

Postcode Health Data 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)
PCO_Code	Primary Care Organisation Code (England Only)
PCO	Primary Care Organisation Name (England Only)
Health Authority Code	Strategic Health Authority Codes in England, Health Board Codes in Scotland, Local Health Board Codes in Wales. No Code provided for Health and Social Services Board in Northern Ireland
Health Authority	Strategic Health Authority names in England, Health Board names in Scotland, Local Health Board names in Wales, Health and Social Services Board in Northern Ireland
PSHA Code	Pan-Strategic Health Authority Code (England Only)
PSHA	Pan-Strategic Health Authority (England Only)

NHS Region & NHS Code

Administrative and health authority codes are those used by ONS. Allocation of Local Government codes to Postcode is by point-in-polygon comparison against Boundary-Line data, excluding Northern Ireland.

In the case of unitary authorities, no code is given for administrative county, the authority code appears as the district code.

The NHS codes are then determined from the County, District and Ward using data supplied by Office for National Statistics (ONS)

The NHS Code is a 3 character code indicating the Health Authority.

NHS codes for the Isle of Man (IM), Guernsey (GY) and Jersey (JE) now appear on Postzon. They are as follows:

IM = YAC

JE = YAD

GY = YAE

The NHS Region is a 3 character code indicating a Regional Office in England. Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales do not have Regional Offices but have been allocated dummy codes.

Names for the Administrative and health authority codes are those used by ONS and have been appended to each record using the latest official ONS reference table.

Pan Strategic Health Authorities – England

Pan SHAs are based on the NHS's National Programme for IT. There are three Programmes for IT in England, each made up of an individual SHA (in the case of London) or groups of whole SHAs.

Pan SHAs are not legal entities. They are confederations of SHAs and any staff working as part of the Pan SHAs will be employees of the SHAs. Pan SHAs replaced IT Clusters as a health geography in April 2007.

Strategic Health Authorities - England

The current structure for health administration in England came into effect on 1st July 2006. There are 10 Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs), which are constituted from groups of local authorities and performance manage the Primary Care Organisations (PCOs). SHAs report to the Department of Health.

Health Boards – Scotland

Scotland currently has 14 Health Boards, which form a single local health care system and report directly to the Scottish Executive Health Department (SEHD).

The Health Boards were introduced in 1974 and are constituted from groups of the local government districts that existed in Scotland between 1975 and 1996.

Primary Care Organisations – England

Primary Care Organisations (PCOs) were established as free-standing bodies accountable to the health authority and are responsible for the provision of community services (i.e. commissioning and providing healthcare services for its resident population).

As of 1st April 2010 there were 151 such organisations, including 145 Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), and 5 Care Trusts (CTs) and 1 Care Trust Plus which are based on the PCT model. (This means that they fulfil all PCT functions and deliver the health services usually provided by local authorities).

Note that any PCT may apply for conversion to Care Trust status.

Local Health Boards – Wales

The Local Health Boards (LHBs) in Wales were re-organised on 1st October 2009. There are now 7 LHBs which are made up of 1 or more unitary authorities and are responsible for local health administration. These LHBs report to the 3 Regional Offices (North Wales; Mid and West Wales; South East Wales) within the NHS Wales Department of the National Assembly. ONS Geography does not however hold codes for the Regional Offices.

Health and Social Care Board – Northern Ireland

The 4 Health and Social Services Boards in Northern Ireland were replaced by 1 Health and Social Care Board. The Health and Social Care Board came into effect on 1st April 2009. The Board will focus on commissioning, resource management and performance management and improvement.

It will identify and meet the needs of the local population through its five Local Commissioning Groups that will cover the same geographical area as the HSC Trusts.

Local Commissioning Groups – Northern Ireland

The current structure of health administration in Northern Ireland came into effect on 1st April 2009. A single Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) replaces the former 4 Health and Social Services Boards. It will focus on commissioning, resource management, performance management and improvement. It will identify and meet the needs of the local population through its five Local Commissioning Groups (LCGs).

LCGs were set up to actively engage GPs, other primary care professionals and the voluntary and community sector in the planning and redesign of services to secure better services for the communities they serve.