MANCHESTER 1824
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# Why Government can do much more – *technology alone is not enough*

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# **3** reasons why…

## **we** are not doing enough to avoid 2 degrees

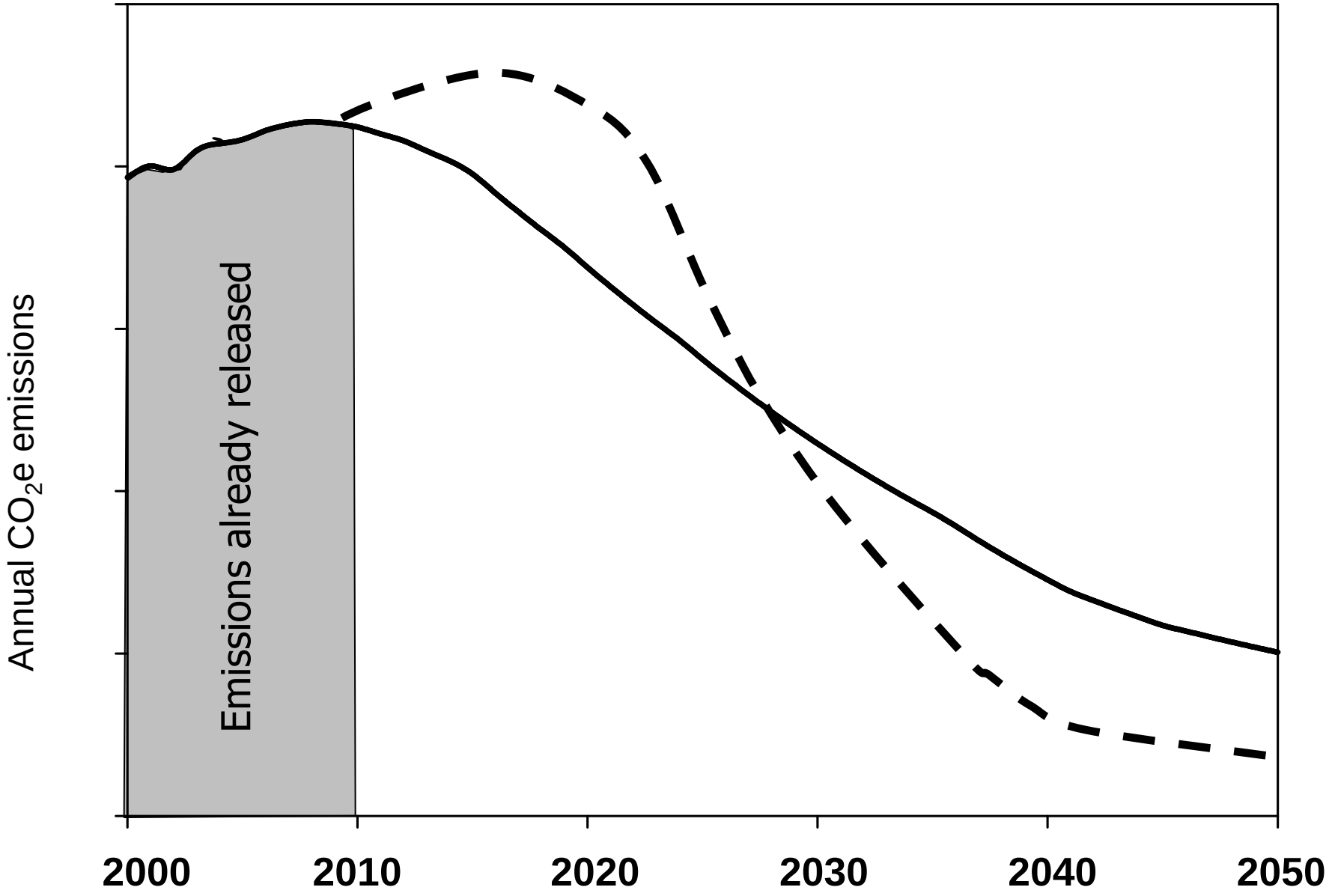
1. About **cumulative emissions** not end-point targets

