POPGROUP_{v.4}

User Guide 4

How to Create Population Projections led by a Plan for House-building

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Introduction

This Guide shows how to find and enter data about the relationship between households and housing, and then to project the impact of a house-building plan on the local population. These are known as 'dwelling-led projections', and are often used in the development of Local Plans. This approach usually combines official projections of entire local authority districts with planned release of land for housing, as in the example in this Guide. The approach is also used with projections for smaller areas to assess the impact of a proposed development on population, including children of school ages.

POPGROUP is used for many other aspects of assessing the need for services according to the projected future age-composition of the population. This Guide focuses on one specific application in planning - to estimate the impact on population of planned numbers of dwellings.

I.I. What else will I need to know?

An experienced POPGROUP user will create the relationship between households and housing, and run a population projection led by a plan for house-building in less than an hour. Projections with alternative plans are then a quick revision achieved in a few minutes. A novice will want to put aside a full half day to work through the Guide and become comfortable with the data entry and interpretation of the results. Finding alternative data and preparing for likely challenges to results will take longer and depend on the local context.

I.2. What else will I need to know?

This Guide is intended for those who are new to dwelling-led projections, by providing step-bystep support for this specific task. It is assumed that the reader has prepared a population projection in POPGROUP and household projection using the Derived Forecast model for one or more local authority district; for example, from following the instructions in User Guide 1 *How to* get started with population projections (up to section 3) and User Guide 2 How to get started with household projections (up to section 3).

In the example used in this Guide, both the population and the household projection start in 2001. These projections are the government 2012-based projections, updated with government population estimates to mid-2014. In Wales the equivalent projections are from 2011 at the time of writing, and during 2016, the sub-national projections of England, Wales and Scotland will all be updated to be 2014-based. However, this Guide's instructions may be used with any pair of population and household projections, so long as:

- The population and household projections name the same district(s) and,
- The household projection starts in the same year as the population projection, or in an earlier year.

The POPGROUP v.4 reference manual remains the comprehensive guide that should also be consulted to learn how the software operates and its full range of functionality. Section 11.8 on constraints in POPGROUP includes the mathematics of how dwelling-led projections are calculated in POPGROUP.

1.3. About this Guide

In this document, the names of Excel workbooks are written in bold grey font (e.g. POPGROUP_Scenario.xls). Sheets within workbooks are written in bold grey italics surrounded by single quotation marks (e.g. 'Sched').

References to cells within worksheets, or to buttons/options within the workbooks are in blue italics surrounded by single quotations, for example, 'Validate'.

Two types of text box are used in this document:





2 Convert between Households and Dwellings

2.1. Households and dwellings: definitions

The first step in producing a dwelling-led projection recognises that the number of households and the number of dwellings are not the same. Traditionally in the UK, three elements of this difference have been recognised:

- Some households share the same dwelling. The dwelling is simply defined as sharing the same front door, while households share living space and meals. In a block of flats, each flat is a dwelling. The proportion of households sharing a dwelling is low in most Districts.
- Some dwellings are unoccupied because they are vacant. This is usually around 5% or less.
- Some dwellings are unoccupied because they are second or holiday homes. This varies
 greatly between areas, being under 1% for most districts but reaching over 10% in some
 coastal tourist districts.

2.2. Relationship between households and dwellings

The information relating households and dwellings is entered by the user in a POPGROUP file called DFSupply.xls, because it refers to the *supply* of housing. You may enter either a rate for each of the three elements above, or a single conversion factor: the ratio of households to dwellings.

Best practice demands that each of the three elements is specified separately, so that assumptions can be made about the future of each rate. However, the 2011 Census does not provide a distinction between vacant and other unoccupied dwellings in England and Wales (it does in Scotland, and did in 2001 throughout Britain). In England and Wales, an estimate of vacant domestic dwellings must be made from the Council Tax register or other sources. In any

case, other sources might provide a reliable up-to-date estimate of vacant dwellings more recent than the Census.

