

Postcode Town Notes

Table Structure

| Field | Description |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Postcode | Full UK Postcode (eg UB7 0EB) |
| Postcode Sector | The Postcode Sector (eg UB7 0) |
| Postcode District | The Postcode District (eg UB7) |
| Postcode Area | The Postcode Area (eg UB) |
| Post Town | The Postal Town for the Postcode |

Full Postcode

The Full Postcode is the Postcode as most people would generally know and love it as written on envelopes for mailing purposes. (e.g. UB7 0EB). There are approximately 1.7 million Full Postcodes covering the UK.

Formerly a Postcode could contain between 1 and over 300 addresses. This is now restricted to a maximum of 100 although the average number of addresses per Postcode is 15.

Formerly a Postcode could cover addresses on up to 12 Thoroughfares. This is now restricted to 1 although some historic Postcodes may contain more.

Postcode Sector

A Postcode Sector is everything bar the last two letters of the Postcode (e.g. UB7 0 from UB7 0EB). There are over 9,000 Postcode Sectors covering the UK - Sectors are used for more local and detailed mapping and analysis.

Postcode District

A Postcode District is the first half of the Postcode (e.g. UB7 from UB7 0EB). There are approximately 2,800 Postcode Districts covering the UK - Districts are often used for sales territory and franchise area applications.

Postcode Area

A Postcode Area is the first 1 or 2 letters of the Postcode (e.g. UB from UB7 0EB). There are 124 Postcode Areas covering the UK from AB to ZE. Postcode Areas are ideal for general national mapping and analysis.

Post Town

There are approximately 1,500 post towns which are organised at the convenience of the Royal Mail. Each post town usually corresponds to one or more postal districts and each post town can cover an area including many individual towns and villages. Post towns rarely correspond to political boundaries and often group places that for all other purposes are quite separate.

In some places several post towns correspond to a single postal district with each post town covering one or more postcode sectors. There are anomalous examples where post towns and post codes do not coincide. For example, the post code sector EH14 5 is within three post towns: Juniper Green, Currie and Balerno, while Balerno is also within other sectors, such as EH14 7.

Data Source: www.postcodeaddressfile.co.uk & www.list-logic.co.uk