



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The UK's Clean Air Strategy and Domestic Combustion

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Forestry Commission
England



Environment
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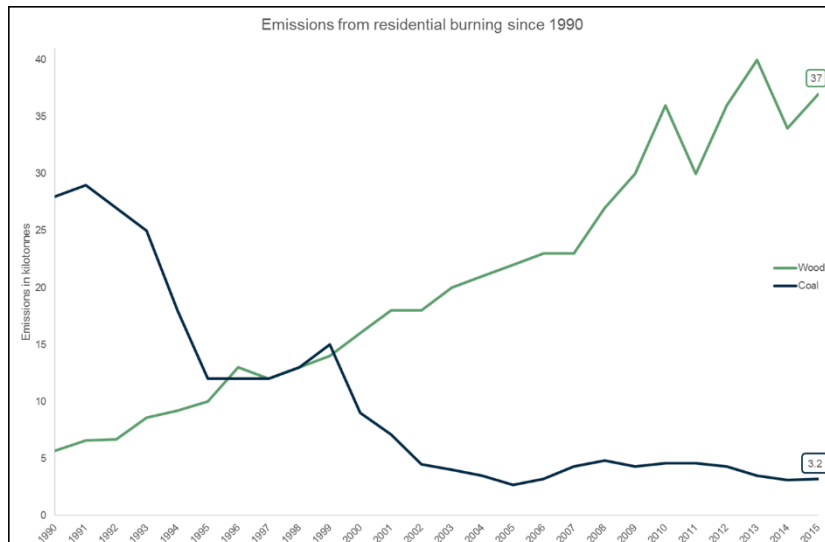
Current trends in domestic burning



- Whilst PM_{2.5} have reduced since 1972 we have seen an increase in domestic combustion recent years