The table below shows the cells from Table KS401 in the 2011 Census that gives the information required.

| 2011 0 | 2011 Census information to convert from households to dwellings | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Households sharing rate | The number of Sharing households is calculated as All All occupied households dwellings | The rate is calculated by dividing sharing households by all households. | | | |
| | In Table KS401 'All households' = "Household spaces with at least one usual resident". 'All occupied dwellings' = total of dwellings minus those that are unoccupied: "All categories: Dwelling Type" – "Household spaces with no usual residents" | | | | |
| Vacant dwellings rate | Census Table KS401, Vacant dwellings = "All household spaces: Unoccupied: Vacant". See note for England and Wales | The rate is calculated by dividing vacant dwellings by all dwellings. | | | |
| Second or holiday homes rate | Census Table KS401, Second or holiday homes = "All household spaces: Unoccupied: Second residence/holiday accommodation". See note for England and Wales | Divide second or holiday homes by all dwellings: 'All categories: Dwelling Type' | | | |

Note for England and Wales: Only the total of unoccupied dwellings is given: "Household spaces with no usual residents". The division between vacant dwellings and second or holiday homes must be found or estimated from other sources, and this is left to the user.

| Overall | Census Table KS401 = | This overall factor and the |
|--|---|---|
| conversion factor households/d wellings | "Household spaces with at least one usual resident" / "All categories: Dwelling Type" | three elements are related in this way: households/dwellings = (1 - vacancy rate - holiday home rate) / (1 - sharing rate). |

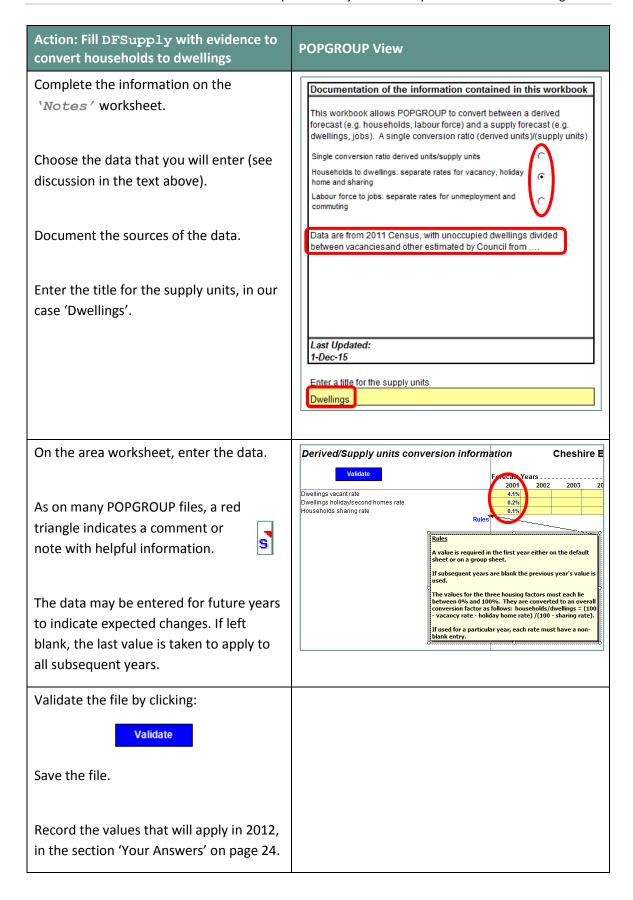
As the decade progresses, the 2011 Census becomes less reliable as a basis for planning. Where vacant or second/holiday homes are likely to be changing since the last census, it is worth finding sources of information outside the census, for example:

- DCLG Live Table 615 for districts in England, where vacant dwellings include second homes
- DCLG Council Tax Base statistics for districts in England, where each year's table include second homes.

2.3. Create the DFSupply file

Once values have been found for converting between households and dwellings, they are entered into POPGROUP as follows:

| Action: Fill DFSupply with evidence to convert households to dwellings | POPGROUP View |
|--|---|
| From your POPGROUP model's skeleton | Name |
| folder, open the DFSupply file, e.g. | Cons.xls DFSupply.xls |
| C:\Forecast\POPGROUP V4.0\ <modelid>_skel\DFSupply.xls</modelid> | Mig_INOV.xls Mig_INUK.xls Mig_OUTOV.xls |
| Save as in your POPGROUP input folder | Mig_OUTUK.xls |
| with a new name e.g. | mort.xls |
| DFSupply_Dwell.xls (to indicate it refers to dwellings. Other files may refer to jobs) | POPGROUP_Scenario.xls Transfer_data_PGV4_PGV4.xls Transfer_data_PGV4_PGV4.xls |



In the example above, the conversion data were entered only for the first year, implying that

they will remain constant in the future. This is a reasonable starting point, but may be amended if better assumptions are found, for example if the vacancy rate can be convincingly shown to be temporarily high or low.

