

# Postcode Grid Reference Table Notes

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## 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, a value of 10 being the most accurate and 90 being the least..

## 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 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.

## Latitude/ Longitude

Decimal Latitude/ Longitude co-ordinates are provided in WGS 84 projection.

## PCL-GRD-UK-CSV-Unclassified File

Not all Postcodes can be assigned Grid references. Reasons for this include:

- The Postcode has just been introduced and has not been allocated a grid reference by Ordnance Survey yet,
- Postcodes for Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man are not recognised by Ordnance Survey and therefore have no grid references.
- Postcodes are for PO Boxes.

Postcodes which have no grid reference at this release have been supplied in the accompanying PCL-GRD-UK-CSV-Unclassified.csv file.