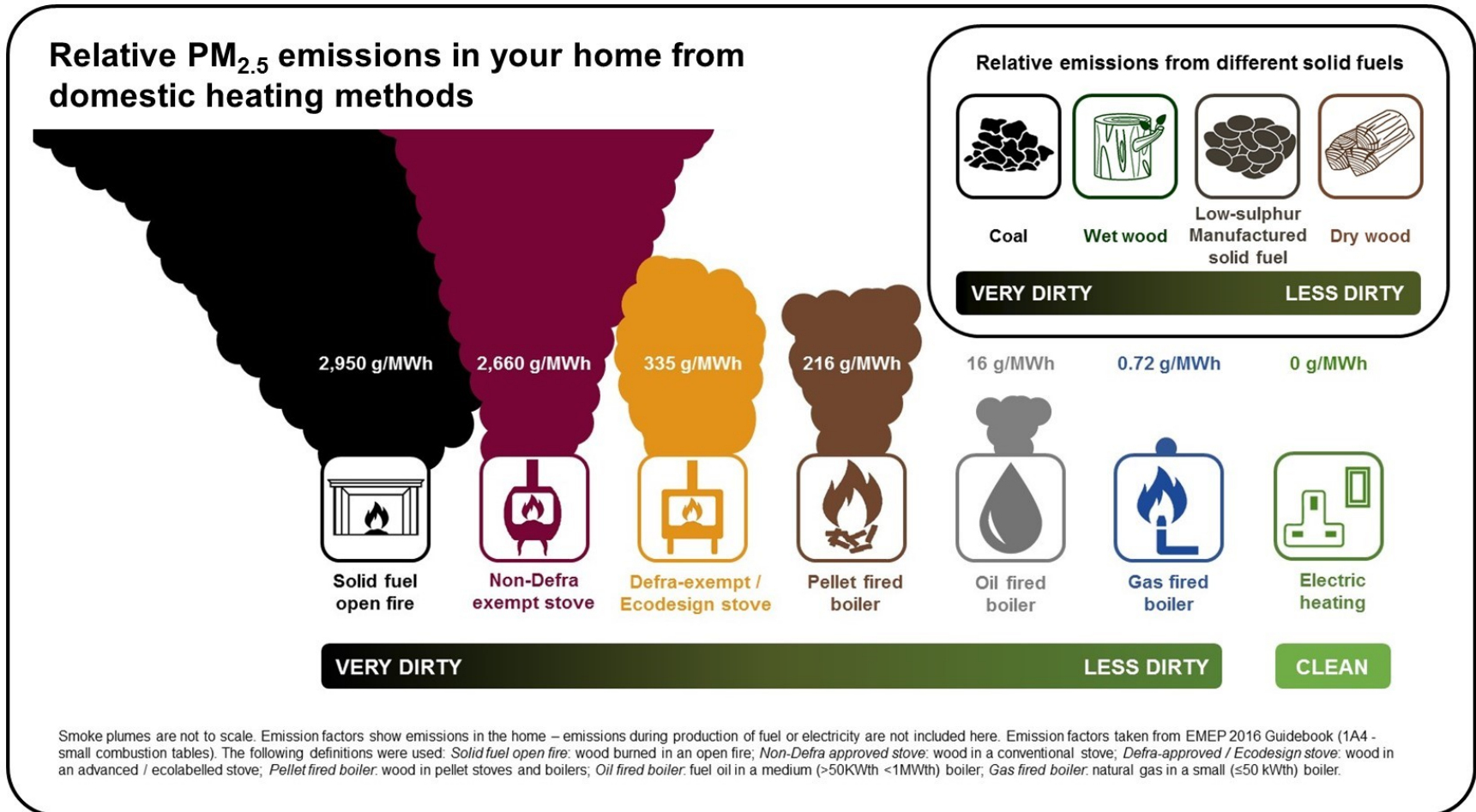


- Domestic combustion therefore plays a much more significant role in PM emissions than previously thought



- Trend over time has shown a decline in coal burning and an increase in domestic wood burning

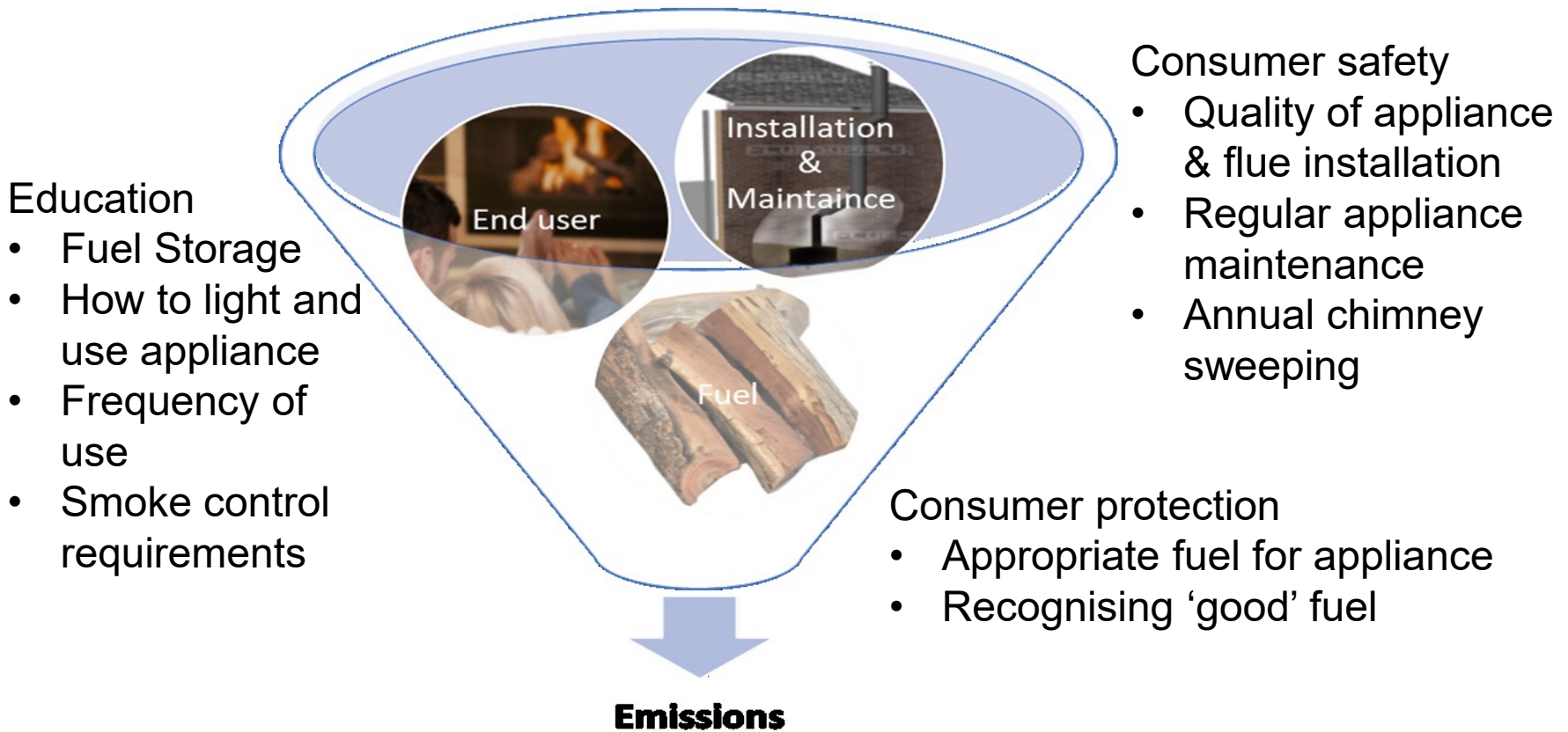
Explaining the difference between appliances