2. Government's **odds** of exceeding 2°C are **too high**

3. Our **head is in the sand** regarding other's emissions

# 1. Cumulative emissions

# Illustrative pathway for a carbon budget



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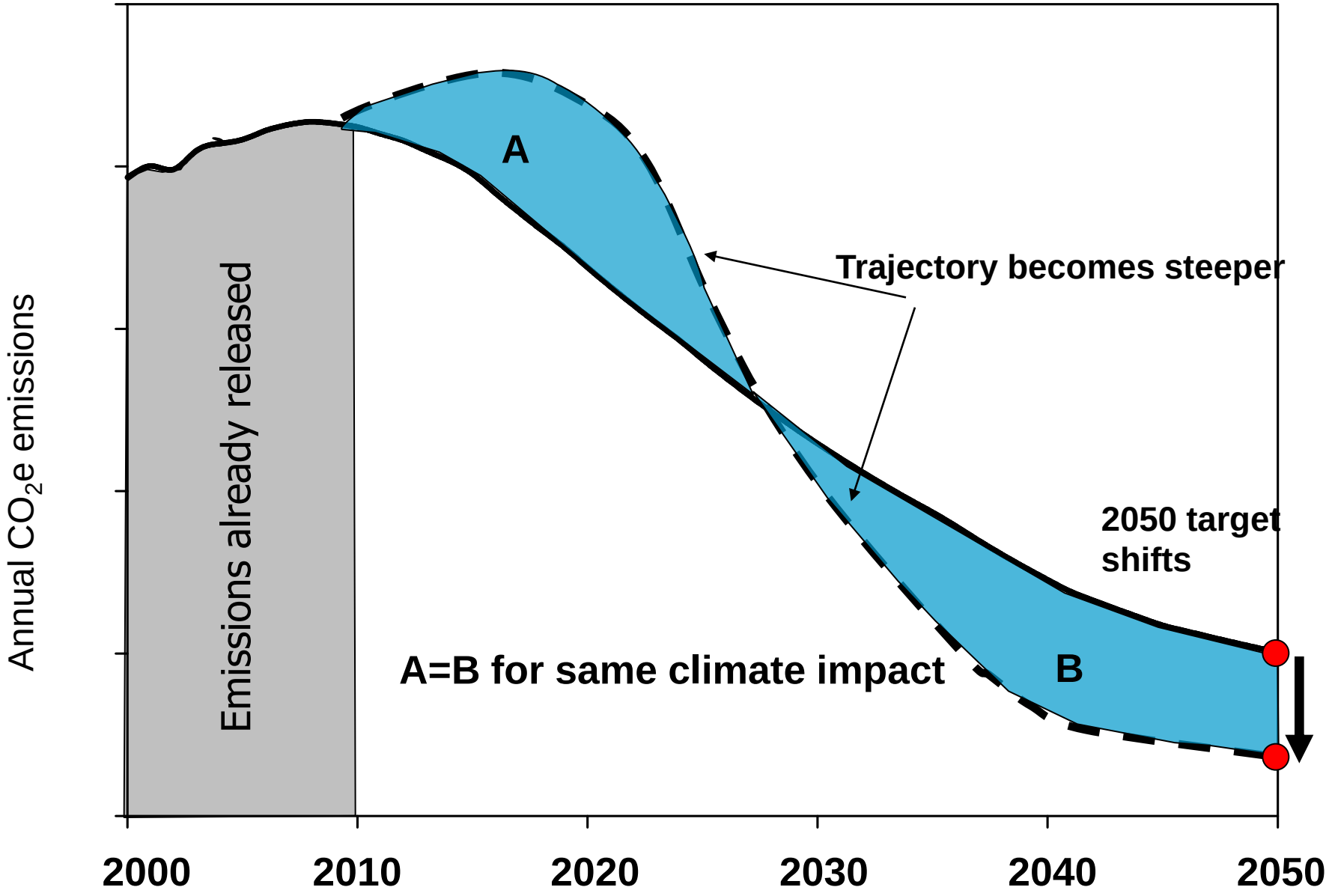

