



# MILTON KEYNES HEDNA Member Briefing

25 January 2023

Jonathan Lee, ORS: Housing Workstream

Stuart Hardisty, HJA: Economic Workstream

## » **Following topics will be covered:**

- Government “Standard Method” for Local Housing Need
- Population Trends and Projections
- Future Growth Scenarios
- Affordable Housing and Housing Mix
- Needs of Specific Groups: Older Person Housing, Adapted Housing, Student Housing

## Local Housing Need of 19,016 dwellings for Milton Keynes over the 10-year period 2022-2032



- 2014-based household projections
- 10-year period:  
  
2022 → 115,783  
2032 → 129,746
- Overall growth of 13,963 households used to set annual average baseline

- ONS median workplace affordability ratio
- 2021 → 9.79
- The adjustment is calculated as:  
$$\frac{9.79 - 4}{4} \times 0.25 + 1$$

- Consider the annual figures from:
  - a. Step 1 baseline = 1,396
  - b. Most recently adopted policy = 1,767
- Cap at 40% above the higher figure
- Step 3 limited to 2,473 maximum

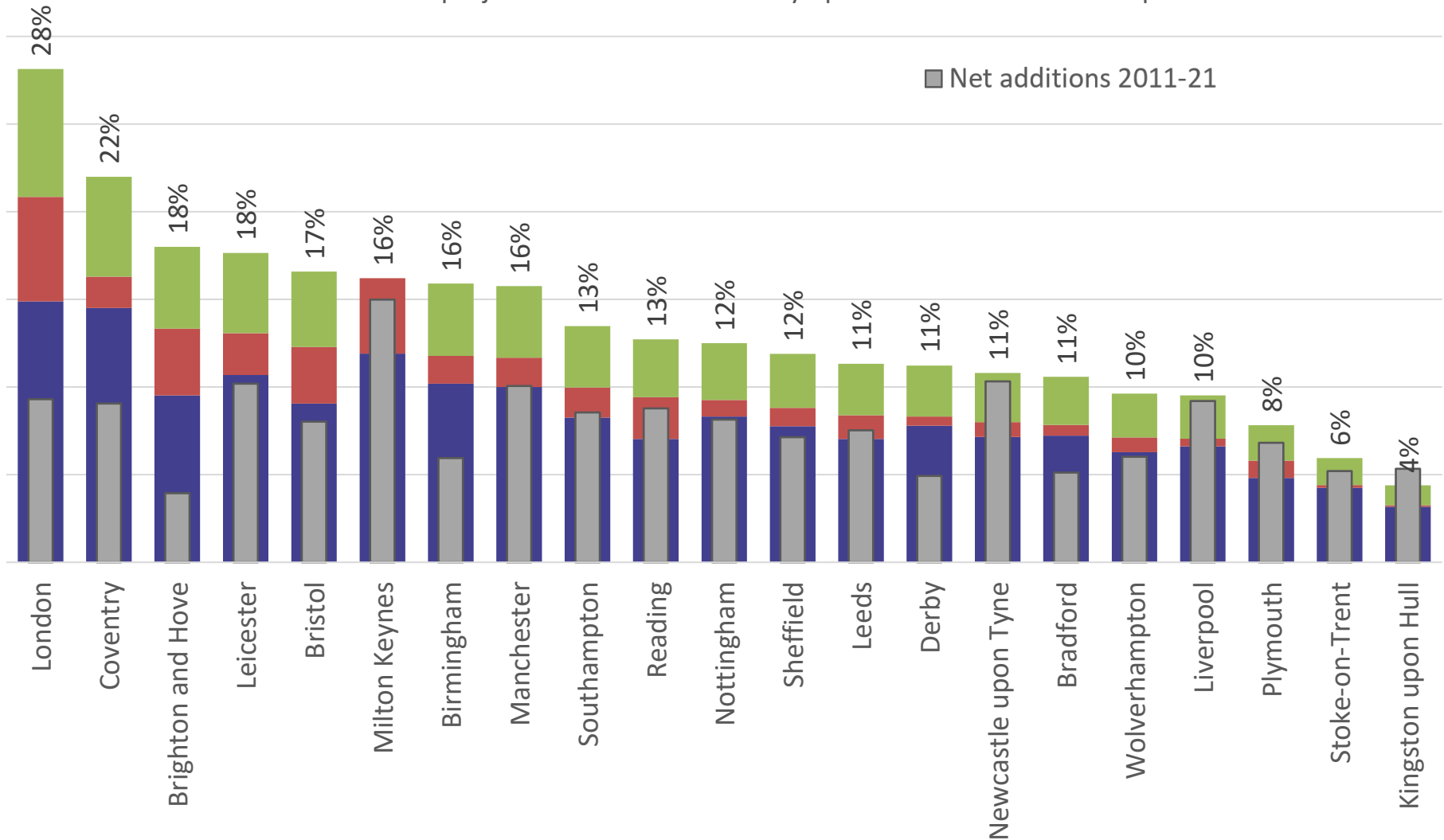
**16% growth  
over the decade**

# Comparison with the “Urban Centres Uplift” areas



Standard method: Minimum LHN 2022-2032 as % of stock

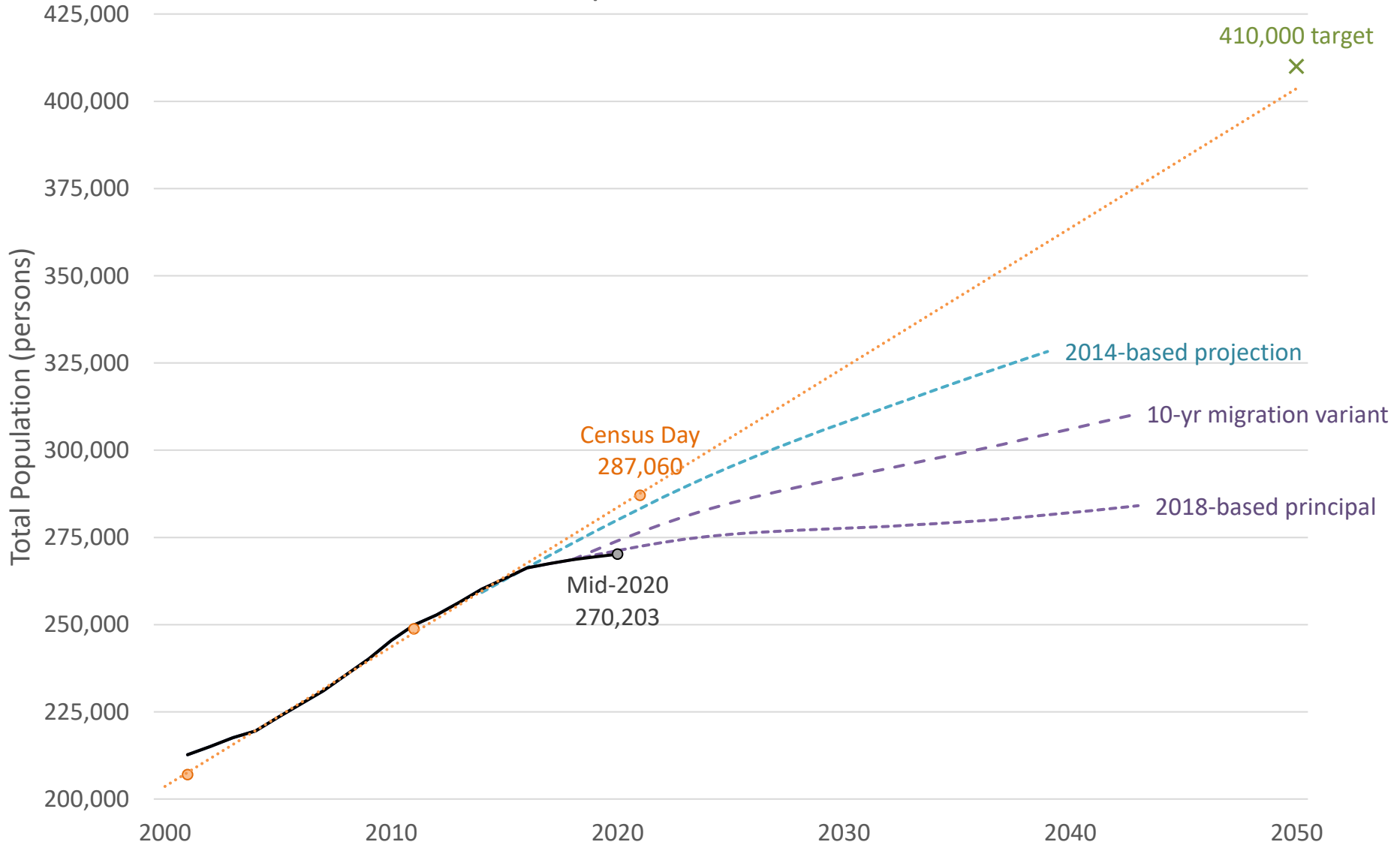
■ 2014-based projections    
 ■ Affordability uplift    
 ■ Urban centres uplift  
■ Net additions 2011-21



