

## Household Projections for Strategic Development Planning Areas

### 1. Summary

GROS is planning to produce population and household projections for the new Strategic Development Plan (SDP) Areas. This paper provides some background to this work, and describes what we are planning to do, in order to give HARG members a chance to comment on what we are proposing.

### 2. Background

The White Paper, [Modernising the Planning System](#) published in June 2005, signalled Ministers' intentions to introduce strategic and local development plans. While local development plans cover the whole of Scotland, strategic development plans will only cover the four largest city regions around Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Strategic Development Planning Authorities (SDPAs) will provide a vital forum for planning authorities to jointly establish a common approach to matters that extend beyond an individual authority's boundaries. Housing markets, travel to work areas, and access to services all operate on a large geographical basis, particularly around the main city regions. The groups of planning authorities for each SDPA are therefore intended to reflect the geographic realities on the ground.

Scottish Ministers want Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) to be prepared and reviewed on at least a 5-yearly basis, so that plans can effectively lead and manage change.

### 3. Strategic Development Planning Areas

In November 2008 the following SDP areas were agreed by Ministers.

(For further information and maps please see [Scottish Planning Series Planning Circular 3 2008: Strategic Development Plan Areas](#))

#### **Aberdeen City and Shire Development Plan Area (North East)**

Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils, (excepting the part of Aberdeenshire Council that formed part of the Cairngorms National Park on 11 November 2008).

#### **Dundee, Perth, Angus and North Fife Development Plan Area (TAYplan)**

Angus (excepting the part of Angus Council that formed part of the Cairngorms National Park on 11 November 2008), Dundee City, Perth & Kinross Councils (excepting that formed part of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park on 11 November 2008) and Fife (St Andrews and North Fife local planning areas only).

#### **Edinburgh and South East Scotland Development Plan Area (SESplan)**

City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, Scottish Borders, West Lothian Councils and Fife (Kirkcaldy, Mid Fife and Dunfermline local planning areas only).

#### **Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Development Plan Area (GCV)**

East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire, (excepting

the part of West Dunbartonshire Council that formed part of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park on 11 November 2008).

#### 4. Household projections for SDPAs

In the past, household projections have been produced for [Local Authority Areas](#), [National Parks](#) and [Structure Plan Areas](#). GROS will now produce population and household projections for SDPAs. We are planning to publish these results in a joint publication, as we did with the National Parks projections.

In order to produce household projections for SDPAs, four sets of inputs will be required:

- Population Projections
- Household Estimates
- Communal Establishment rates
- Headship Rates

Headship Rates give proportions in each age group that head particular household types. An example is the proportion of people in the 30-34 year old age group that head a household that contains 2 or more adults with 1 or more children.

The method proposed for SDPA projections is to produce projections for the parts of the Local Authorities which do not form part of the SDPAs, such as the part of Aberdeenshire Council which is within the Cairngorm National Park boundary, and so is excluded from the Aberdeen City and Shire Development Plan Area. We will then subtract these figures from the sum of the constituent Local Authorities which have already been published as part of "[Household Projections for Scotland 2006-Based](#)"

For example, in the diagram below Cairngorm National Park (CNP) has been divided into two parts.

- CNP1
- CNP2 (area of CNP that overlaps with Aberdeenshire and should be excluded from the North East SDPA)

It should be possible to produce projections for these two areas and control them to the overall Cairngorm projection that was published in October 2008. This means that the projections for the SDPAs should agree with the projections for Local Authority areas and National Parks, which have already been published.

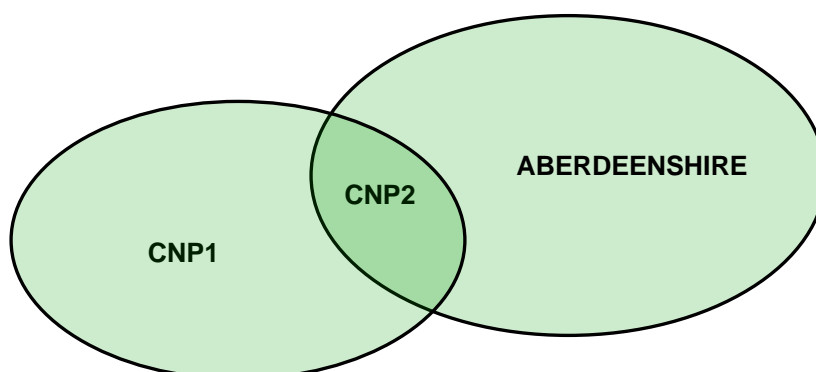


Illustration: The North East SDPA household projections will be based on the sum of Aberdeen City plus Aberdeenshire Council minus CNP2.

Household projections for the remaining three SDPAs will use a similar method, aggregating the projections for the constituent council areas (which have already been published) and then subtracting any areas which do not form part of the SDPA such as areas which overlap with the National Parks. Note that we will be producing projections for the “overlap” areas but some are quite small so we may decide that projections for such small areas are not reliable and it may be better to remove a constant value instead.

## **5. National Park and SDP area boundaries for projections**

The geographies used to produce projections for the SDP areas and National Parks, are based on aggregations of data zones. Data zone boundaries do not exactly match the boundaries of these areas and so, for the purpose of projections, data zones are included or excluded based on the ‘population weighted centroid’, as determined by colleagues in the Scottish Government.

Population weighted centroids are a standard procedure for assigning the population of a small geography to a large geography if the small geography does not wholly fit within the boundaries of the large geography – or lies across the border of two large geographies. The population weighted centroid is essentially the point in the area where population density is the same all around the point. In this case, a data zone will be allocated to the SDP area if the population weighted centroid lies within it.

In particular, for the TAYplan development area, that part of Angus Council that overlaps the Cairngorm National Park is to be excluded from the SDP area. This overlap with Cairngorm is only part of one data zone and the majority of the population in that data zone is outside the National Park and so this data zone will be included in the SDP area projection but not the National Park projection. Similar circumstances occur for the small part of Perth & Kinross council that overlaps with the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National park.

## **6. HARG members are asked to say whether they are happy with the proposals detailed here and provide any comments or suggestions on them.**

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