These assumptions about the future are important as they affect the number of households that will fit in a given number of dwellings, and therefore the population implied by a house-building plan.

Household & Dwelling Change Implied by a Population Projection

Before running a dwelling-led scenario, you may find it useful to evaluate the impact of population growth on the number of households and dwellings. This is an intermediate step before the planned housing is included. It is not necessary, but if this is the first time that you have run population and household projections together, it is worth doing to check that you have all the necessary files and that the conversion to dwellings is operating as expected.

You will record the population, household, and dwelling before the constraints from a housing plan are added, to later evaluate the impact of the housing plan. You can record this information in the section of 'Your Answers' on page 24.

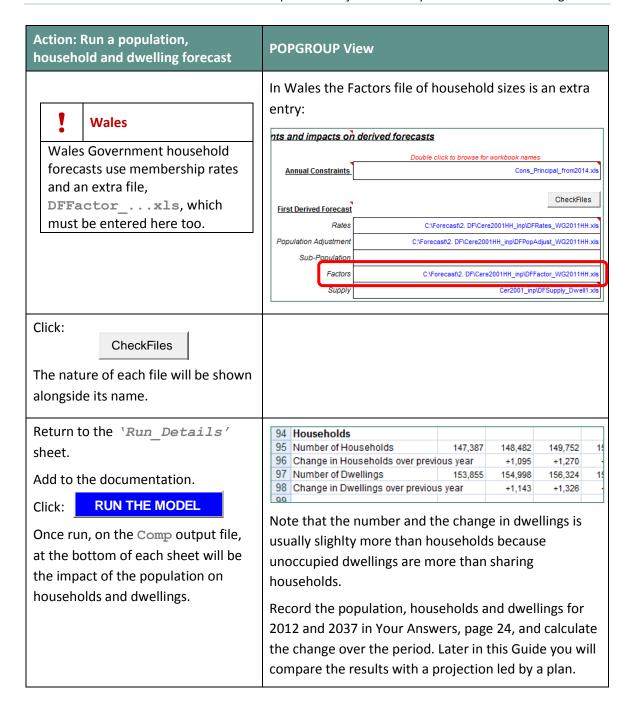
When the 'base forecast' is mentioned in this Guide, it simply refers to your preferred assumptions for fertility, mortality, migration, and household formation (headship rates), that you have already collated, and which are the starting point for the forecast run in this section. These may be from the government's latest projections or they may be your own. In this guide, they are the assumptions from the 2012-based population and household projections for districts in England, updated with Mid-Year Estimates from ONS up to mid-2014. You should use your own existing forecast, but the following rules apply:

- The population and household projections must name the same district(s) and;
- The household projection must start in the same year as the population projection, or in an earlier year.

In this Section, you will run your base population scenario, adding information about people 'not in households', about household representative (headship) rates, and about the relationship between households and dwellings (DFSupply). POPGROUP will produce the population forecast, and also the number of households and dwellings implied by that population forecast.

Action: Run a population, **POPGROUP View** household and dwelling forecast RUN THE MODEL Information for this scenario From your POPGROUP model's input ONS2012from2014withDw Scenario identifier: folder, open the your Scenario Contact details (to be included on all output files) file that has already been run, e.g. NB: If you do not change the 'Scenario identifier', you C:\Forecast\POPGROUP V4.0 \<ModelID>_inp\Scenario_ will overwrite previous output files. This may not <ScenarioID>.xls matter much in this section as we are only adding information on households and dwellings, not changing Change the 'Scenario identifier' to the population projection itself. something relevant, e.g. add Remember (from Guide 1) that you do not have to save 'withDwel' to indicate the dwellings the Scenario file. It is automatically saved in your input that will be forecast folder. The 'Scenario identifier' is used to name the Scenario file and all the output files. Change to the 'Constraints and impacts' sheet. Leave the constraints file as it is, if nts and impacts on derived forecasts you have one. Annual Constraints Add the household representative rates file and the population First Derived Forecast adjustment file, by double clicking C:\Forecast\2. DF\AV-CE-Mcr2001hh_inp\DFRatesStage2_CLG2012HH.xl and navigating to your base files in C:\Forecast\2. DF\AV-CE-Mcr2001hh_inp\DFPopAdjustStage2_CLG2012HH.> Population Adjustmen the input folder of your DF Sub-Population household projection. Supply DFSupply_Dwel1.xls Add the DFSupply file you created in Section 2, by double clicking and navigating to the input folder of your

POPGROUP projection.