# Population Trends and Future Growth



## Population Growth

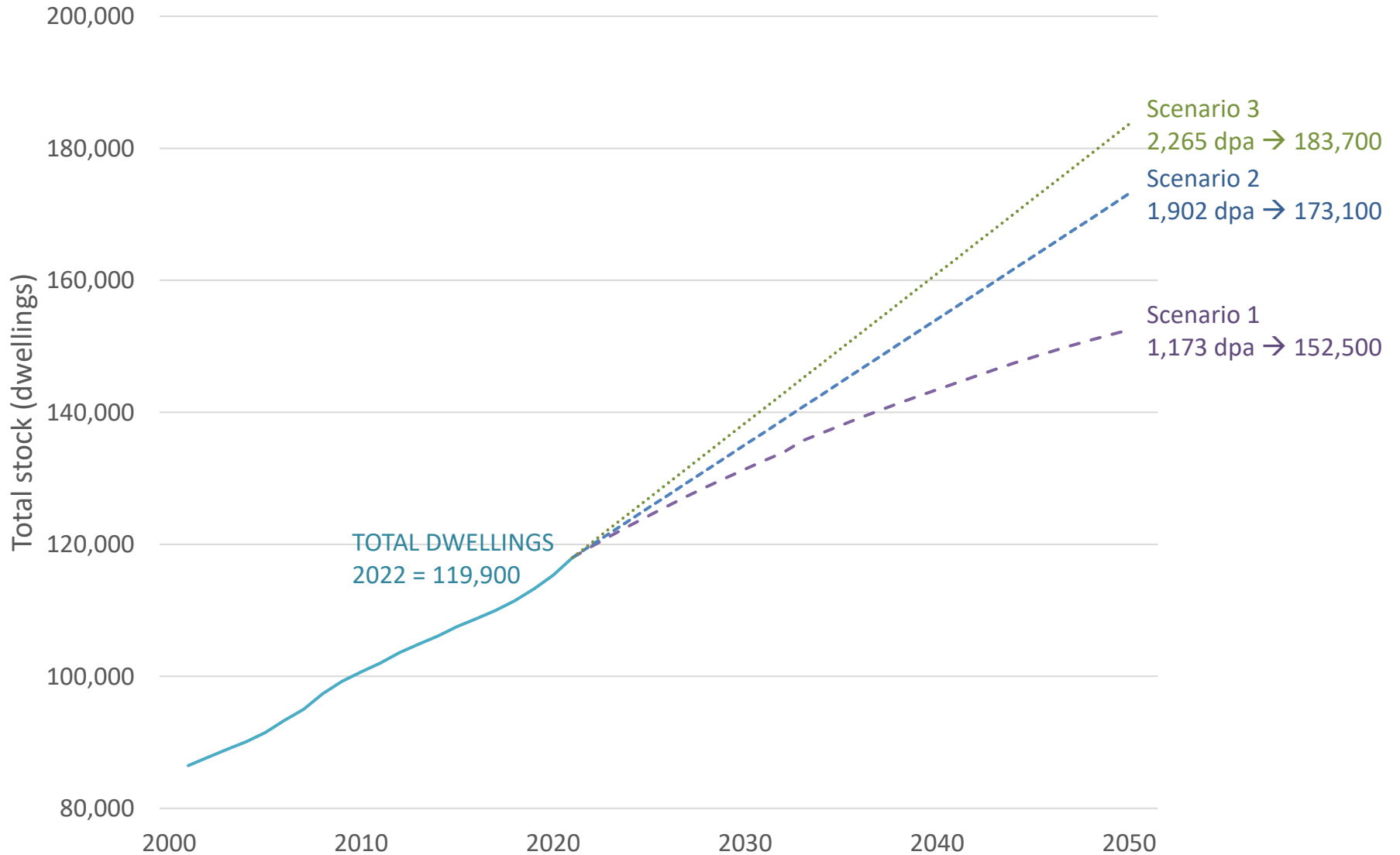


- 1. Demographic baseline, based on the household projection-based housing need**
- 2. Government’s “standard method” calculation: 1,902 dwellings per year**
- 3. MK2050 aspirational growth, based on reaching population of 500,000 persons by 2050 with 410,000 persons resident within the LA**

# Past Trends and Future Dwelling Growth 2000-2050



## Dwelling Growth



- 2. Government’s “standard method” calculation:  
1,902 dwellings per year**
  - 2a. Increased rates of household formation for  
residents aged under 45**
  - 2b. Household formation based on the official  
projections**

