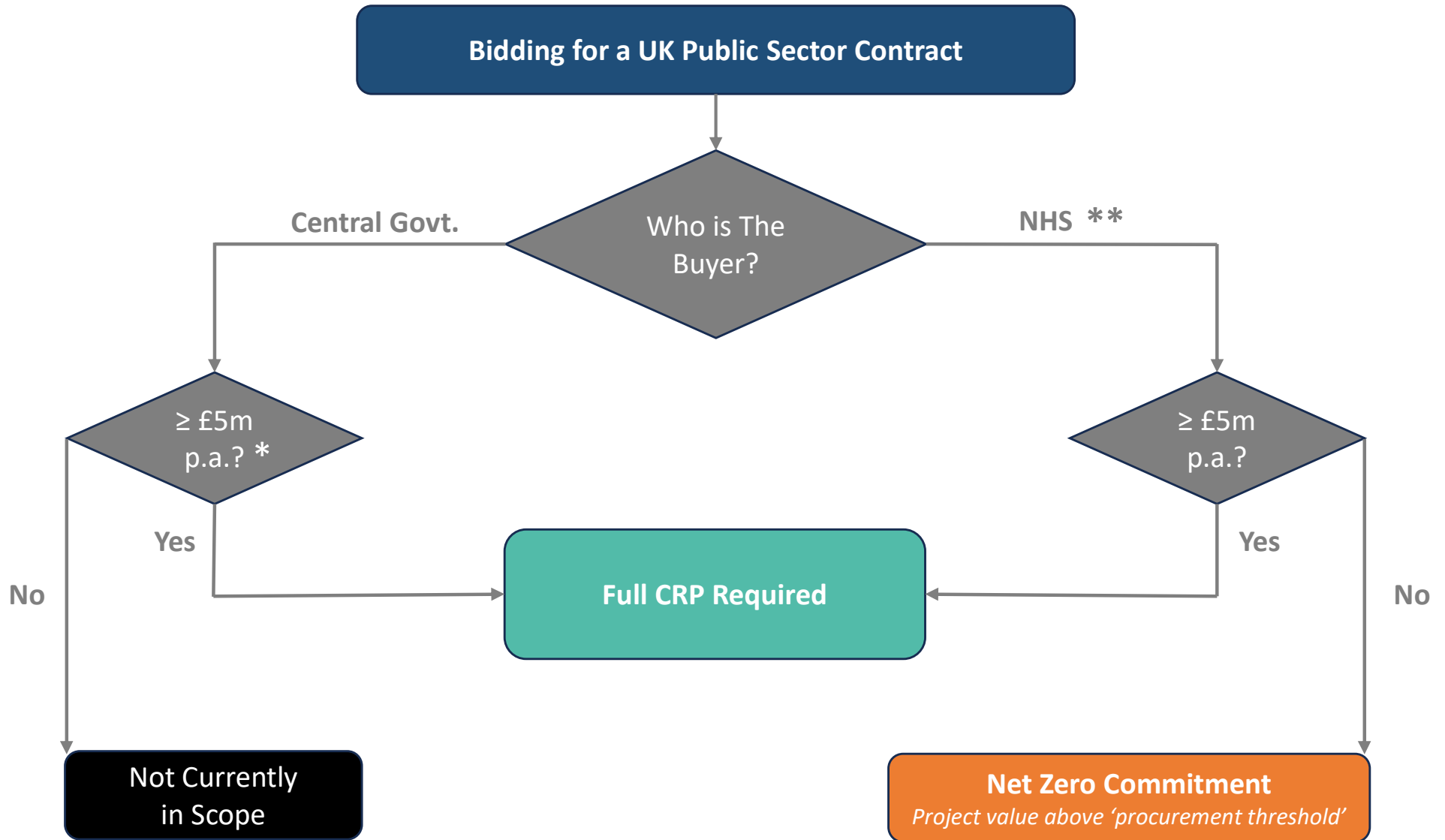
Targets and the actions/initiatives to deliver them