In this Section, you have repeated a population projection, but asked POPGROUP to run a household projection in the background (i.e. evaluating the dwelling and household growth impacts of the population projection). The household and dwelling growth outcomes are summarised at the bottom of the Comp output file.

When recording the change in population and households, you may notice that the number of households (and dwellings) grows more rapidly than the population. This usually occurs because

household size is reducing, especially because most areas of the UK are ageing. Older people tend to live in households of one or two people.

Running the household projection in the background of POPGROUP only provides the total number of households implied by that level of population growth. When you run the same household projection in the Derived Forecast module, it gives you details of household types, household size, the age of household representatives, and other analyses (see User Guide 2). You would have to run the household projection in the Derived Forecast software to get those other analyses.

4 Create Dwelling Constraints & their Impact on Population

4.1. Create a dwelling constraints file

To evaluate the impact that planned house-building would have on the population, housing targets are defined in the constraints (cons) file. Migration is used to balance the relationship between population and housing: if there is insufficient population to fill the housing growth, more in-migrants and fewer out-migrants are needed. If there are too many people for the planned housing, more out-migrants and fewer in-migrants are needed.

Planned house-building is entered as a *change* in the number of dwellings each year, and is therefore the *net* change in housing expected in the area by the plan. The net change includes conversions and demolitions. If a total for house-building is planned over a number of years, an annual schedule of implementing the plan must be entered. If there is no official schedule, it is normal to calculate and enter the annual average change each year. The change is entered in each year of the plan, which may be some or all of the forecast years – the rules are described in comments on the **cons** file itself, and in the POPGROUP reference manual.

If the model is for several areas, a constraint must be entered for every area.

You will normally have a constraints file already filled, used for your previous POPGROUP scenarios for the same areas, for example the one used by the scenario in Section 3. It makes sense to amend that one rather than to start from scratch.

| Action: Complete a constraints file with planned housing | POPGROUP View | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| From your POPGROUP model's input folder, open the base Cons file that was already used in the scenario of Section 3, e.g. C:\Forecast\POPGROUP V4.0\ <modelid>_inp\Cons_20 02-14.xls</modelid> | | | |
| If you do not have a Cons file, you may open a new one from the skel folder of skeleton files. | | | |
| Save as in the input folder, with a name that reflects the plan, e.g. Cons_Plan1100pa.xls | Documentation of the set of constraints defined in this workbook Mid-year population estimate by single year of age and sex from ONS MYE outputs added by Data Module. 2002 to 2014. Plan for housebuilding added in years 2014-15 to 2036-37, 1,100 extra dwellings each year. | | |
| On the 'Notes' sheet, add Documentation. | | | |
| On the area sheet(s): You may have 'Population Constraints' ticked for past years. Keep them. If you have 'Population Constraints' ticked for future years, delete them. You will want future years to be led by the dwelling constraints you will now enter. On row 8, double click each year of the planned housing. POPGROUP will enter a tick to show the option has been chosen. On row 15 enter the number of extra dwellings in the plan, for each year. | 3 Constraints to be applied to the annual forecasts 4 Validate Options wizard 5 Derived & Supply Unit Constraints 6 Options 2001-02 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 7 Provide change in total derived units 8 Provide change in total supply units 11 Rules Double clik 12 Data - year beginning July 1 13 Change in total no. of derived units 15 Change in total no. of supply units 18 19 Population Constraints 20 Options 2002 2014 2015 2016 Provide total population Provide population by sex & age V | | |
| Click: 'Validate' Save the file. | | | |