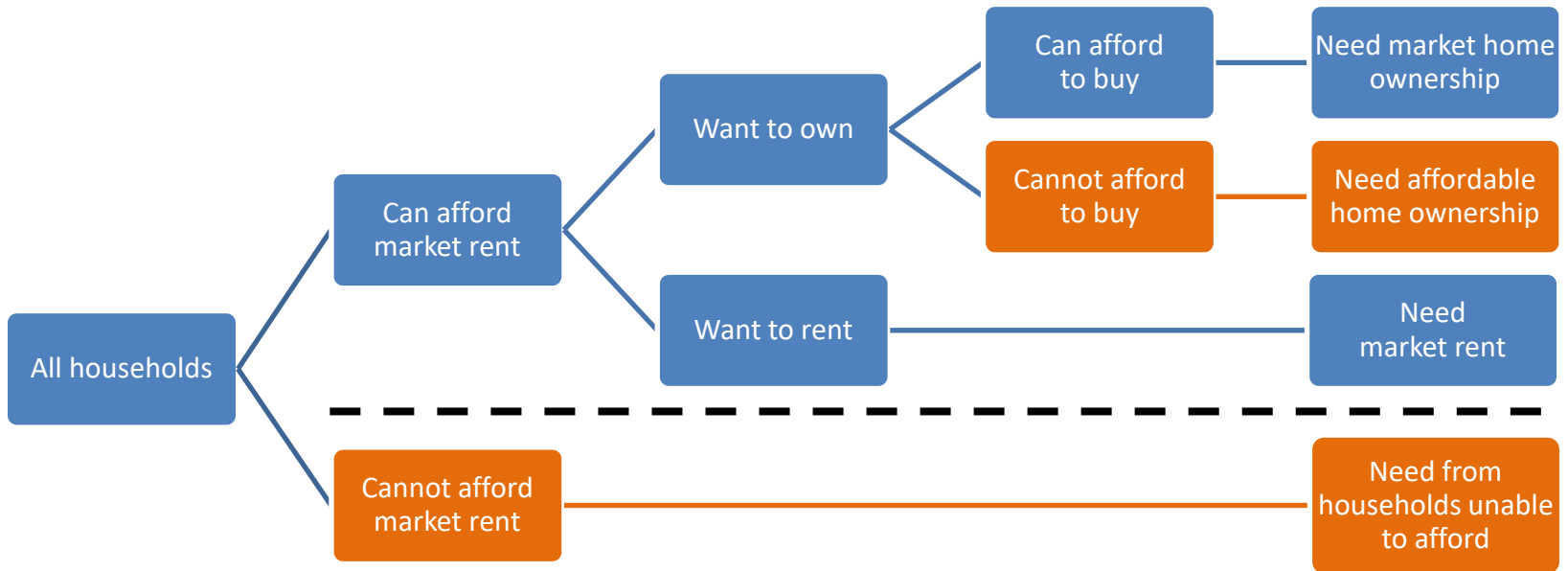


# Core Outputs 2022-50



	Scenario 1 Demographic baseline	Scenario 2a LHN increased formation	Scenario 2b LHN with ONS formation	Scenario 3 MK2050 410k target
Annual average dwelling growth	1,173	1,902	1,902	2,265
Total 28-year dwelling growth	32,800	53,200	53,200	63,400
Population projected in 2050	333,300	363,500	384,400	410,000
Economically active population growth	19,800	37,100	49,100	63,100
Supported jobs growth	24,900	46,600	61,700	79,400

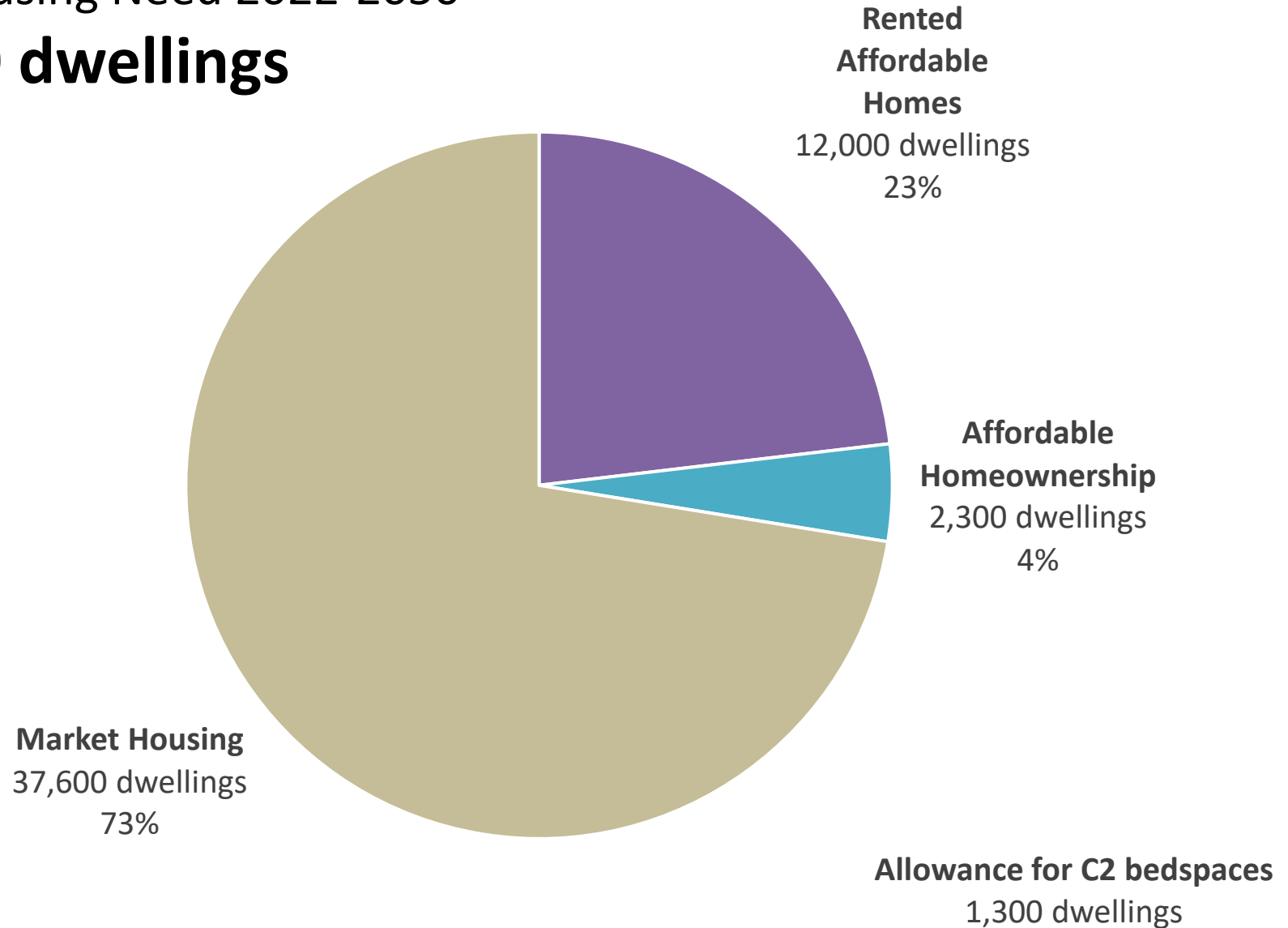
# NPPF: Households in need of affordable housing



# Overall Housing Mix



Local Housing Need 2022-2050 =  
**53,200 dwellings**



## » Affordable Housing Need → 14,300 dwellings

- Those unable to afford to rent or own market housing
- Those who aspire to homeownership but cannot buy, where affordable homeownership is a realistic option

## » Overall Affordable Housing

- Those who aspire to homeownership but do not have sufficient income or savings
- Those supported by housing benefit to rent privately

## » Need to consider if an uplift to the LHN could be justified

## » Need to consider balance of rented affordable housing and affordable home ownership

## » Can also to consider a policy aim to reduce the number renting privately with housing benefit, if that was viable

## » Mix of development sites

- Affordable housing thresholds
- Most small sites unlikely to deliver any affordable housing
- Policy target will apply to larger sites