Sign-off & Publication



Senior executive approved, published, updated annually

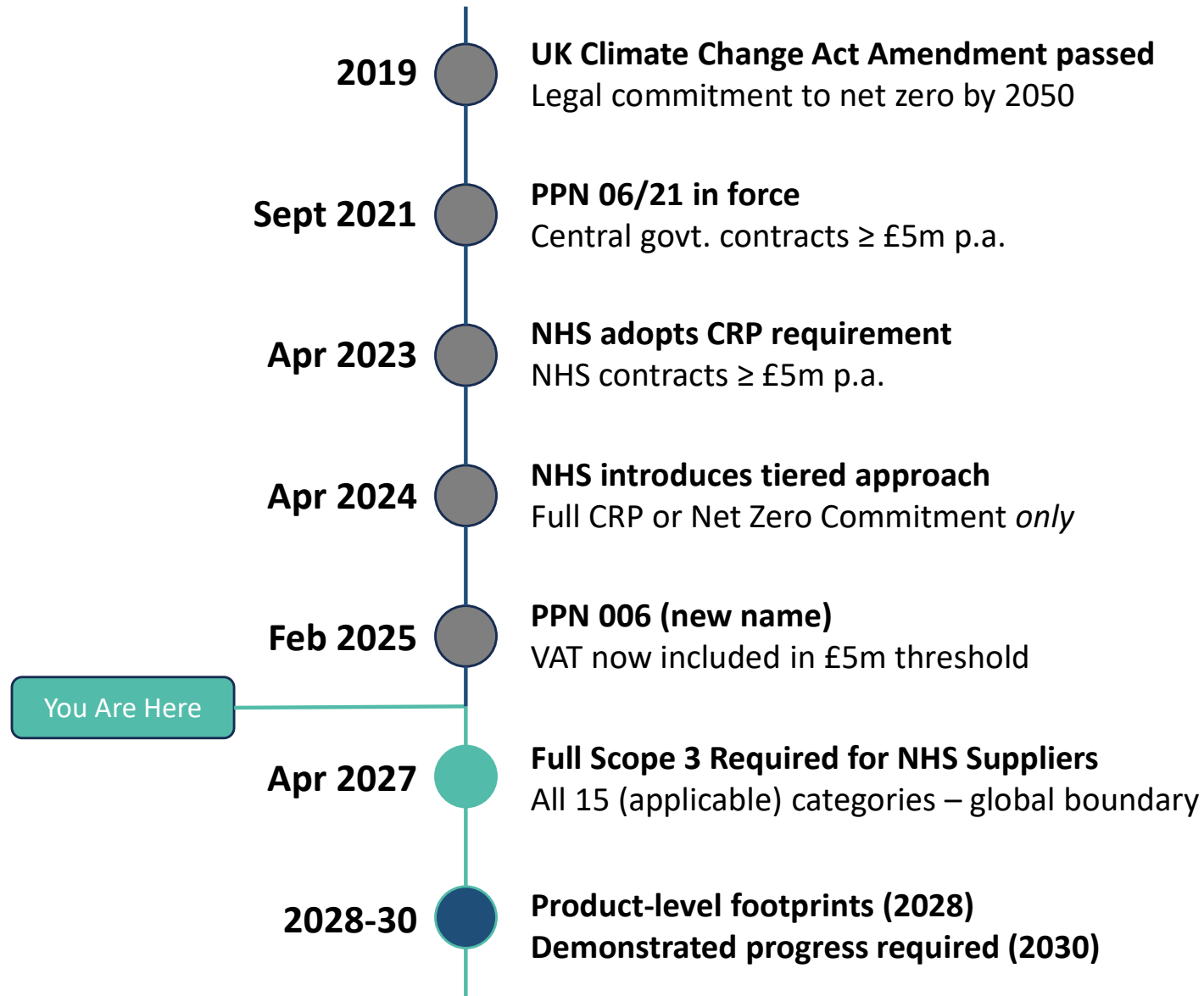
Applicability



* Multi-year project values are averaged over the period

** NHS also requires a full CRP on all new Frameworks regardless of contract value

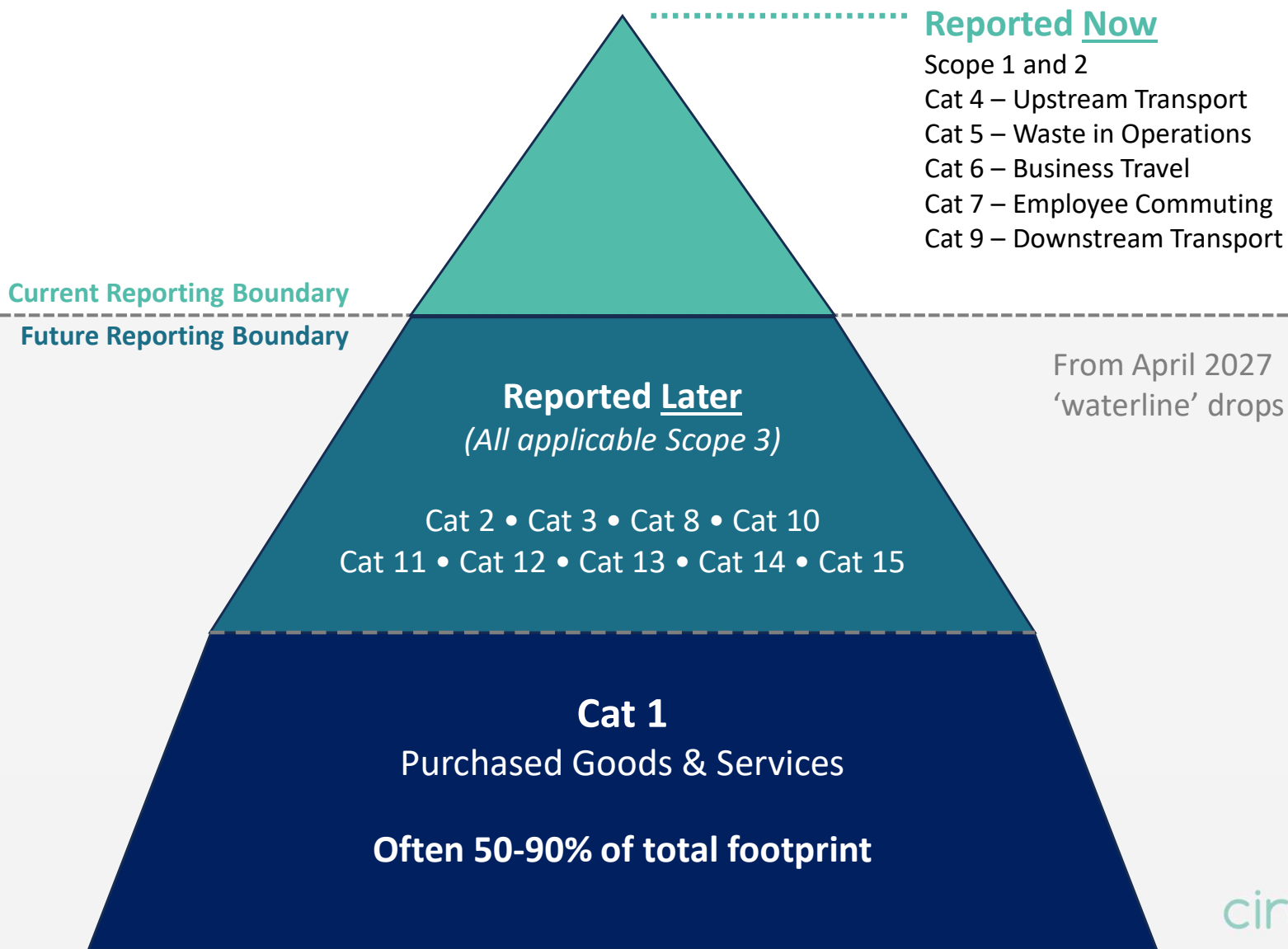
NHS Roadmap



Includes 3.1: Purchased Goods and Services

Next Webinar May 21st

NHS Suppliers



Learnings

What we've learned supporting clients through this process:

