

# Postcode Locality Notes

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## 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)
Double Dependent Locality	A geographic area within a Dependent Locality
Dependent Locality	A geographic area within a Post Town
Post Town	The Postal Town for the Postcode

## The Postcode

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.

There can be only one Locality per Postcode, i.e. all addresses in a Postcode have the same Locality.

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

## Localities

A locality is a geographical area. Currently PAF holds details of approximately 30,000 localities within the UK.

A locality consists of a Post Town, with Dependent Locality and Double Dependent Locality further defining the geographic area where required. The Post Town will always be present, i.e. all Localities have a Post Town. For some localities this will be the only element present. A Double Dependent Locality (a locality within a Dependent Locality) can only be present when a Dependent Locality is present.

## Locality Examples

Double Dependent Locality - Netherthong  
Dependent Locality - Holmfirth  
Post Town - HUDDERSFIELD

Dependent Locality - Dunkirk  
Post Town - BADMINTON  
County - Avon (Postally Not Required)

Post Town - BANBURY  
County - Oxfordshire (Postally Not Required)

Some information extracted from Royal Mails PAF Digest Issue 6.0 (December 2003) and ONS ([http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/health\\_geog.asp](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/health_geog.asp))

Data Source: [www.postcodeaddressfile.co.uk](http://www.postcodeaddressfile.co.uk) & [www.list-logic.co.uk](http://www.list-logic.co.uk)

## About Counties

Counties are not provided within this file as they are no longer required as part of a correct postal address provided the Post Town and Postcode are present. Royal Mail removed the Former Postal County field from PAF in December 2000 and, whilst this data is no longer maintained and is therefore incomplete, it can be supplied upon request.

## Postally Not Required (PNR) Locality List

The main locality file specified above only contains those localities that Royal Mail requires to efficiently deliver mail. However, we also provide a separate database of Postally Not Required locality names by Postcode Sector which details many more local names which are in common use.

Where Postcode Sectors cover more than one locality, the Postcode Sector name is duplicated for each separate locality.

The structure of the database is:

Field	Description
<b>Postcode Sector</b>	UK Postcode Sector
<b>Locality Name</b>	The name of a locality covering (wholly or partially) the Postcode Sector
<b>Locality Type</b>	'REQ' is a Postally Required Locality – these are included within Royal Mails PAF file and the main locality file above.  'PNR' is a Postally Not Required Locality which is no longer used by Royal Mail but is still widely recognised as a geographic area.

Example Records:

Postcode Sector	Locality	Type
AB10 7	GARTHDEE	PNR
AB10 7	RUTHRIESTON	PNR
AB10 7	BRIDGE OF DEE	REQ
AB11 5	FERRYHILL	PNR
AB11 6	FERRYHILL	PNR
AB11 7	FERRYHILL	PNR
AB11 9	TORRY	REQ
AB12 3	ALTENS	REQ
AB12 3	COVE BAY	REQ
AB12 3	NIGG	REQ
AB12 3	PORTLETHEN	REQ
AB12 3	FINDON	REQ
AB12 3	COVE	REQ
AB12 3	EAST TULLOS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	REQ
AB12 3	WEST TULLOS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	REQ
AB12 3	ALTENS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	REQ

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