

SW EIP – Note for Panel - Revised (2004 Based Household Projections)

1. The Panel requested an update following the publication on 16 March of updated Communities and Local Government Household Projections (see attached request).
2. The attached table presents the updated household projections for the North West and compares them with the previous 2003 based projections.

Reason for the Update

3. The household projections were updated to a 2004 base to be consistent with the latest Office for National Statistics (ONS) Sub-national population projections that were published in Autumn 2006.
4. The 2004 based household projections use the same trends in marital and cohabitation status as the 2003 based ones. They also use the same projections of household formation. Difference between the two sets of household projections there result from changes in the underlying (ONS) population projections.
5. They are two main differences between the 2003 and 2004 based population projections.
 - a. The 2004 based national population projection is higher due increased assumptions on migration and life expectancy. This leads to the projected population for England at 2026 of 55,832,000 compared with a 55,025,000 in the 2003 based projection.
 - b. The 2004 based sub-national population projections use a revised methodology for the distribution of international migration by local authority. ONS regard this methodology as an improvement but there will a revised 2004 based sub-national projections later this year, that will be informed by the programme on Improving Population and Migration statistics,
6. Comparison of the 2003 and 2004 based sub national projections shows.
 - a. There is very little difference in projected population of the South West in 2026: 5,775,400 compared with 5,764,000 in the 2003 projection (0.2 per cent).
 - b. There are, however, larger changes in the projected population at district and unitaries: for example –
 - i. local authorities with noticeable higher projected population include Exeter, Plymouth, Mid Devon, Bristol, West Devon, Caradon, Bath and North East Somerset;
 - ii. local authorities with lower projections include: Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Christchurch, Swindon, South Gloucestershire, Poole, Salisbury and Tewksbury.

7. These changes are reflected in the differences between the 2004 and 2003 based household projections (attached Table). Comparison of the annual average household growth from 2006 to 2026 shows.
 - a. A slightly higher rate for the South West in the 2004 based projection (27,000 compared with 26,800)
 - b. Higher household growth noticeable in local authorities including Bath and North East Somerset, Plymouth, Carodon, Exeter, and West Devon.
 - c. Lower household growth in Poole, Christchurch, Weymouth and Portland, Forest of Dean and Gloucester.
8. Important caveats are that the household projections are less robust at local authority and the underlying sub-national population projections will be revised later this year.

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