4.2. Run a dwelling-led scenario

| Action: Run a dwelling-led scenario | POPGROUP View | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| From your POPGROUP model's input folder, open the scenario you used in Section 3, e.g. C:\Forecast\POPGROUP | | | |
| V4.0\ <modelid>_inp\ ScenarioWithDwel</modelid> | | | |
| Amend the 'Scenario ID' to remind you of the plan used. | Scenario identifier: Plan1100pa | | |
| On the sheet 'Constraints_and_impacts', double click the constraints file (Cons) and find the file you have just created. | Double click to browse for workbook names Annual Constraints. C\Forecast\1. POPGROUP V4.0\AV-CE-Mcr2001_inp\Cons_Plan1100pa.xls | | |
| Return to the 'Run_Details' sheet: Amend the documentation | The change in number of dwellings from 2014 in your Comp file should be what you defined in the Cons file. The population will have changed to match the plan of house-building. | | |
| Click: RUN THE MODEL | Write the results for 2037 on page 24, and calculate the new change over the period. | | |
| Once run, on the Comp output file, at the bottom of each sheet the number of households and dwellings will be reported. | The household and dwelling figures before 2014 will not have changed, because the house-building plan started after that year. (In the years prior to the house-building, the reported household and dwelling numbers are those that are implied by the population growth). | | |

Local Plans sometimes cater for more population and household change than the ONS and DCLG projections imply. If this is the case, the population change you record will then be greater than that implied by the base projection. POPGROUP has calculated the number of migrants needed to fill the houses in the plan, using the household representative rates and the profile of migration to the district that is in the input files.

If the plan was for *fewer* dwellings to be built than the base projection indicated, in Section 3, then POPGROUP would reduce migration accordingly. In the next Section, you will implement alternative housing plans and other assumptions.

5 Alternative Scenarios

The amendment of a Cons file to specify a housing plan in Section 4 is straightforward. It takes only a few minutes to replace one plan with another, document and save the Cons file with a new name, and run an alternative scenario to find the impact of the house-building plan on population.

POPGROUP uses your assumptions to compute the extra (or fewer) people in a projection led by the house-building plan. It compares the planned dwellings to those projected without the constraint, and then applies migration profiles with the representative rates to calculate the number of extra people needed to fill the dwellings. It outputs the new population projection with adjusted number of migrants.

It is relatively easy to investigate alternative plans in POPGROUP. This section gives instructions for two tasks:

- The first set of instructions shows how to specify a plan in which there is no change to
 the dwelling stock. This is unrealistic, but it is useful to show how population is
 expected to change even when there is no house-building.
- The other part of this section discusses the migration flows, which are used to balance between housing and population growth, and shows how to make an alternative assumption about these flows.

The later section 'Next Steps' lists some of the other scenarios that are tried in practice.

5.1. No new housing

POPGROUP View Action: A plan for no house-building From your POPGROUP model's input folder, open the Cons constraints file you used in Section 4 (it is usually easier to **Derived & Supply Unit Co** change an existing input file than start 6 Options 2012-13 2013-14 Provide change in total derived units from scratch). Provide change in total supply units Save as... with a different name, e.g. 13 Data - year beginning July 1 14 Change in total no. of derived units cons NoDwelChange.xls Change in total no. of supply units Delete the values for the previous In spite of the title of this section being 'no new housing plan, and insert zeros housing', the assumption that you are making in instead. this file is that in each year there is no net Document on the 'Notes' sheet change in the number of dwellings. In reality, Save the file with these new there may be some conversions, demolitions and assumptions. new building that together add to zero change. Open the previous scenario from Section 4 and make the same changes as in that section: Amend the Scenario ID Scenario identifier: NoDwelChange On the sheet 'Constraints and impacts', double click the Constraints file and Annual Constraints Cons NoDwelChange.xls find the file you made earlier in this section. Return to the 'Run Details' sheet: Population impact of constraint Amend the documentation Number of persons -3,186 -2,972 Click 94 Households **RUN THE MODEL** 95 Number of Households 64.681 73,479 73,479 73,479 Once run, on the Comp output file, at the Change in Households over previous year 97 Number of Dwellings 76,094 76.094 76,094 bottom of each sheet the household and 98 Change in Dwellings over previous year dwelling outcomes are reported. Record the results for 2037 in Your Answers, page 24. Note that from the first year of the dwelling constraint, the numbers of Does the population decrease with the same households and dwellings remains amount of housing? This would often be due to constant and the change is zero, as you the ageing population. However, household specified on the Cons file. representative rates also change, and can mean that the population goes up with the same The output also shows the impact on the amount of housing. population of the constraint.