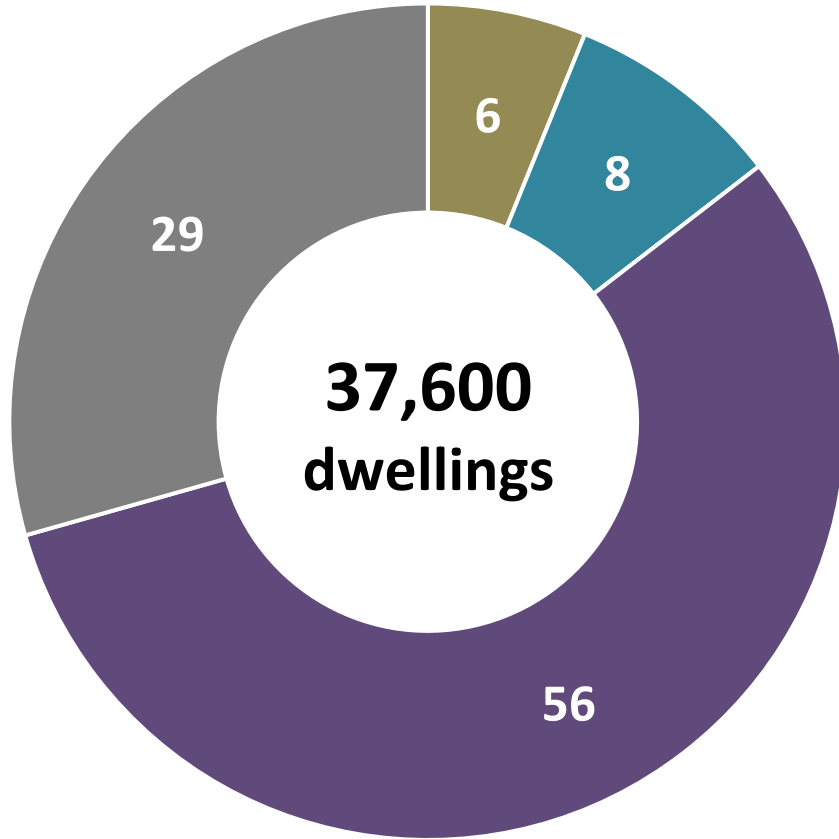
## » Local viability assessment

- Establish the proportion of affordable housing able to be provided without compromising delivery
- Dependant on land values and other factors
- Affordable housing mix could influence overall target

## » Timing of need

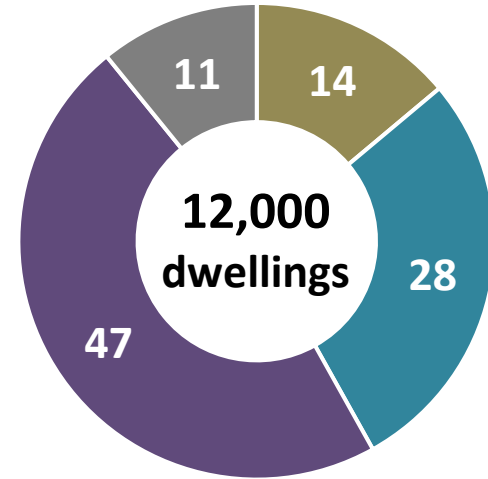
- Existing need at start of Plan period
- Annual newly arising need higher in earlier years

