



**Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan
31st January 2018**

JLP Councils note re. local migration figures from Devon County Council

Concise response:

The approach uses robust migration assumptions and data. The data geographies used within the Popgroup model are at Local Planning Authority level and therefore use local data. The ten year migration figures for each Local Authority area have been established using migration, births and deaths data specific to that area. All data used are officially published by ONS. Confusion may have been caused by references to 'national data' in the methodology report. This refers to the fact that the data is published nationally by ONS. The data itself is at a local level. There is a national schedule of births and deaths data from ONS but this is not used in the model. There is no more local source of robust data. The DCC projection methodology is in accordance with paragraph 17 of the PPG which identifies the need to take account of the latest information and ONS population estimates.

More detailed response if required:

The migration data are calculated using historical population growth and previous births and deaths data to give residual migration figures. The approach used in the JLP modelling does not use the nationally produced migration trends data because migration is not directly recorded (as is the case with births and deaths). Instead, ONS derives migration data from a variety of sources which have the potential for inaccuracies because they do not catch all instances of migration. For example, one source of data to derive migration is from GP registrations which would miss anyone who does not register at a new GP practice. Lastly, the ONS migration data is controlled at a local level to fit with the wider, national migration data. This can distort local patterns. The DCC approach does not do this meaning the migration data are more reflective of the local situation.

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