- **April 2027 is closer than it looks** – for building a full compliant Scope 3 footprint.
- **Data infrastructure takes time to get right** – data sources, pipelines, engaging relevant stakeholders.
- **A repeatable annual process does not happen by accident** – goal should not just be a footprint but a process that improves over time.
- **Category 3.1 deserves particular attention** – highly material category, and maturing away from spend-based methods is crucial for meaningful decarbonisation

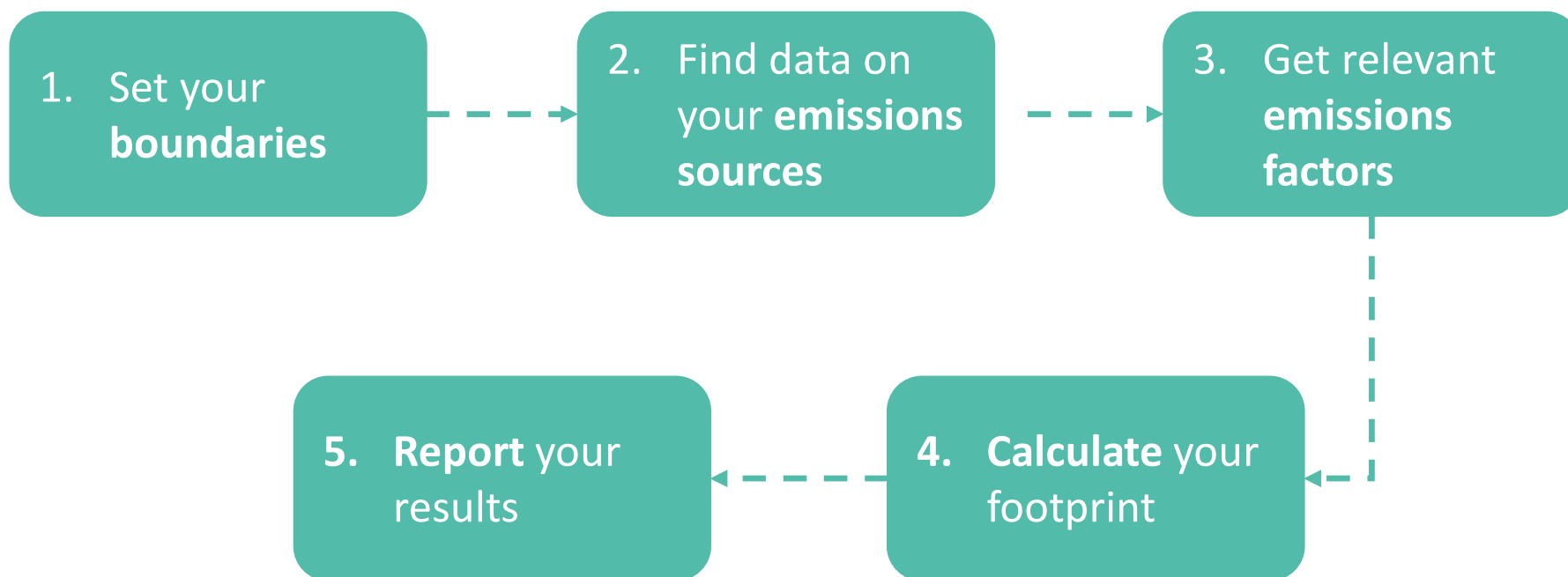


A Practical Approach to Data and Reporting

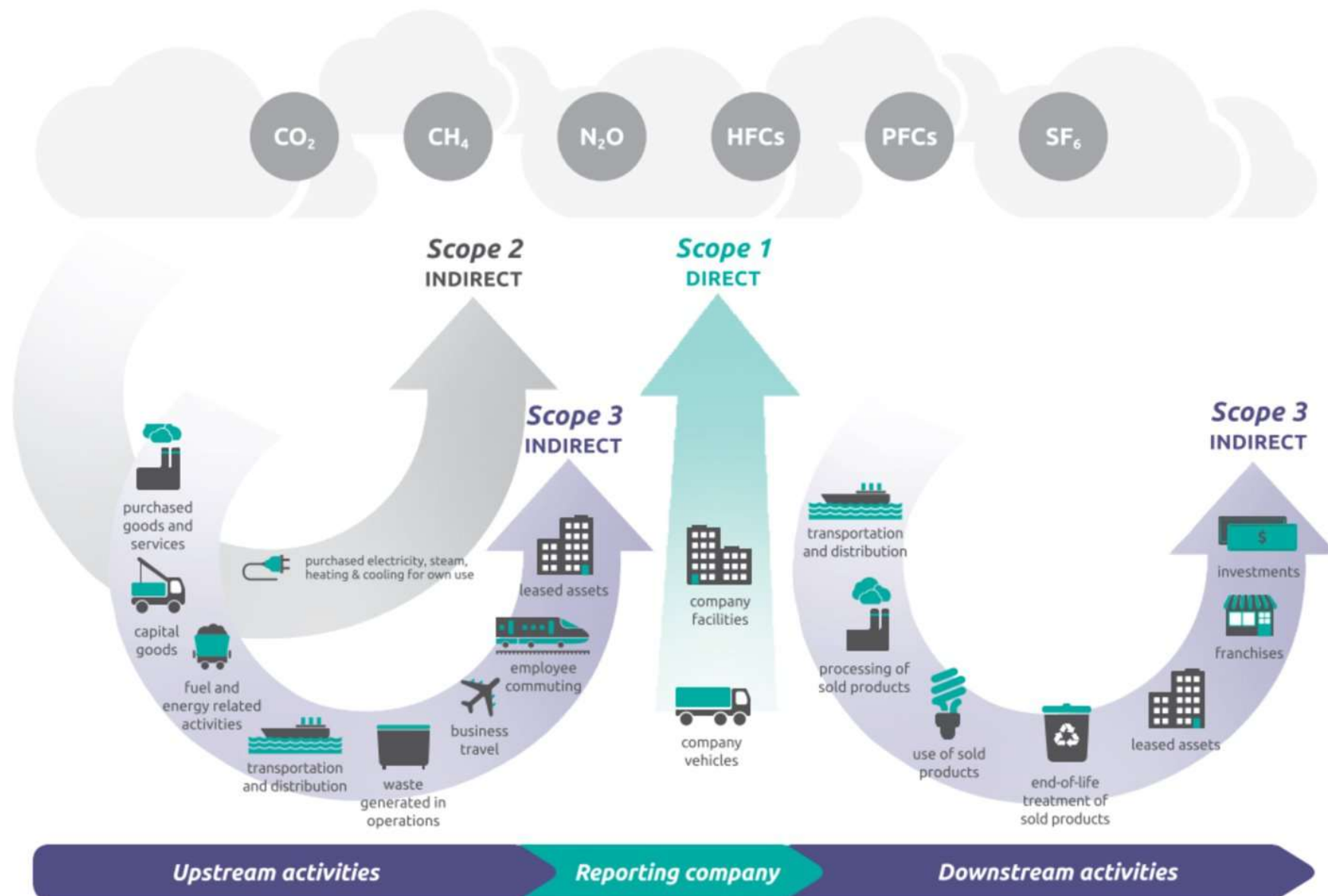
Where to Start With Reporting?