## Market Housing

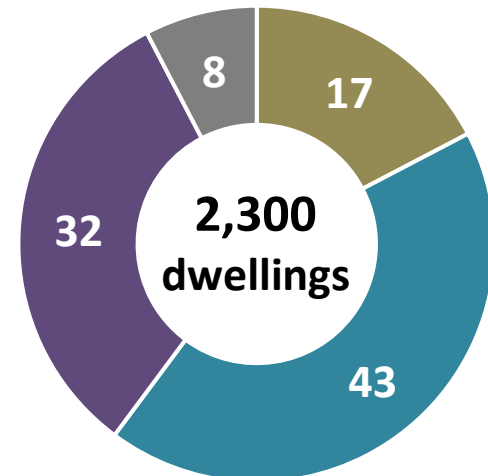


■ 1 bed ■ 2 bed ■ 3 bed ■ 4+ bed

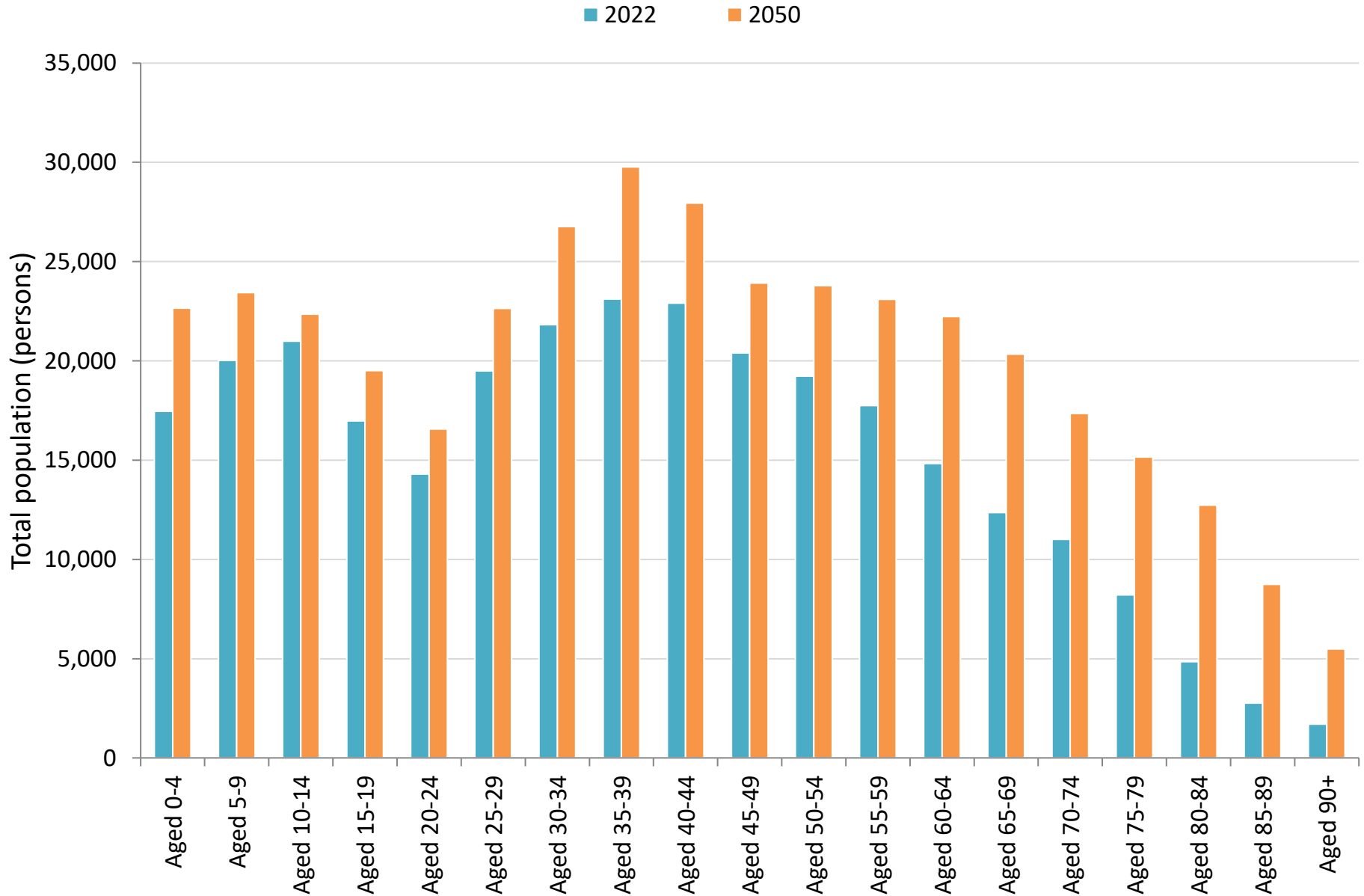
## Rented Affordable Housing



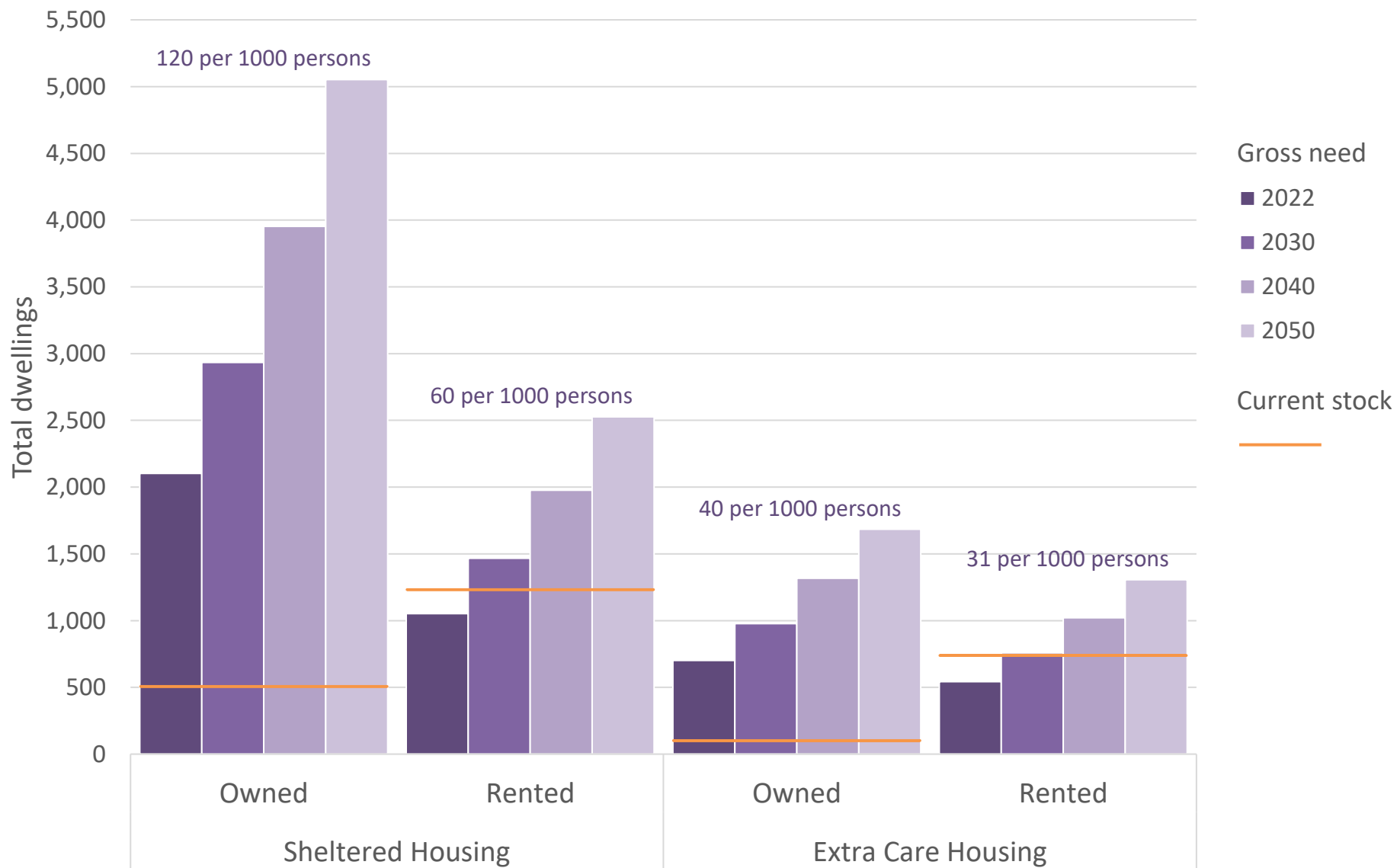
## Affordable Home Ownership



# Population Projections by Age



Need for specialist older person housing





- » **Substantial increase in population aged 75+**
  
- » **Need for older person housing**
  - Existing “backlog” based on toolkit rates
  - Additional need as population grows
  
- » **Need for 8,000 older person homes from 2022-2050**
  - 15% of overall housing need
  - 6,100 owned → 16% of market housing
    - Includes significant backlog at start of period
  - 1,900 rented → 13% of affordable housing
    - Surplus of stock until 2030, though possible need for replacement

## » Existing households...

- 900 need to move to a more suitable home now
- 4,900 likely to develop health problems within 10 years that will affect housing need

## » Over the period to 2050...

- 16,700 additional households will be living in the area with health problems likely to affect their housing needs

## » 9,700-22,400 adapted homes likely to be needed

## » Includes an extra 3,000 wheelchair adapted, two-thirds for households aged 75+

## » **MK:U plan for 5,000 students by 2030**

- University plans to provide around 1,000 bedspaces
- Around 4,000 living in private sector housing or purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA)
- Though some will live at home or commute

## » **Beyond 2030, growth from 5,000 to 15,000 students**

- Further 2,000 university bedspaces
- Up to 8,000 additional students in private sector

## » **Potential for large increases in private rented stock near the university, including many HMOs**

- Consider if appropriate to issue Article 4 declaration
- PBSA likely to reduce impact on general needs housing

- » **Standard Method Housing Need = 1,902 dpa**
  - Higher growth than many urban areas with 35% uplift
  - Likely population of 384,000 persons by 2050 which would support around 62,000 extra jobs
  - Need for 2,265 dpa to reach target population of 410,000
  
- » **Affordable housing represents 27% of the total need**
  
- » **Over the period to 2050, need identified for...**
  - 8,000 specialist homes for older people
  - 9,000+ adapted homes, including 3,000 wheelchair adapted
  - Private sector housing for up to 12,000 students

