

The background features a large, light blue sun at the top center. Below it, several stylized human figures in light green are arranged in a circle, holding hands. The figures are simple, with circular heads and angular bodies. The overall theme is positive and collaborative.

# NetZero Vs Carbon Neutral

Guidance for Stakeholders



CarbonSAVER<sup>®</sup>

# NetZero Vs Carbon Neutral

Requirement	Net Zero	PAS2060 Carbon Neutral	Other Carbon Neutral
All GHGs - not just CO <sub>2</sub>	✓	✓	✗
Scope 1 & 2 emissions	✓	✓	✓
Scope 3 emission - Value Chain	✓	Recommended	✗
Mandatory Carbon Reduction Plan	✓	✓	✗
Mandatory emissions reduction then offset	✓	✓	✗
Residual emission offsets	Removal Offsets by 2050	High Quality Reduction Offsets & Removals by 2050	Offsets
Internationally recognised methodology & standards for compliance	✗	✓	✗

✓ = Mandatory    ✗ = Not Mandatory / Not Applicable



# NetZero Offsets

A number of critically important questions emerge for the users of offsets:

- How can offsetting be made a credible means of achieving net zero?
- What types of offsets should be used and when?
- How can actors purchasing offsets, and stakeholders holding them accountable, avoid the risk of greenwashing?
- How can users catalyse the cost-effective supply of the right kind of offsets at scale?

The Oxford Principles for Net Zero Aligned Carbon Offsetting are designed to help clarify these questions, particularly for non-state actors who want to design and deliver rigorous voluntary net zero commitments and develop high quality carbon markets.

<https://racetozero.unfccc.int/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Get-Net-Zero-right-2.pdf>



# Oxford Principles

The Oxford Offsetting Principles report is an essential resource to guide the design and delivery of credible net-zero aligned-offsetting:

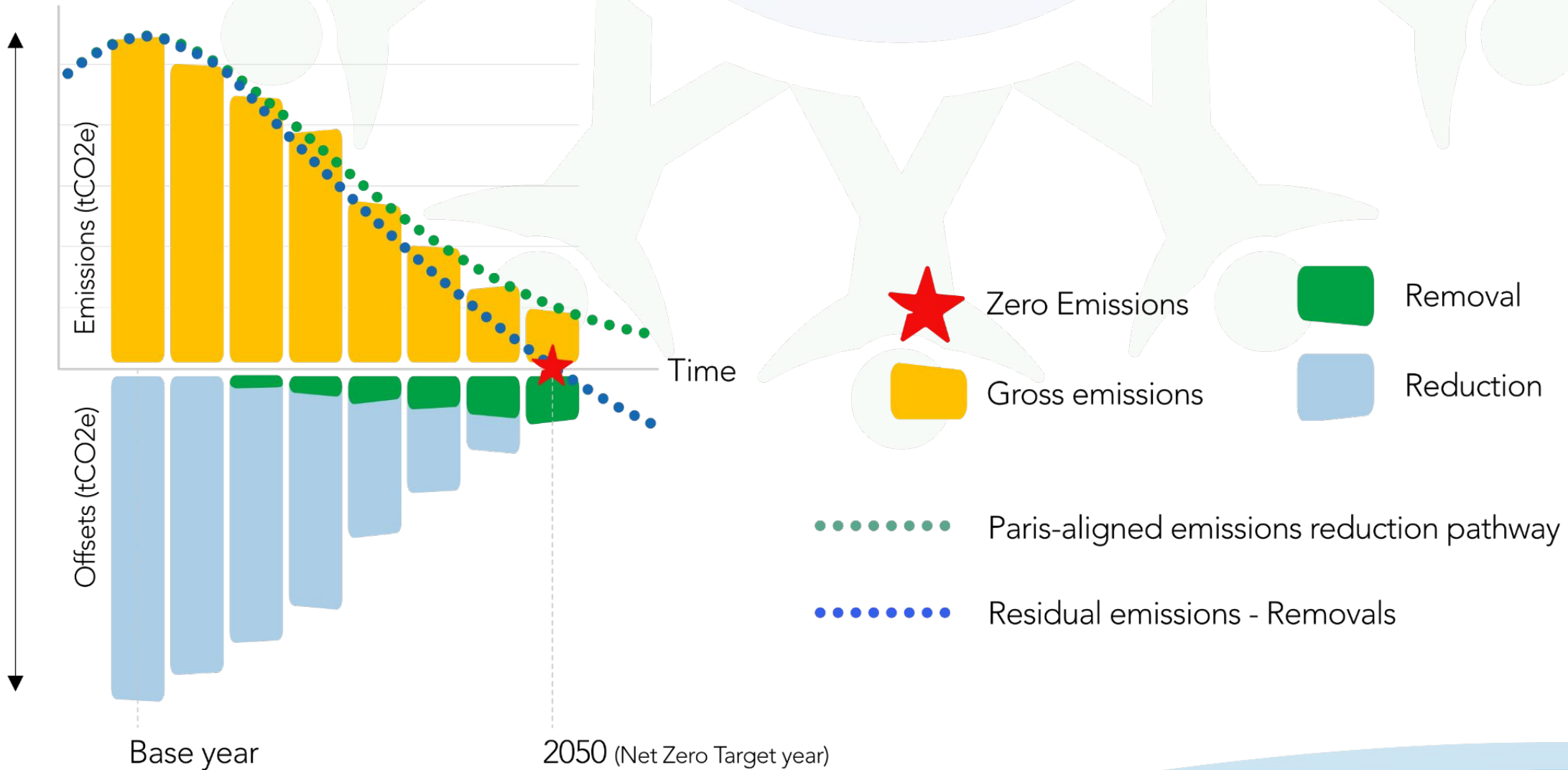
- Prioritise reduction of your own emissions first
- Ensure the environmental integrity of offsets you use and disclose how those offsets operate
- Shift offsetting towards options that directly remove carbon from the atmosphere
- Shift offsetting towards long-lived storage, which removes carbon from the atmosphere permanently
- Support development of a market for net-zero-aligned offsets