Starting a carbon footprint can feel daunting...

Breaking the process down into stages can reduce the complexity:



Recap of Scopes



Underlying Reporting Standards

- GHG Protocol Corporate Standard (Revised Edition, 2015 amendment)
- GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance (2015)
- GHG Protocol Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard (2011)
- **NEW** GHG Protocol Land Sector and Removals Standard (2026)



Source: GHG Protocol (<https://ghgprotocol.org/>)

Activity Data Types

Spend-based Data

Financial spend on procured goods, services, and activities.

Usually the most readily available data to collate.

Lower quality data.

Process-based Data

Actual quantities of tangible goods, services, and activities.

Usually more difficult to collect this data.

Higher quality data.

Hybrid Approach

A mixture of Spend-based and Process-based data.

Allows flexibility in approach.

Can track and improve the quality of data over time.

Emissions Factors

There are many databases, calculators, and platforms available to help:



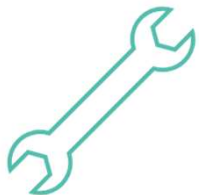
UK DEFRA/DESNZ Emissions Factors

- Free UK database of emissions factors
- Contains factors for fuels, electricity, vehicles and more



Open CEDA Database

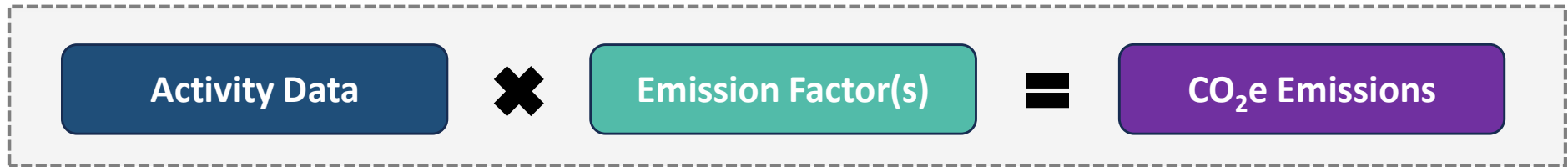
- An open-source database of spend-based factors
- Geographically specific and based on operational activities



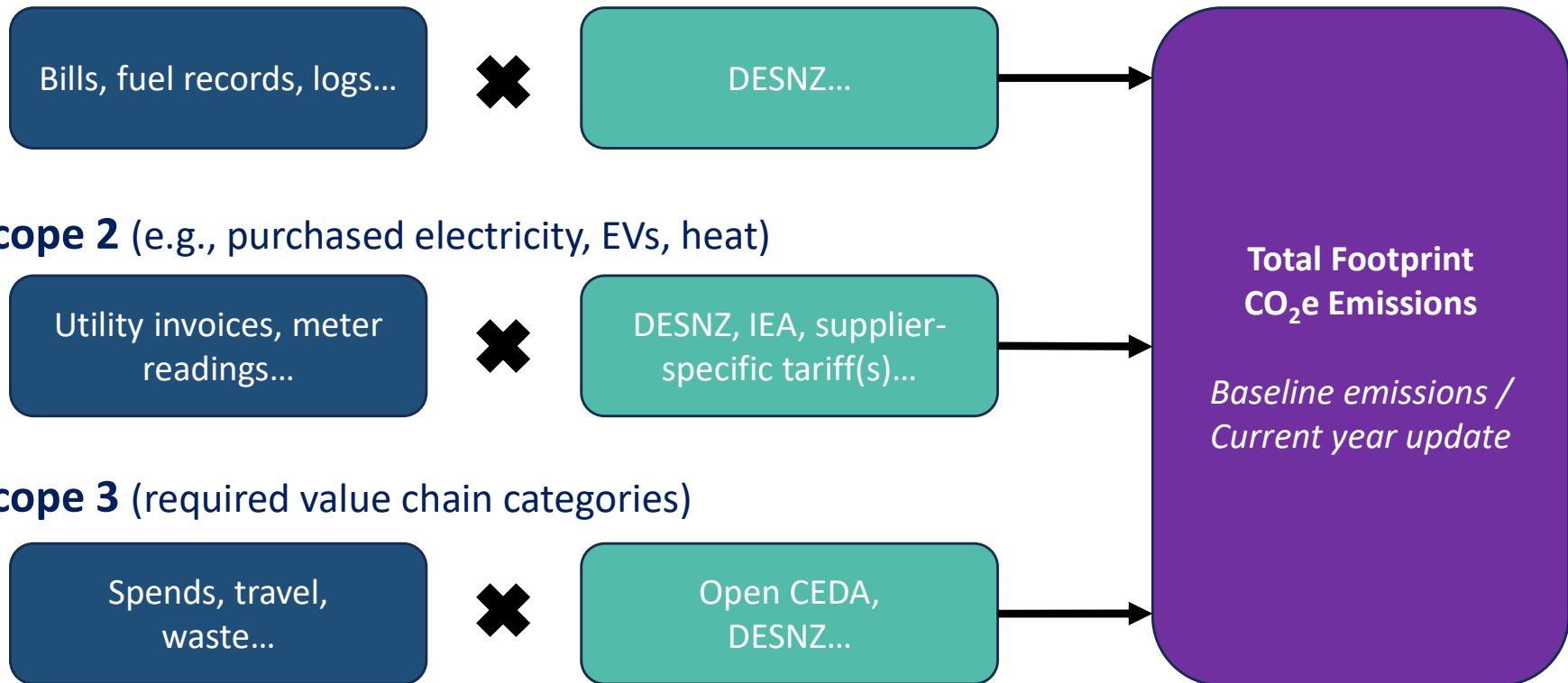
Circular Ecology Carbon Footprint Tool

- Our **Free** excel-based tool for calculating Scope 1 & 2 Carbon Footprints
- Automatic production of carbon footprint reports

