

Borough Preferred Option FAQ

This short FAQ aims to outline how the BPO projections have been produced.

What is the methodology used to produce the BPO projection?

The model and methodology are identical to that to produce the interim 2015-based housing-led projection. The only difference is the housing trajectory input data which is provided by the borough. Full methodology papers for the housing-led and small area projection models used to produce these outputs can be found on the London Datastore here:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/interim-2015-based-projections-documentation>

Does the BPO projection constrain to the trend model?

Yes. At the London-level the BPO projection constrains to the Interim 2015-based central trend projection. This is consistent with the methodology for the published Interim 2015-based housing-led and ward projections.

What is the projection period for the BPO projection?

The BPO projection takes the 2015 Mid-Year Estimate as its base and projects forward to 2050. Although the model produces outputs by sex and single year of age out to 2050 these projections should be treated with caution especially at smaller geographies.

How is the Average Household Size cap implemented?

The Average Household Size (AHS) cap is set at the projected level in 2016. The model does not allow average household size to rise about this level for the duration of the projection period.

How is the BPO development trajectory data incorporated?

The default development trajectory used in the model is based on the results of the 2013 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)¹. At borough level this provides dwelling forecasts up to and including 2041. For the years 2041 to 2050 the amount of development at borough level is held constant at 2041 levels. At ward level the SHLAA provides a trajectory up to and including 2036. Years beyond 2036 assume no development will take place.

When a BPO projection is run, the borough's development trajectory replaces the SHLAA data for that borough for the years for which it is available. All other boroughs use SHLAA data.

¹ <https://www.london.gov.uk/file/15569/download?token=M9dckY12>

How are conventional and unconventional units treated in the model?

The conventional units are input directly into the model as a replacement for ward SHLAA data. The unconventional units are not incorporated at ward level.

The borough trajectory is determined by adding the conventional and unconventional units together and then aggregating the sum to borough.

What is the Zero development projection?

The Zero Dev projection assumes that, for the specified borough, there will be no change in the total dwelling stock over the projection period. All other boroughs are assumed to continue to deliver dwellings according to the trajectories developed from the SHLAA.

The primary purposes of the Zero development projection are:

- Transparency. The Zero development projection provides a baseline against which to compare the BPO projections, providing an indication of the assumed impact of development on the projected population.
- Use in onward modelling. Some users choose to combine the Zero development results with their own modelling of the impact of new housing development, e.g. from yield calculator approaches.

Who has access to the BPO and Zero Dev projections?

Each borough only sees its own BPO and Zero dev projections. The GLA do not share these outputs, or the development trajectory inputs, with any other organisation. This includes other London boroughs and internal GLA departments.

Local authorities are free to publish or share the results of these projections as they see fit. If published, "GLA interim 2015-based population projections" should be included in the reference, but additional identifying information can be chosen by the local authority to reflect the development assumptions used. The GLA strongly recommends that appropriate caveats are given regarding the accuracy of the projections. Please refer to the GLA Demography team if in any doubt.