<https://www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/research/oxford-offsetting-principles>

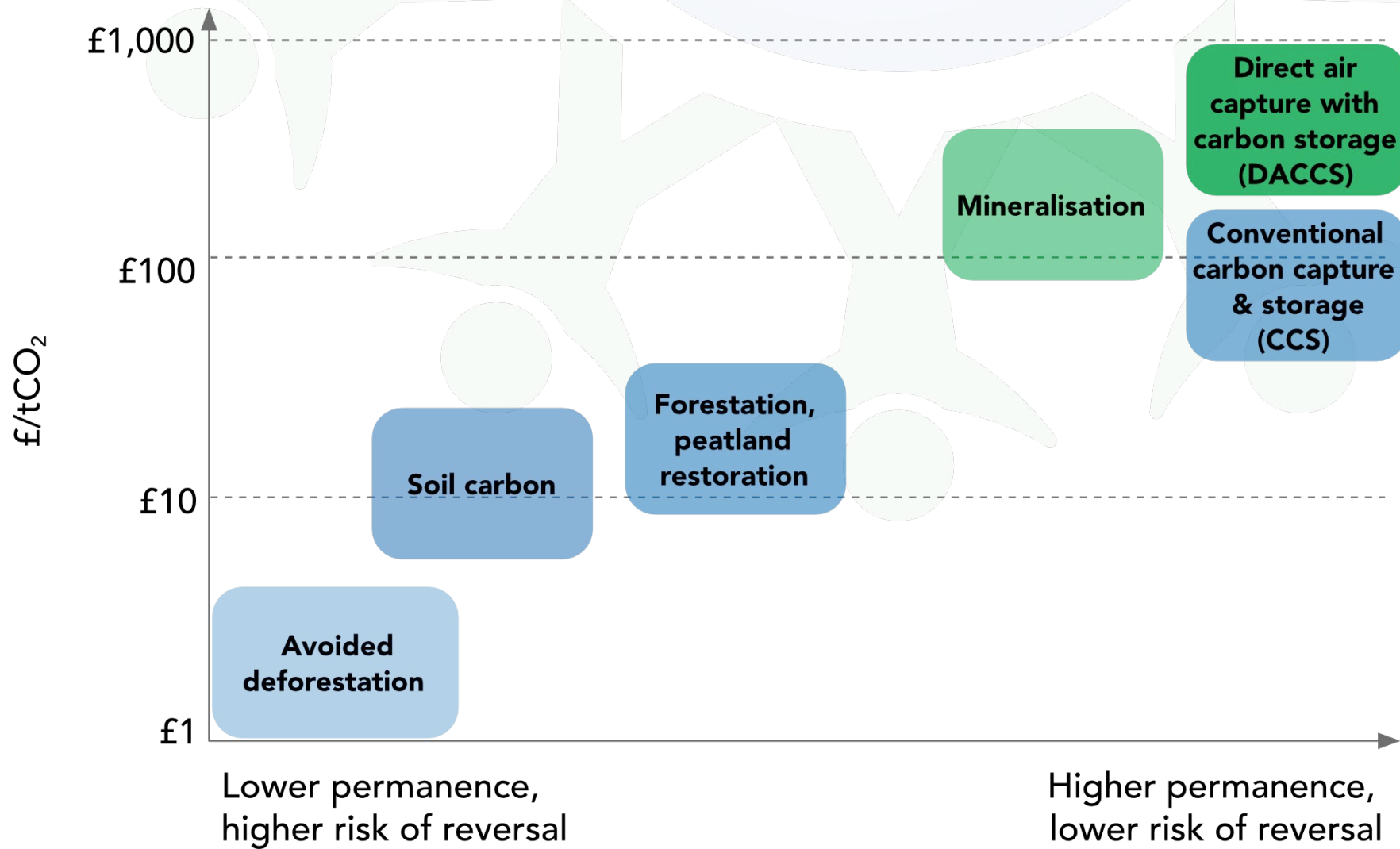


CarbonSAVER®

# Reductions Vs Removals



# Removals - Indicative Costs



# Recommendations

- The first step must **always** be to reduce emissions by applying the **GHG Mitigation Hierarchy** (next slide)
  - Eliminate
  - Reduce
  - Substitute
- **And only then offset**
  - Purchase offsets which are inline with the Oxford Principles
  - Encourage the **cost-effective** supply of removals offsets at scale



# GHG - Mitigation Hierarchy

**Eliminate**  
Through design

1

**Reduce**  
Through efficiency

2

**Substitute**  
Through alternatives

3

**Compensate**  
Through offsets

4







# CarbonAdvisory™

EXPERT HELP

## ADVISORY SERVICES

Need some help with your carbon & climate programme?  
Our experts can turbo charge your team and deliver your goals.

- Mandatory Reporting
- TCFD Disclosures
- Climate Risks & Opportunities
- Accreditation & Certification
- Third Party Verification
- Compliance Audits
- Net Zero Strategy
- Carbon Neutrality
- Science Based Targets
- Scenario Analysis
- Scope 3 Emissions
- Supplier Engagement

[advisory@carbonsaver.org](mailto:advisory@carbonsaver.org)



CarbonSAVER®