Adapted with permission from a version by Puget Sound Clean Air Authority

Contributory factors

There are three contributory factors to domestic combustion emissions



We know we need to look at all three factors to reduce emissions

What has Government been doing so far?

Working to improve knowledge and understanding about impacts of domestic combustion by:



- Broadening the message beyond road transport –
 - Domestic burning is the single largest source of primary PM_{2.5} in the UK with 38% of emissions from residential burning
- Providing public information messages on ‘burning practices’ via leaflets and web-based information to raise awareness

Fuels and Appliances:



Working with industry sectors to identify how to change consumer behaviour to reduce emissions and the impacts for example:

- Industry-led scheme to label and promote dry wood
 - Wood with moisture content of <20%
- Ecodesign ready appliances



Improve the quality of fuels used and stoves purchased

Improve their operation

Reduce burning

Forthcoming

- We will ensure that only the cleanest fuels and stoves for use at home will be available for sale, removing 8,000 tonnes of harmful particulate matter from the atmosphere each year
 - Restriction on wet wood in small volumes
 - Phase out of bituminous coal
 - Standards for manufactured solid fuel
 - Ecodesign stoves only by 2022

Smoke Control Areas

- Local authorities have advised that awareness of, and compliance with, smoke control area legislation is low and that few people make the link between domestic burning and air pollution.
- Some local authorities are working to raise awareness of smoke control areas and to re-assess their boundaries. However, they have told us that smoke control areas can be hard to enforce.
- We are now looking at a nationwide approach to smoke control which can be built upon as appropriate by local authorities dependent on local circumstances



Conclusions and Next Steps

- Good reductions in PM can be achieved through measures to address domestic burning
- We realise that this is a first step on the journey to reducing emissions but we do need to ensure we bring everyone along with us
- As we move along the journey we will continually reassess the impact that these changes have on emission levels



- We will consult in the summer on phasing out the most polluting fuels
- We will continue to work with industry to raise consumer awareness
- We will work with Local Authorities to identify the best way to minimise burdens and improve efficiency of enforcement at the local level



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Thank you for your attention



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