Postcode Grid Reference Table Notes

Table Structure

Field	Description
Postcode	The Full Postcode
Postcode Sector	The Postcode Sector
Postcode District	The Postcode District
Postcode Area	The Postcode Area
PQI	Positional Quality Indicator for the Grid Reference
X_Coord	X Co-ordinate OSGB Grid Reference
Y_Coord	Y Co-ordinate OSGB Grid Reference
Longitude	Longitude
Latitude	Latitude

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.

PQI
The positional Quality Indicator indicated the accuracy of the grid reference for the Postcode. 10 is the highest positional accuracy possible and 91-93 are the lowest. In these cases:

91 represents a grid reference estimated from the average of the Postcodes sharing the same Postcode Sector

92 represents a grid reference estimated from the average of the Postcodes sharing the same Postcode District

93 represents a grid reference estimated from the average of the Postcodes sharing the same Postcode Area

This approach has been adopted to ensure that all Postcodes have been assigned a grid reference.

Grid References

Grid references (X_COORD and Y_COORD) are taken from Ordnance Survey Code-Point Open Data* which is governed by the licence terms at http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/opendata/licence/docs/licence.pdf

These 6 figure grid references are based upon the British National Grid System and measure Postcode locations in metres from the (0, 0) point of origin. For the most accurate PQI's, these

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

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

grid references indicate the location to 1 metre accuracy of the first building within the Postcode. These same grid references have also been converted and supplied into Latitude and Longitude decimal co-ordinates.

*As Ordnance Survey only provide data for Great Britain (England, Scotland & Wales), grid references for Northern Ireland (Postcodes starting with BT) are taken from Royal Mail Postzon data. These grid references are on average accurate to approximately 100 metres and are therefore less accurate than the grid references provided for Postcodes across Great Britain.