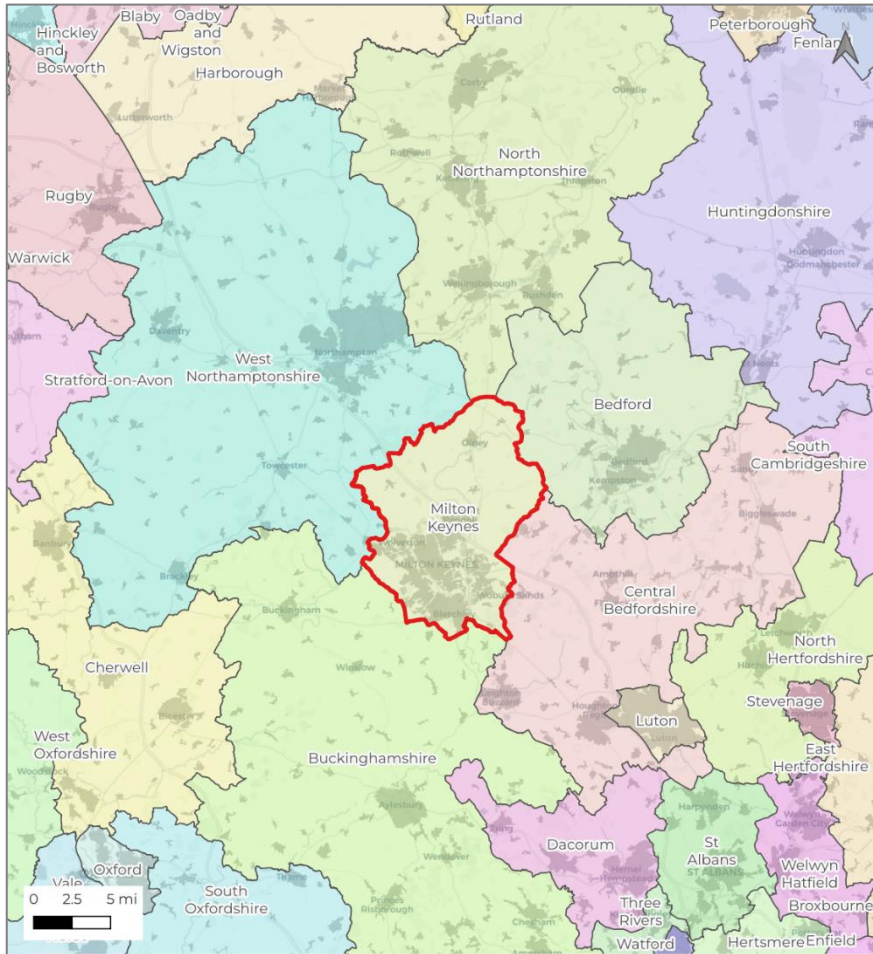


# HOUSING WORKSTREAM

## Any Comments or Questions?

## » **Following topics will be covered:**

- Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA)
- Labour market conditions
- Consultation findings
- Economic growth scenarios
- Commercial market overview
- Sites and premises requirements



- » **Milton Keynes Borough is its own FEMA.**
- Very strong internal linkages.
- Some secondary linkages outside of the borough – Cranfield, Buckingham, and Leighton Buzzard – but not exclusive to Milton Keynes.
- Evidence does not support disregarding LAD boundaries.
- Might have been a conversation around combining with Aylesbury Vale as it was, but Buckinghamshire UA is now so large there would be little basis for such a move in strategic planning terms.
- Potential future change is East-West with Oxford-Cambridge

## » Economic Activity

- Milton Keynes has a higher economic activity rate (84%) than the South East (81%) and England (78%) averages.
- Milton Keynes' economic activity rate also increased more (+4 percentage points) compared to the South East (+2 pp) and England (+2 pp) averages since 2011.



## » Unemployment

- Unemployment in Milton Keynes (3.8%) is the same as the South East rate, and lower than the GB rate (4.4%).
  - Milton Keynes' unemployment rate has also decreased more (–5 pp) than the South East (–5 pp) and GB (–3 pp) rates since 2010.
  - National data showing very high vacancy levels
- ## » High economic activity + low unemployment = tight labour market

## » Future Growth

- Very positive expectations
- Aspirational culture
- General view that grow at least at historic rate
  
- MK is maturing
- Global/national economic headwinds
- Labour market the key potential constraint
  
- CMK proposals is a new model for MK which carries risk

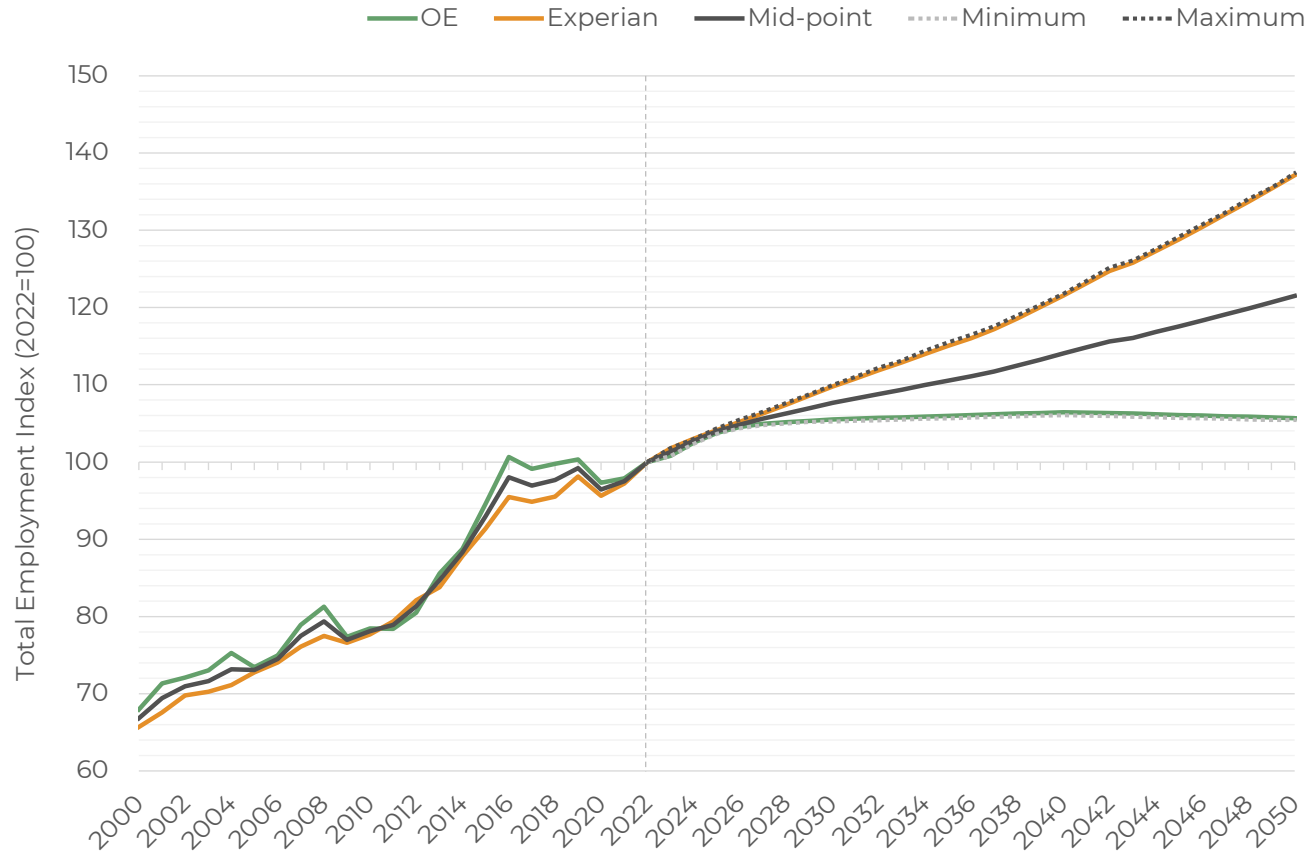
## » Sites and Premises

- Significant uncertainty over office requirement post Covid
- Potentially slows rate of growth in office, rather than reverses
- Desire to avoid conflict with CMK proposals
  
- Concern that logistics crowds out other (industrial) activity
  
- Lots of ageing property
  
- Importance of affordable business space

## » Other Issues

- Housing affordability
- Car reliance (parking) – public transport – CMK proposals
- Clear strengthening of skills infrastructure MK:U and IOT
- Continued need to address deprivation challenges

Historic and forecast employment change, index (2022 = 100)



## » Employment

- Both forecasters show employment growth over the forecast period 2022–2050.
- However, there is a significant degree of divergence between each forecaster.

## » OE

- Historic: +2,900 p.a.
- Forecast: +400 p.a.

## » Mid-Point

- Historic: +3,100 p.a.
- Forecast: +1,600 p.a.

## » Experian

- Historic: +3,200 p.a.
- Forecast: +2,700 p.a.