Try a different housing plan if you have one in mind, evaluating the results in the same way as above. Look at the results until you are satisfied that you can explain them to others.

5.2. Which migration flow will fill housing?

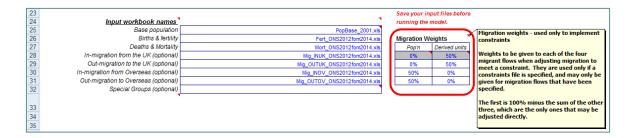
In a dwelling-led scenario, migration is used to balance population and housing growth. If there is insufficient resident population to fill the new houses, migration is used to redress this imbalance. However, there are four flows of migration, so how does POPGROUP know which to use? If there is extra housing it could be filled from:

- More in-migration from other parts of the UK, or
- · Less out-migration to other parts of the UK, or
- More immigration from overseas, or
- Less emigration to overseas.

Some analysts will argue that the new housing will be inhabited by people of specific ages; as the type of planned housing will be bedsits, or housing for workers at a particular industry or office development, or housing especially suitable for older people.

However, those who will fill the housing are likely to partly or even mostly come from within the District for which projections are being produced. Others will fill the housing they leave. The extra housing will result in migrants being attracted, but not to those particular new houses. Since it would not be feasible to model this sequence of house-moves, it is usually better to assume that the overall impact on migration will be to attract the kinds of migrant that the District has attracted in the past. In other words, it is reasonable to use the migration assumptions in the ONS or base projection. Nevertheless, the question remains: which of the four flows of migration will be affected?

In fact, POPGROUP does not know which flow of migration to use; it has to be told. There is a default setting on the Scenario file, which the user can change. The setting on the Scenario file is next to the list of input files. Migration weights on the scenario file specify the combination of migration flows that are used to meet a defined constraint:



The default shown in the illustration above takes migration needed to meet a *population* constraint according to the overseas migration age-sex profile, and takes migration needed to meet a constraint of *derived units* (like households or dwellings) according to the UK migration age-sex profile.

The argument to justify this default setting is this. For many population projections, the least certain element is international migration. If the historical population is known but the migration is uncertain, POPGROUP by default meets the population figure by adjusting international migration. However, in a dwelling-led projection, the availability of housing is most likely to influence the decisions of migrants or potential migrants from other parts of the UK, so it is these migrants that POPGROUP uses to meet a dwelling growth target.

- In both cases, the default is set at value of 50% in each of in- and out-migration (i.e. a surplus of housing might both attract in-migrants and deter out-migrants)
- To change the settings, the user puts in figures for the last three rows of weights. POPGROUP automatically adjusts the first row so that the weights add to 100%.

For most districts, the age-sex profiles of in- and out-migration are not very different, nor are the age-sex profiles of UK and overseas migration. Migrants in all four flows are predominantly young adults, with some children accompanying family adults and fewer older people. For this reason, the choice of migration weights for the constraint does not usually make much of a difference to the end result.

However, if it is clear that the impact of a plan will be almost entirely on one flow, and if the age profiles are quite different in each flow, then the user should change the migration weights on the Scenario file to values that are more appropriate. The instructions below show how to change the migration weights. You can investigate the age profiles of each migration flow on the dump output file, for example by making charts from the five-year age-group migration held on its sheets.

The exercise below repeats the projection of Section 4, but using only <u>UK in-migration</u> to meet the constraint. You may wish to instead use only international immigration, or some other combination. The idea of the exercise is to compare results with Section 4: if there is a great difference, then you should think carefully which weighting of migration is most appropriate for your local plans.