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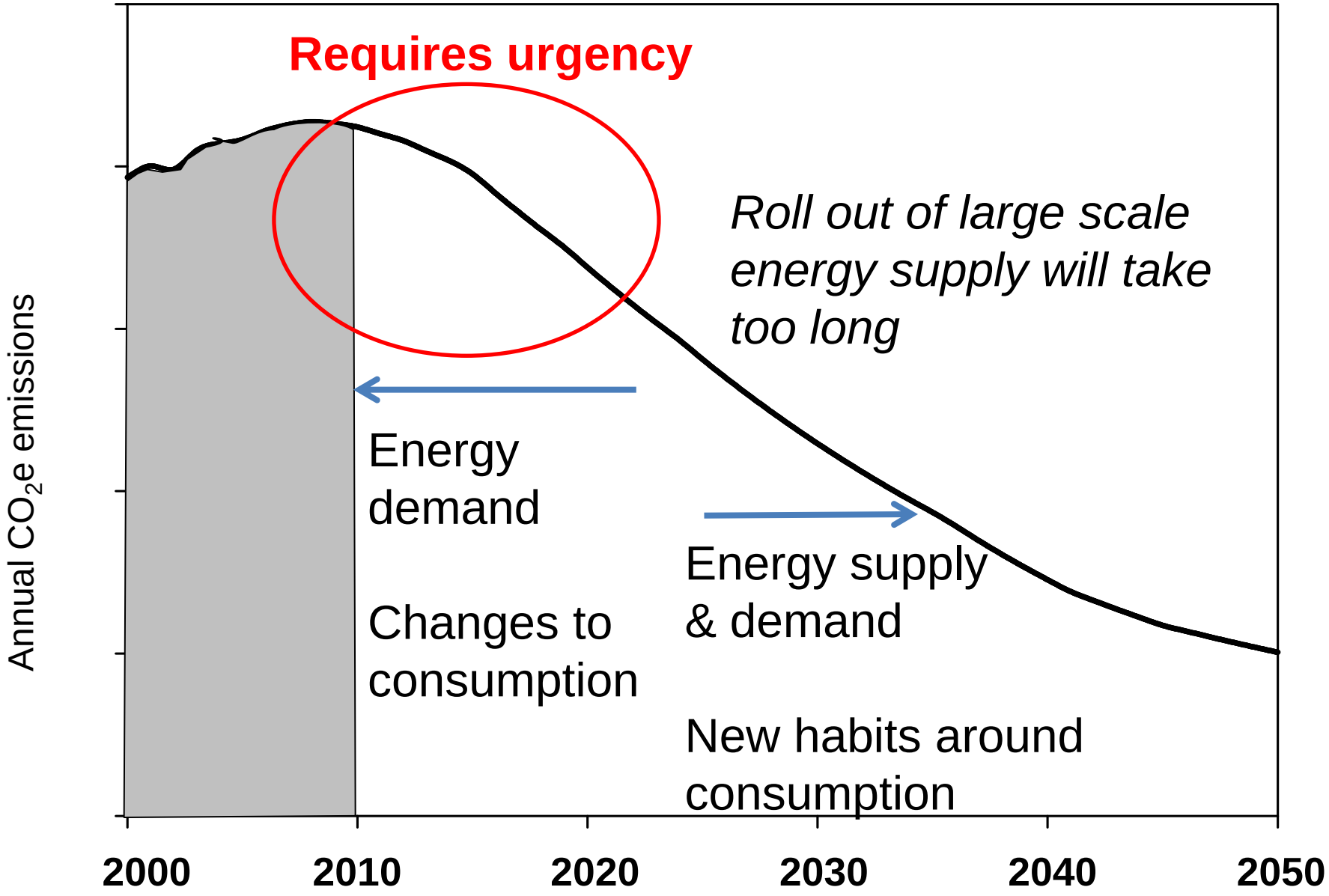

# 2. Odds are too high

A bigger carbon budget = a lower chance of staying below 2°C

UK Government targets based on **~37%** chance of remaining below 2°C

This gives the globe & UK a larger budget

# 3. Heads in the sand

# Emissions in industrialising nations:

1) *Make up the largest share of global emissions*
2) *Are very low in terms of emissions per capita*
3) *Are growing rapidly*

Their influence is increasing in importance

Need to be realistic about their emissions growth

*…and be conscious of fairness*

UK Government *'unfairly'* assumes their emissions stop growing by 2018-2020

# Combining these 3 reasons…

Require an urgent new plan - technology can't do enough in time

Need radical emission reductions likely to challenge economic growth

Must start to openly debate the role of consumption

(see Anderson and Bows, 2012, A new paradigm for climate change, *Nature Climate Change*)