## » Summary findings:

- OE's forecasts are a significant under-estimation of Milton Keynes' growth potential over the Plan period.
- Treat the Mid-point scenario as the most pessimistic level of growth (becomes Low scenario)
- Treat the Experian scenario as the most optimistic forecast
- This provides a range of employment change of around +1,600–2,700 jobs p.a.
- Broadly aligns with MK 2050 Covid adapted growth range
- Broadly aligns with demographic/housing work

## » Office

- MK a major centre in M1/north M25 market
  - Excellent fundamentals, track record of success
- Pandemic has had major impact on office market
  - Supply remained stable (better than comparator) but may increase over time as space is released
  - Take up muted
  - Future demand/requirements are uncertain
- Substantial stock of ageing office buildings
  - PD Rights already removed secondary stock
  - Others will require refurbishment or repurposing
  - OOT expect redevelopment of offices to industrial/logistics
- Absence of high quality stock will inhibit ability to attract new occupiers
- Viability of new development likely to remain challenging

## » Industrial & Logistics

- MK a very strong industrial and logistics location
  - Many leading occupiers
  - Excellent transport links
  - Abundance of speculative development
  - Highly skilled workforce
- Significant elevation since Magna Park development (2014)
- Pandemic has intensified the ‘race for space’, particularly big box market
  - Rising rents, no signs of slowing as yet
  - High take up building pressure on supply
  - Immediate shortage of 50,000+sqft (5,000sqm) units
  - Scarce second hand stock, but significant supply u/c or in planning
- Decreasing quantity of second hand smaller/medium stock
  - Lack of new development in this segment
- Effects of energy price rises and business rates reassessment may have impact on demand