Action: Change the migration flows used to **POPGROUP View** meet a constraint From your POPGROUP model's input folder, open the Scenario file you used in Section 4 for a dwelling-led projection. Change only the 'Scenario ID' and the migration weights. For example, if you investigate the impact of using only UK inmigration: Scenario identifier: Plan1100paAllUKmig Change the 'Scenario ID' In the box headed 'Migration Weights', write '0' in the 'UK out-migration' cell, xls Migration Weights under 'Derived units'. xls Pop'n Derived units xis xis xis 0% 100% Do not change the weights under 0% 0% Change 'Pop'n' as this refers to population 50% 0% to 0, as constraints, not the (dwelling) xls 50% shown 0% constraints of the housing plan. Amend the documentation, e.g. by adding 'Constraint met entirely by No need to change this altering UK in-migration'. column Click: **RUN THE MODEL** Once run, at the bottom of each sheet on the Comp output file the household and dwelling outcomes are reported. The number of dwellings and households at the end of the forecast should not change. These were fixed by your housing plan and the conversion between households and Record the results on Your Answers, page 24. dwellings. Is the difference in population much smaller However, the population will be different, as than the impact of the plan itself? the different age-sex profile of migration will Does it nonetheless make a significant fill the housing depending on the difference? representative rates for the district.

Exact details of how a constraint is met within POPGROUP are contained in the POPGROUP Reference Manual.



Where can I view the age-sex profiles of migration?

The input files have the assumptions about migration used in a projection, and often contain male and female migrants by five-year age-groups in each of the four flows (in and out, UK and overseas). Look at the Scenario – it lists the migration files used. Open them and view the historical migrants and the future assumptions.

However, the projection may use rates rather than counts for its projection. The best place to see the profile of migration *as projected* (i.e. the number of migrants) is in the **dump** output file of a projection. Each flow of migrants is listed each year by sex and single-year-of-age, and then summarized by five-year age groups. The *'Produce Flat File'* facility on the **dump** file puts all the results on a single sheet so that areas can be more easily compared.

Although there is not at present a package of migration analyses within POPGROUP, all the data are available for the user to examine.

6 Compare Scenarios

You will know how to compare the results of population projections, from User Guide 1. Use the utility PGCompare.xls, and check that the results are what you expect.

Action: Compare results of dwelling-led **POPGROUP View** and other population projections Open PGCompare.xls, which is usually held in the directory: double click to browse for a folder C:\Forecast\1, POPGROUP V4.0\AV-CE-Mcr200 Output folder to search: $\1.$ POPGROUP V4.0 $\1.$ Change the folder to your own List of summary files in the nominated output for 2 summ MigrationAv10yrs0212.xls IS2012from2014withDwel.xls Refresh the list of projections Refresh list of umm_ONS2012HighMortality.xls Delete those you do not want to summ_Plan1100pa.xls compare on this occasion umm_NoDwelChange.xls Get the output workbooks and make charts. If you have more than one area, then on this sheet also 'Select the population group for tables and charts'. View and make sense of the total projected population. Population scenarios for Cheshire East & Chester 420.000 In the example shown to the right, the ONS 410,000 projection, updated with mid-year populations to 2014 is shown in green. The → MigrationAv10vrs0212 population has been growing steadily, but 390,000 NoDwelChange also ageing. Various scenarios are shown 380.000 →ONS2012from2014hh →ONS2012HighMortality from this User Guide and User Guide 1. 370,000 →Plan1100pa With no housing growth (i.e. a fixed -Plan1100paAllUKmig 350,000 number of dwellings), the population declines. This is a result of the ageing 2001 2006 2011 2016 2021 2026 2031 2036 population; the elderly population typically forms smaller, often one-A high mortality variant results in lower person households, resulting in a population.

reduction in average household size.

The housing-led projection with a plan of

| Action: Compare results of dwelling-led and other population projections | POPGROUP View |
|---|--|
| A projection based on migration averaged from the ten years 2002- 2012, results in extra population growth. | house-building, results in accelerated population growth in the second half of the projection. It is not visibly affected by the specification of the UK migration flows from which that population comes. |

7 Your Answers

Use this section to record answers for each of your area(s). Write the area names in the column headings.

