

Population and Household Projections for Scottish Sub- council Areas

Background to the project

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Population and Migration Statistics branch NRS

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Agenda for the afternoon

12:45 – Welcome, housekeeping and background: Esta Clark

12:55 – Population projections: Angela Adams

13:25 – Household projections: Esther Roughsedge

13:35 – Questions and discussion

13:50 – Tea and coffee

14:05 – CPC Seminar: Professor Ludi Simpson

14:40 – Questions and discussion

15:00 – Finish

What I will cover

- *Before we start, an update on 2014-based projection plans*
- Demand and potential uses identified by councils at the start of the project
- Funding and project team
- Limitations of projections
- Working with councils
- Benefits and insights
- Uses and feedback

2014-based projections update

- 2014-based National Population Projections published 29 October 2015
- Currently testing our new SAS system for Council, NHS Board, National Park and SDP Area population projections
- Paper on impact of changes compared with published 2012-based projections ~April
- Consultation on migration assumptions ~May
- Currently aiming for a June 2016 publication date for 2014-based population projections and October for household projections (dates depend on how well testing goes)

Demand from councils and local planning groups

Identified through various routes:

- Improvement service for local and community planning
- Population and Migration Statistics Committee
- Discussed at various other forums e.g. Local Area Research and Intelligence Association (LARIA), SG Centre for Housing Market Analysis (CHMA) etc

Funding and project team

- Funded by the Scottish Government Data Development Fund
- One-off project
- Looking for feedback
- Future work would need to be set alongside other NRS priorities
- Aim to develop methods
- Experimental statistics
– data being developed

Project team

- Angela Adams, Secondee from Clydeplan Strategic Development Planning Authority
- Professor Ludi Simpson University of Manchester
- William Howes
- Gail Sinclair
- Hannah Rutherford
- Esther Roughsedge
- Esta Clark

Potential uses identified by councils at the start of the project

- **housing need and demand** assessment preparation, and to inform **local development plans** & housing land allocations
- **identifying care needs**, e.g. future elderly care home provision
- **planning of services** for different areas within the council
- **changes in the age/sex structure** of the population and likely **consequences for service demand**
- forecasting the incidence/prevalence of long-term health conditions. This can feed into joint work with the NHS Boards being undertaken to **inform the health and social care strategic needs assessment and joint commissioning process**

Limitations of projections

- Projections are calculations showing what happens under **certain assumptions about future fertility, mortality, migration and household formation.**
- They **do not take account of any future changes** that may occur as a result of policy initiatives, social or economic change.
- They will **reflect past policy changes and trends** in house building, but they do not incorporate information on planned future policy changes or house building.
- These **projections are not, therefore, forecasts** of what the government expects to happen.
- **Small areas show more short-term change** than larger areas and in the projections, **these trends are continued for the length of the projection.**
- As the process of change is cumulative, **the reliability of projections decreases over time.**

Working with councils

- Sub-Council Area Projections group
- consultation on geography in June and July 2015
- pre-release access to quality assure the results in February 2016
- Some councils pre-release access to the draft report in March 2016
- Councils who wanted it were given 3 days pre-release access to the final report to allow them to prepare briefing for informed comment at the time of release

Benefits and insights

- We learnt a lot about different population projection methods
- A lot about the quality of small area data
- Particularly areas with special populations
- Strengthened relationships with council contacts, working together

Uses and feedback

- We really want to hear from people who **use these projections**
- **Are they useful?** If so, examples of where you have used them
- Feedback on the results and method used
- We will be sending a short survey out in about 6 months time
- We are happy to come and speak to people about the projections
- **Once you get a chance to use them we would really like to hear from you**

Contact details for feedback:

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