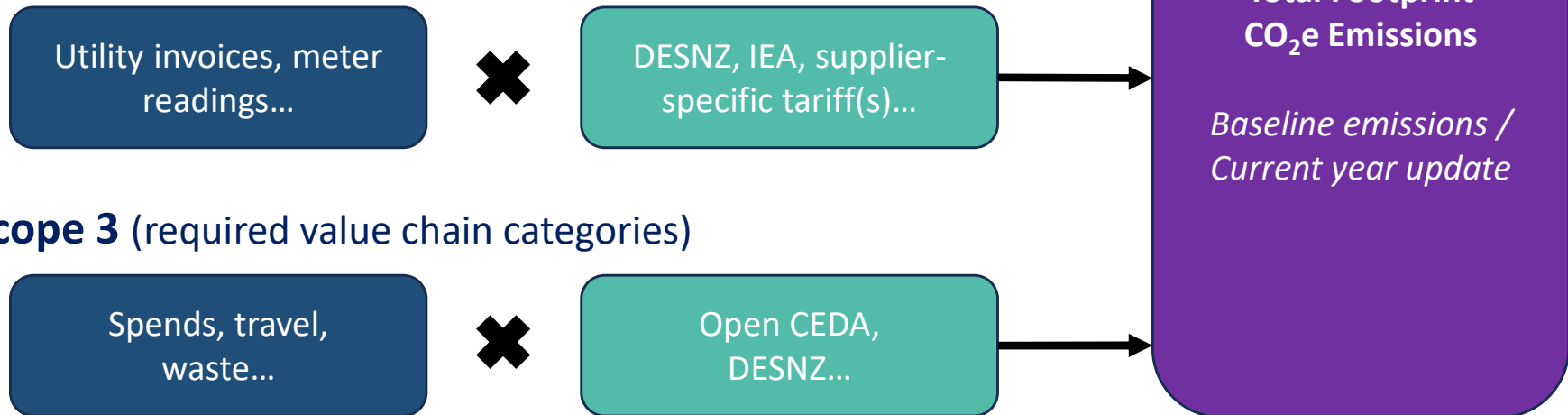
Emissions Calculations



Scope 1 (e.g., boilers, fleets, refrigerants)



Scope 2 (e.g., purchased electricity, EVs, heat)



Scope 3 (required value chain categories)





Developing a Carbon Strategy

Carbon Reduction Plans

Net Zero Commitment



Public pledge to reach net zero by 2050, covering UK operations

Emissions Data



Baseline & current year figures for Scope 1,2 and relevant Scope 3

Reduction Targets & Actions



Near-term targets and the actions/initiatives to deliver them

Sign-off & Publication



Senior executive approved, published, updated annually

Carbon Reduction Targets

Net Zero

**Science-based
targets (e.g., SBTi)**

**What type(s) of
carbon targets should
you be considering?**

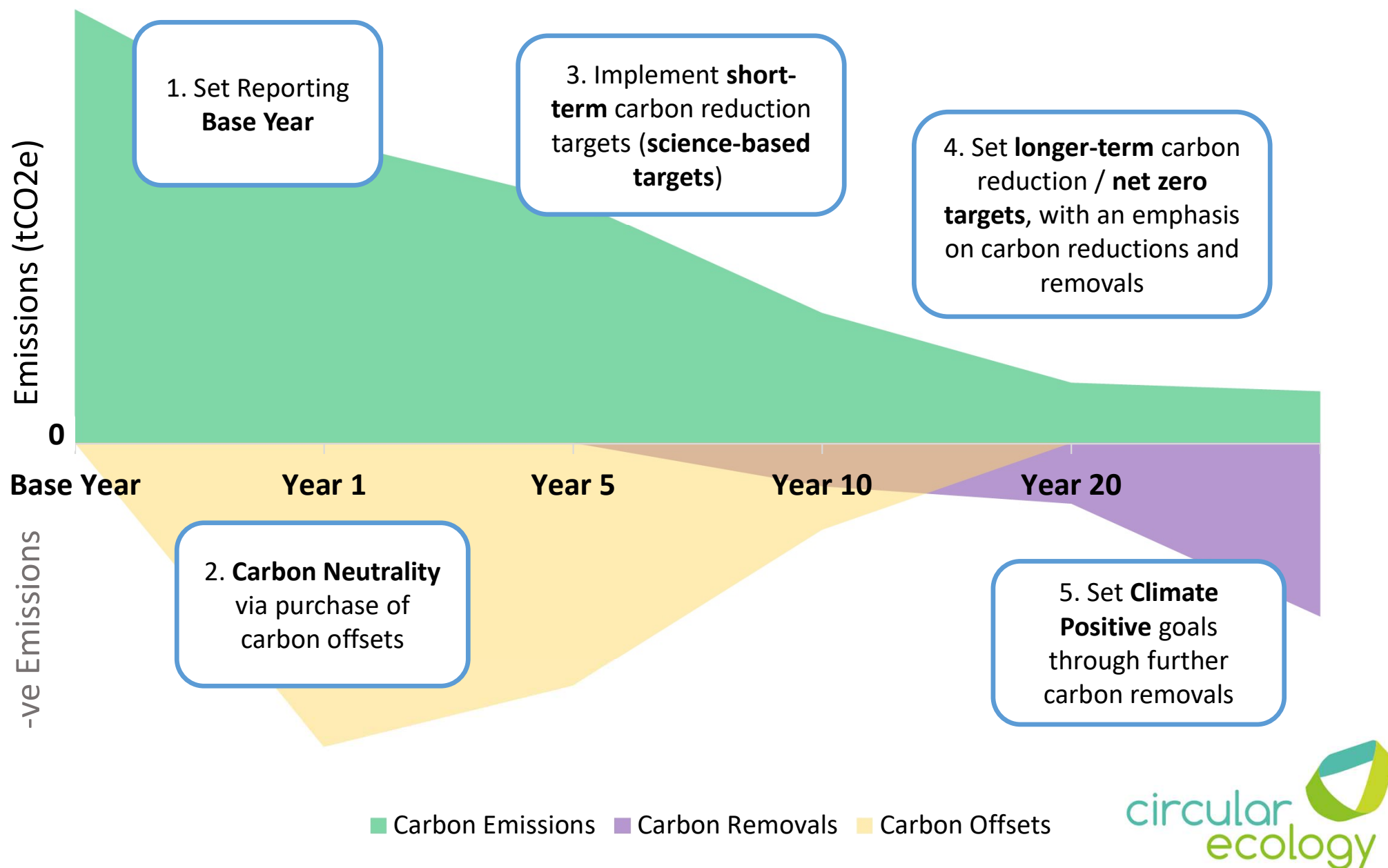
**Short-term,
medium-term,
long-term
reductions**