| Section | Area 1 | Area 2 | Area 3 | Area 4 |
|---|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2. Conversion between households and dwellings | | | | |
| Vacant dwellings, rate | | | | |
| Second or holiday homes, rate | | | | |
| Households sharing, rate | | | | |
| Overall households/dwellings ratio | | | | |
| 3. Population, households and dwellings from | a base projec | ction | | |
| Total population 2012 | | | | |
| Total population 2037 | | | | |
| Total households 2012 | | | | |
| Total households 2037 | | | | |
| Total dwellings 2012 | | | | |
| Total dwellings 2037 | | | | |
| Change in population 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in households 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in dwellings 2012-2037 | | | | |
| 4. Population, households and dwellings from a plan | | | | |
| Total population 2037 | | | | |
| Total households 2037 | | | | |
| Total dwellings 2037 | | | | |
| Change in population 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in households 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in dwellings 2012-2037 | | | | |
| 5.1 No change in dwelling stock | | | | |
| Total population 2037 | | | | |
| Total households 2037 | | | | |
| Total dwellings 2037 | | | | |
| Change in population 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in households 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in dwellings 2012-2037 | | | | |

| Section | Area 1 | Area 2 | Area 3 | Area 4 |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5.2 Migration weights changed to | | | | |
| Total population 2037 | | | | |
| Total households 2037 | | | | |
| Total dwellings 2037 | | | | |
| Change in population 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in households 2012-2037 | | | | |
| Change in dwellings 2012-2037 | | | | |

8 Common Problems



Message 'Cannot run the Macro' or similar

POPGROUP works in Excel by using programs known as 'macros'. After installation, you must follow the instructions in the manual to enable macros and trust access to Visual Basic. Otherwise, POPGROUP cannot work and you will receive error messages.

If you do not have the manual, contact popgroup@edgeanalytics.co.uk.



I get a Windows error

Occasionally there will be a Windows error. Usually it is unclear why it has happened. Coming out of Excel and starting the task again will usually solve the problem. Occasionally after an error, you will be left with a window with program code. Again, close that window and Excel, and try again. These occasional errors are inevitable with a complex program working on many different operating environments, and are not unique to POPGROUP.

If an error occurs more than once, note what happened (take a screen shot if you can), and email details to popgroup@edgeanalytics.co.uk.

9 Next steps

9.1. Other guides in this series

POPGROUP is a versatile tool for analysis of population dynamics. The 'How to...' Guides currently expected in this series are:

- 1. How to get started with population projections
- 2. How to get started with household projections
- 3. How to get started with labour force projections
- 4. How to create population projections led by a plan for house-building
- 5. How to create population projections led by an economic plan for jobs
- 6. How to integrate population, housing and labour force projections

9.2. Service demand and school places

In this User Guide, we have used POPGROUP to estimate the future population when 'constrained' by a plan for house-building. The results are important as they show not only the total population, but also the demand related to particular age-group's adult, children's and other services.

For example, if house-building attracts some migration, some migrants will be children. Equally as important, the young adult migrants will have children during the years of the forecast. This is modelled by fertility rates within POPGROUP. For example, the output shows the future number of children aged 5–10 and 11–15 on the comp or summ files, which could be used to evaluate the extra demand for school places.

9.3. Small areas

Some users make forecasts for areas other than local authorities, for example for electoral wards or for service or housing market areas. Methods developed for small areas are documented and available from popgroup@edgeanalytics.co.uk. The NRS has its own advice-and-guide for small areas in Scotland.

9.4. Labour force and jobs

POPGROUP can show the impact of a housing plan not only on the population but also on the labour force and the resulting number of jobs. If the user sets up a labour force projection, it can be run in the background of POPGROUP in the same scenario that uses a housing plan as a constraint. The projection of the labour force, the relationship between the labour force and jobs, and the integration of population, housing and jobs, are the subjects of User Guides 3, 5 and 6.

9.5. What if a plan changes the vacant housing rate, or representative rates, or migration profiles?

This Guide has described how POPGROUP is used to estimate the impact of a housing plan on the resident population, by calculating the level of migration needed to fill the number of dwellings, according to the age-sex profile of migrants and the household representative rates that government has estimated for the District. In Section 5.2, the choice of migration age-sex profiles that can be used is discussed.

There are other issues which some users will want to consider, which cannot be given full treatment in this introductory guide. For example:

- Will vacancy rates remain the same during the projection? They can be altered on the DFSupply file (see Section 2).
- Will household representative rates remain the same during the projection? Will extra housing mean some 'spreading out' that increases representative rates?
- In areas with particular student migration, is the use of the area's usual migration including students, suitable to judge the impact of a housing plan?