## Approach to assessing sites and premises requirements

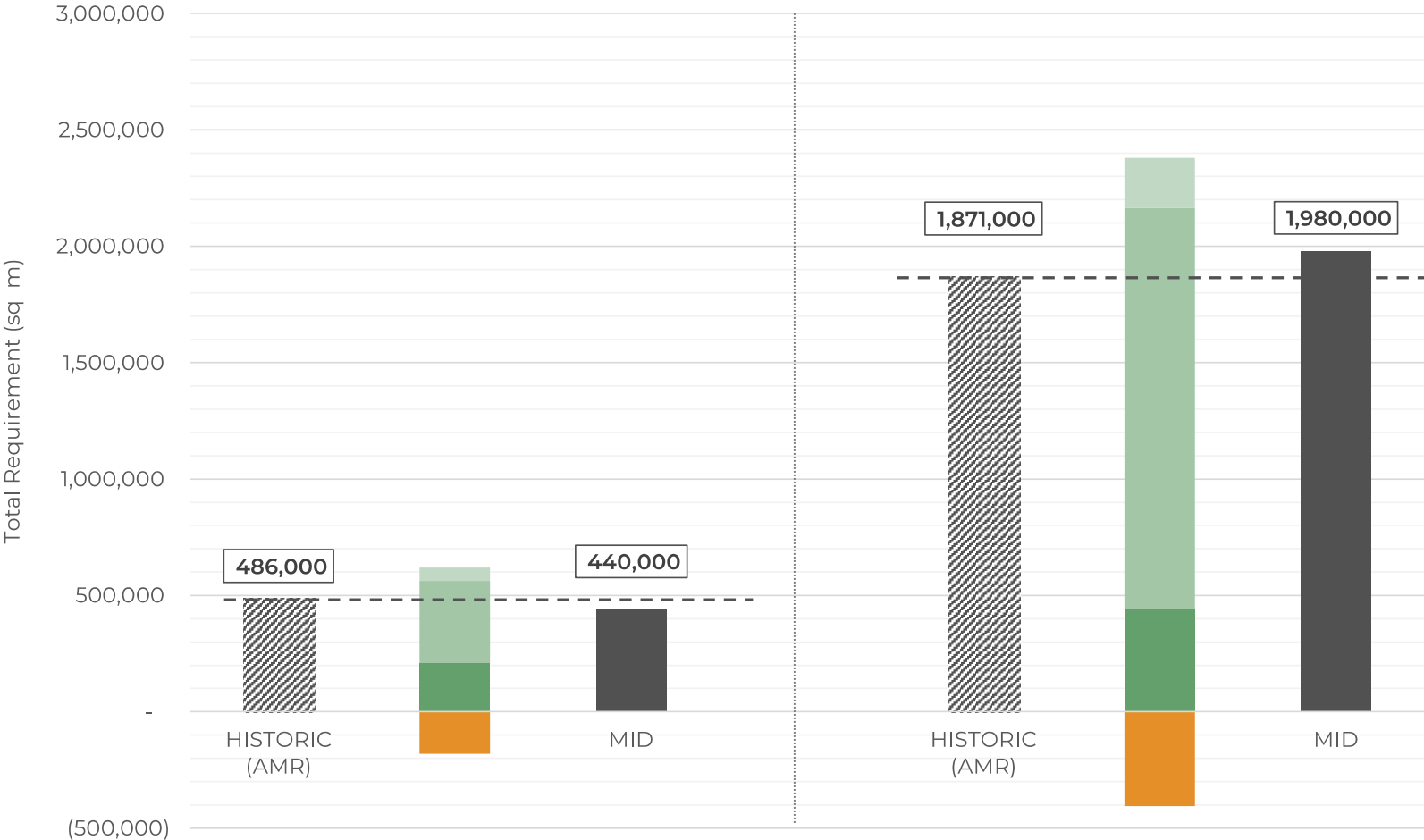
**Phase 1**



**Phase 2**



# Sites and Premises Requirements



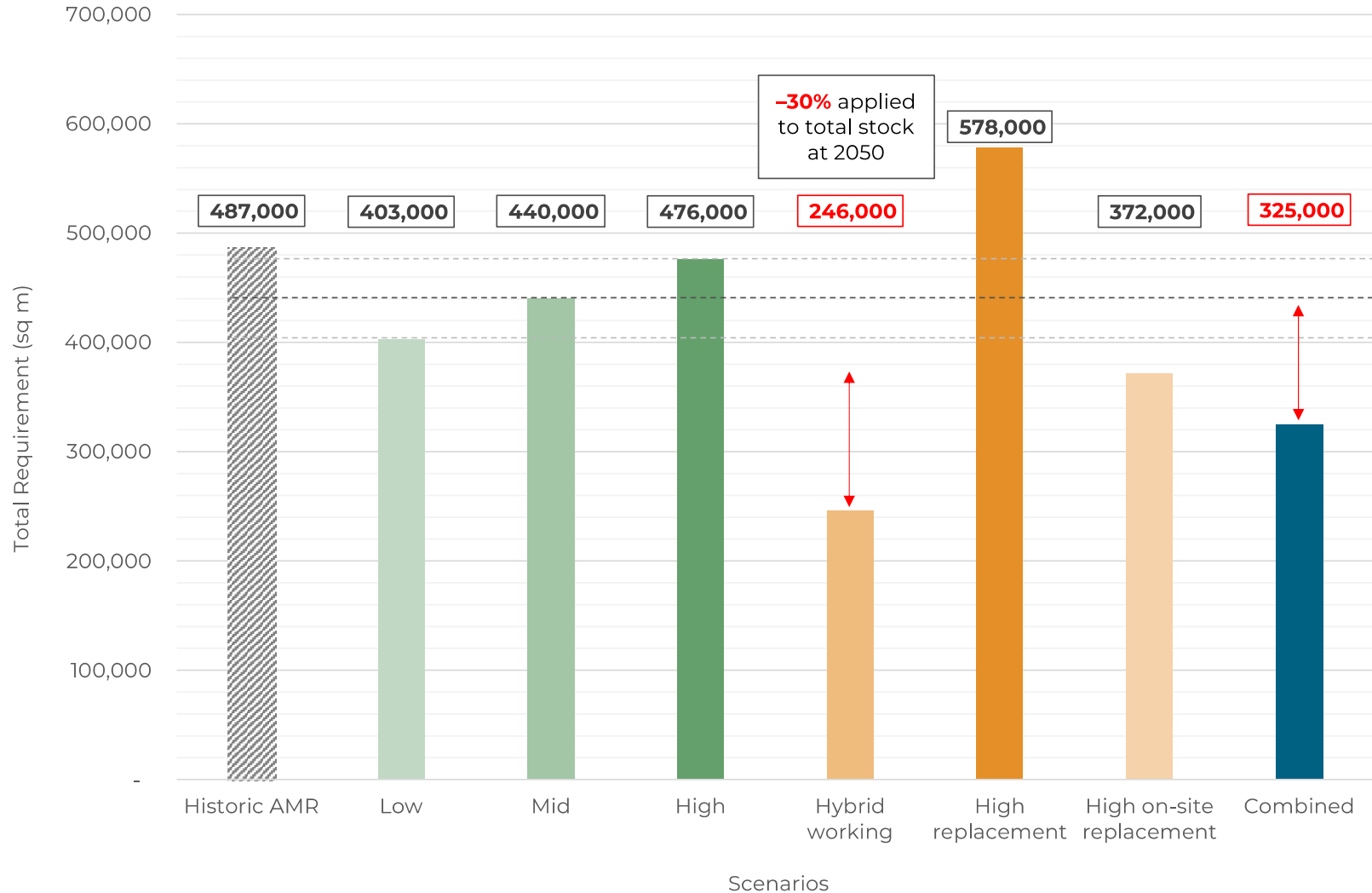
**OFFICE**

**INDUSTRIAL**

# Total Office Requirement – Alternative Scenarios



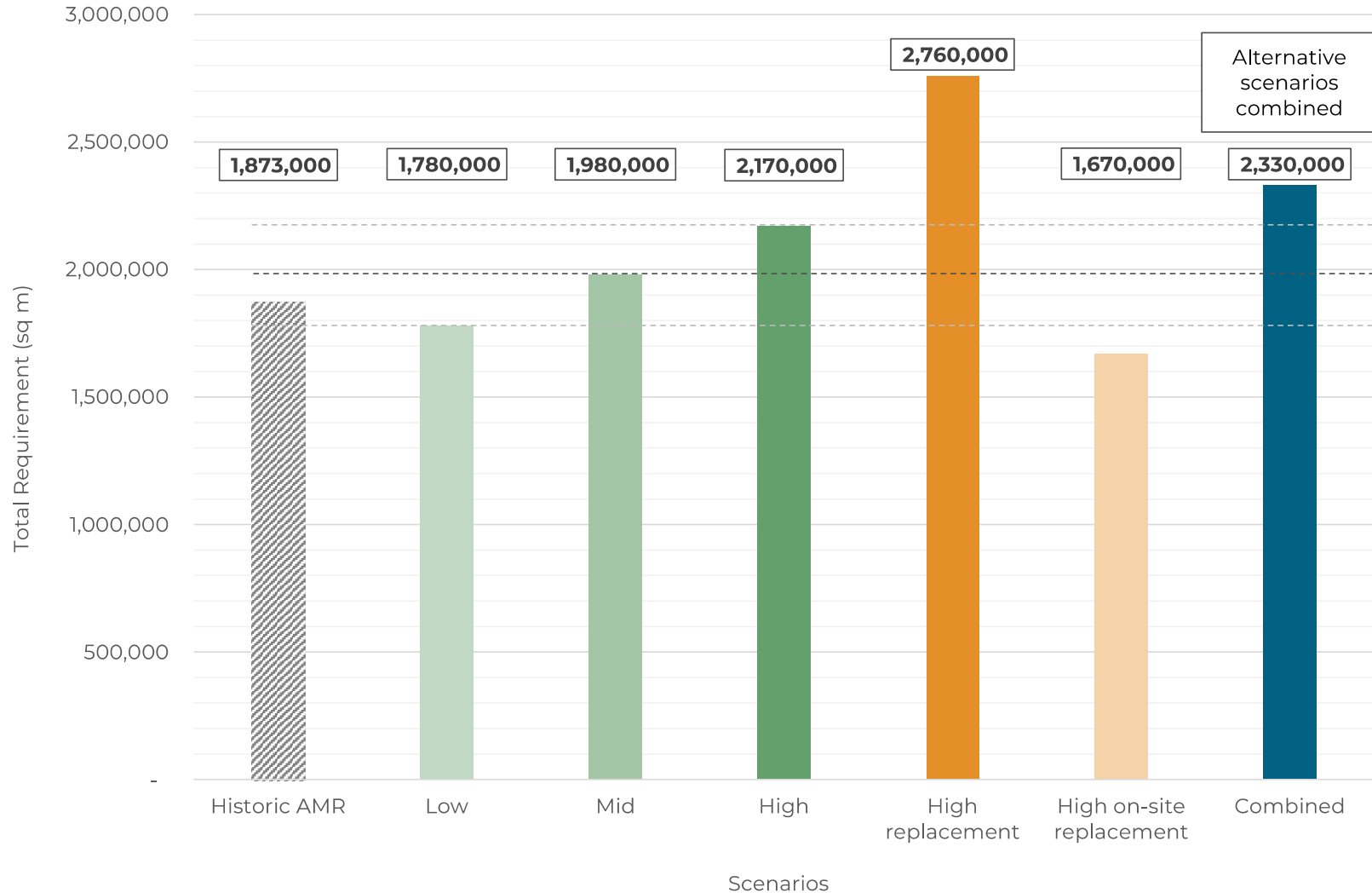
## OFFICE



# Total I&W Requirement – Alternative Scenarios



## INDUSTRIAL



## » Key messages

- Total requirement
  - 13,000 – 21,000 sq m per annum (2.3 - 3.6ha)
  - 370,000 – 578,000 sqm 2022-50 (65-100ha)
  - Central view 16,000 sqm p.a. 440,000 sqm (2.7ha p.a. or 75ha)
  - Historic activity around 17,500 sqm per annum
- Replacement demand is key driver
- Majority of scenarios c10-20% below historic
  - High replacement is the only scenario above historic
- Will depend on level of refurb vs redevelopment
- With higher density (taller) development land requirement falls under all scenarios

## » Key messages

- Total requirement
  - 16-26ha per annum (450 – 750ha 2022-2050)
  - Central view 19 – 22ha p.a. (530 – 625ha)
  - Historic c16.7ha per annum
- Current supply of c230ha
- Replacement and logistics/warehousing demand is key driver
  - on site replacement uncertain and requires monitoring
- Majority of scenarios at or above historic levels
- SEMLEP study indicates very strong demand for large logistics
  - May require some further uplift to estimates

## » Office

- Significant uncertainty remains in key trends
- Potential for lower requirement than historic
- Will require careful monitoring
- Higher density development will reduce land required

## » Industrial

- Likely to be slightly higher requirement than historic
- Degree of recycling of existing employment sites uncertain (may reduce overall requirement)
- Findings of SEMLEP study may counteract this



# ECONOMIC WORKSTREAM

## Any Comments or Questions?