**Carbon
Neutrality**

**Year on Year (%)
Reductions**

**Climate Positive or
Carbon Negative**

Carbon Reduction Target Types



Identifying Carbon Reduction Actions

Use hotspots to define targeted actions and best focus your resources:



Operational Actions – Energy efficiency, fuel switching, process changes.



Behavioural Actions - Sustainable working practices and policies e.g., on business travel, logistics, homeworking etc...

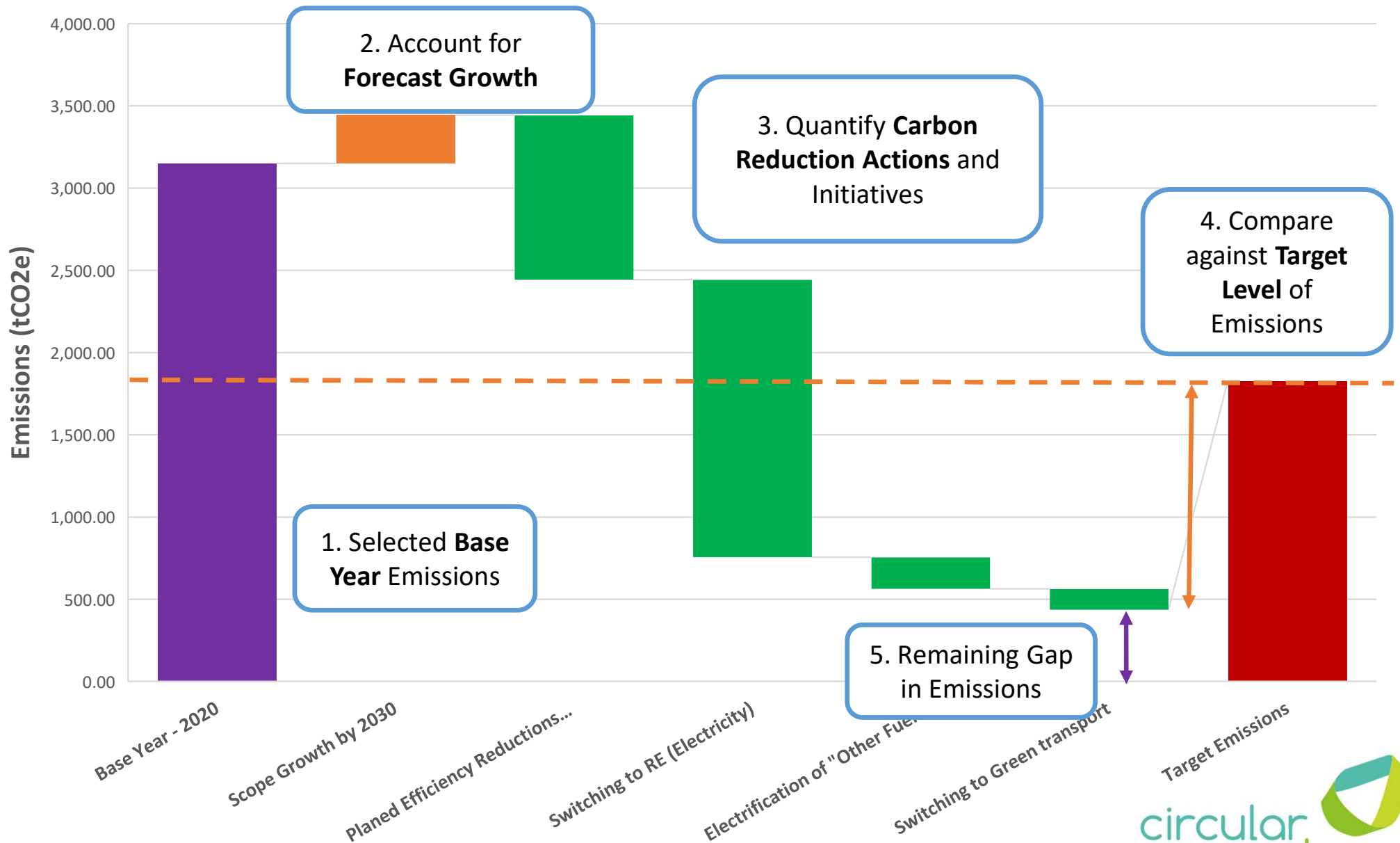


Procurement Actions - Supplier engagement, low carbon alternatives, sustainable procurement process requirements.



Data Actions - Improving quality of priority data areas to enable better decisions year on year and reduce uncertainty.

Carbon Reduction Plan in Action





Common Challenges

Embedding Action Over Time

Embed carbon data into every decision and review performance over time:

- ❑ **Establishing reporting against a consistent baseline**

Use organisational footprints as a reference point for tracking progress over time and understanding the impact of any actions taken.

- ❑ **Linking results to targets and planning**

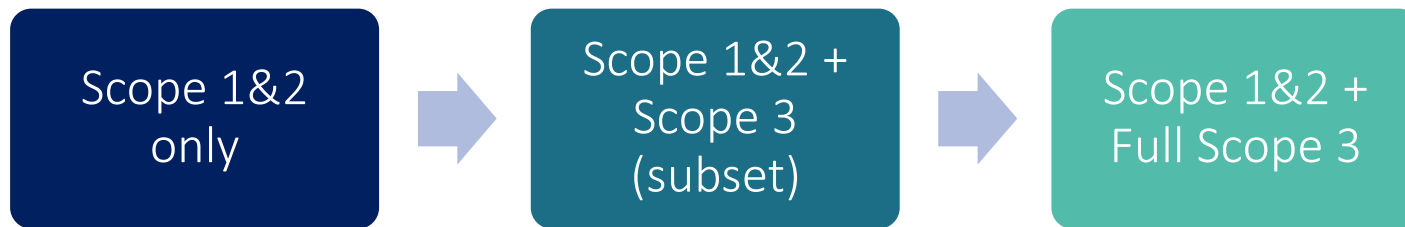
Translating footprint results into realistic reduction targets and structured carbon action plans, rather than standalone reporting.

- ❑ **Reviewing and refining annually**

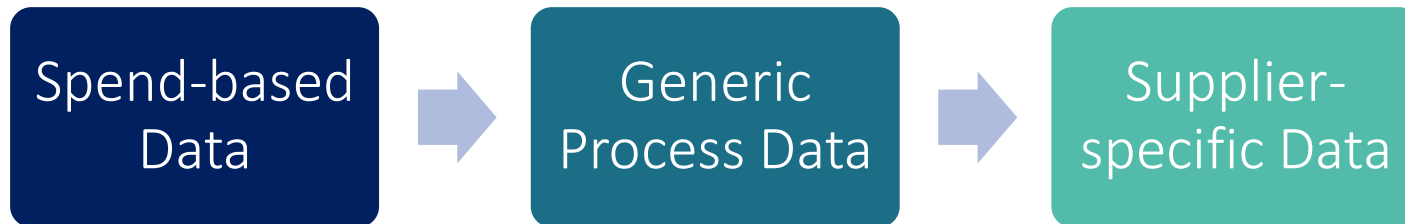
Improving scope coverage, data quality, and reporting methods each year to reflect organisational changes and provide more confidence in results.

Data Coverage vs. Data Quality

Coverage:



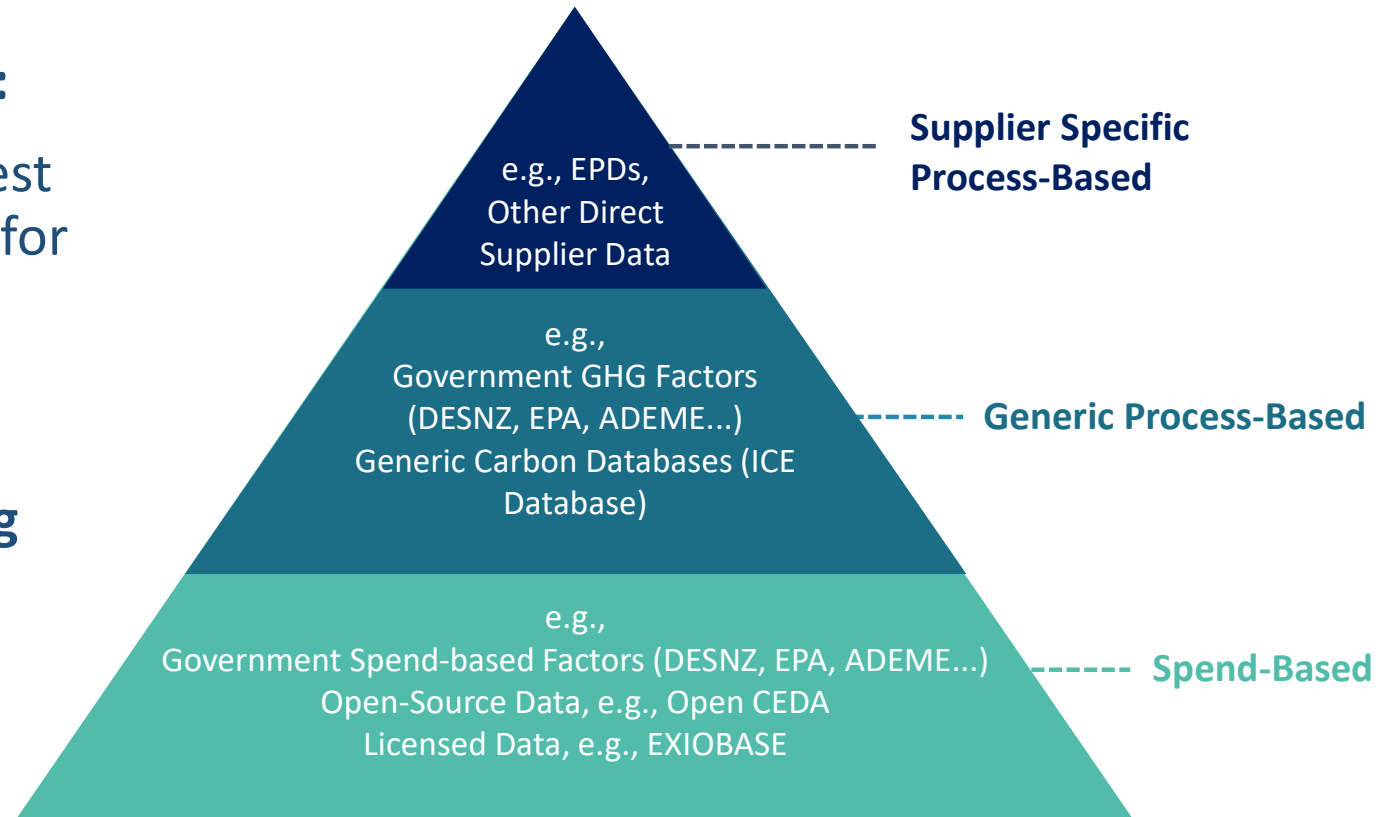
Data Quality:



Improving Data Quality

Data Quality Hierarchy:

- Always aim for the best possible data quality for significant emissions
- Higher accuracy data allows for better **planning** and **tracking** of carbon reductions



Hierarchy of Data Quality

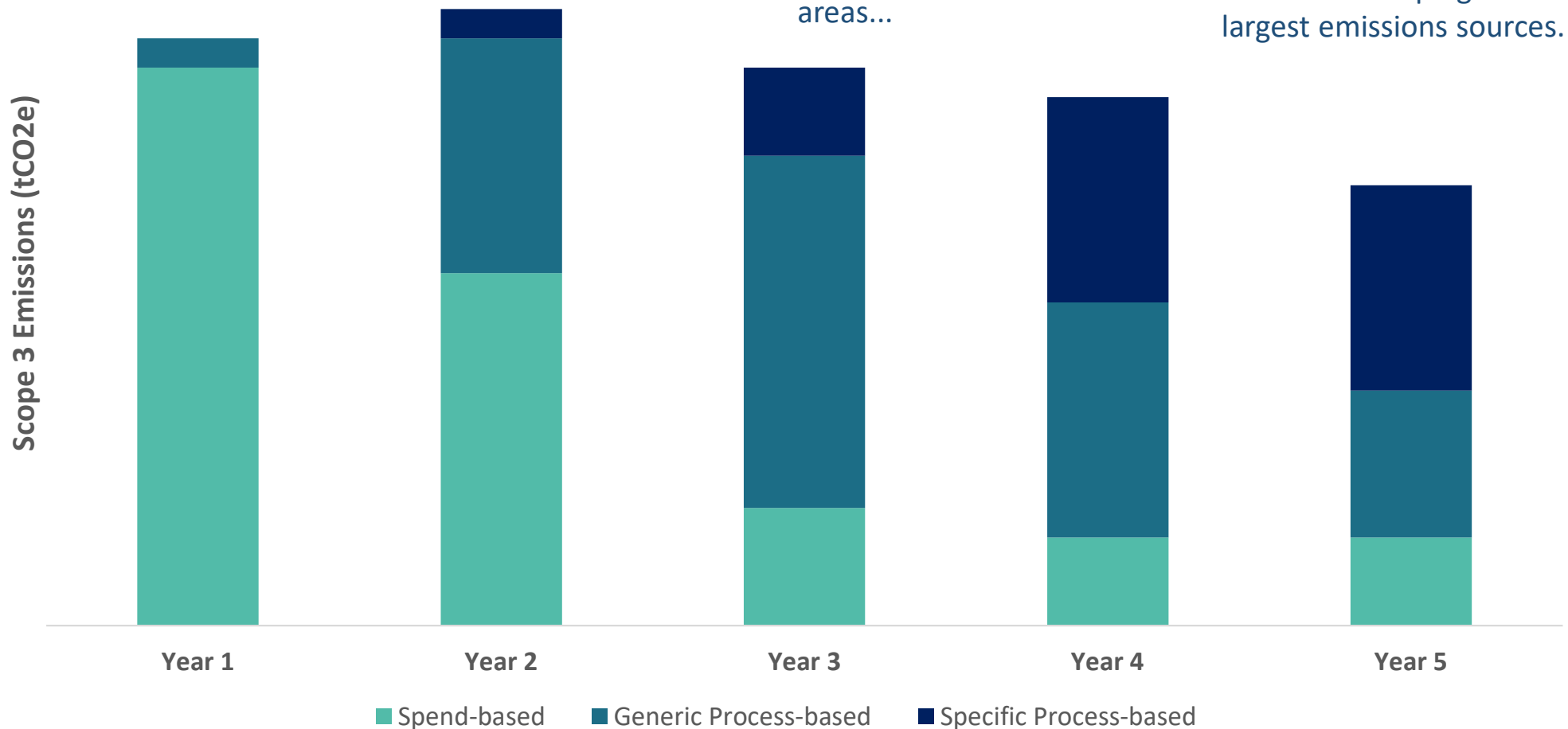
Illustrating Data Maturity Over Time

1. Mainly Spend-based. Initial hotspot review. Perhaps some process-based data already available.

2. Move to process-based data where information is already available. More likely to be "generic" in the first instance.

3. Try to improve data quality each year. Move from **spend to process**, and from **generic to specific**. Likely to still require some spend-based for trickiest areas...

4. With more process-based reporting, comes better tracking of carbon reduction initiatives. Keeping focus on largest emissions sources.



Final Thoughts

Start Simple. Establish a baseline, with ambitious but achievable targets, and mature over time.

Be transparent with your goals.

Also try to understand your stakeholders' carbon agendas and strategies.

Understand your own expertise levels and resources available.

Today's Webinar - Recap

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Understand PPN 006 & the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap
- ✓ Approaches to Data & Reporting
- ✓ How to Develop a Carbon Strategy
- ✓ Seeing Carbon Reduction Plans in Action
- ✓ Understand Common Challenges & How to Improve Over Time

Next Webinars

Next Webinars -

- Product Carbon Footprinting, LCA & EPDs: A Practical Introduction – **21st May 2026**

Recap of earlier webinars - Watch these again at on our website...

- Whole Life Carbon Assessments of Buildings: What You Need to Know
- An Overview of Carbon Neutrality: Measure, Manage, Offset, Improve
- An Introduction to the Circular Ecology EPD Programme
- Organisational Carbon Footprints - From Measurement to Meaningful Action

Keep an eye on our networks for more information

- Website - circularecology.com
- LinkedIn - [linkedin.com/company/circular-ecology](https://www.linkedin.com/company/circular-ecology)



Q&A

Please use the Q&A interface to ask your questions



Thank you for watching

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