

1. INTRODUCTION

The Postcode Address File (PAF) at postcode level provides all the current address points in the UK summarised at Postcode Level. The data is provided quarterly by Royal Mail and Geoplan then process the data to reduce the file size from over 1.8 million individual address points to c2 Million postcode points across the UK. The file is updated and verified by Royal Mail who make up to 3,500 updates per day.

If you have any questions relating to the information in this document, please contact Geoplan Support on +44 (0)1423 722719, or email support@geoplan.com. The Support Team is available Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm GMT, excluding UK public holidays.

2. IMAGES

3. DATA

Layer Name	Total Records
Postcode Level PAF	2,060,000

Source – Royal Mail

Recency – Updated quarterly

Geographical Coverage and Accuracy – UK

Projection – OSGB

Available Formats – .csv

Layer Type – Point

4. DATA HEALTH

Data Health	Green
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- The most up to date address point dataset for the UK

5. LICENSE INFORMATION

License type – Annual

Update cycle – Updated quarterly

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Data Specification

Header Record	Description	Data Type	Example	Max Field Size
Organisation	The organisation is used to define the premise. The names of Organisations are provided on PAF and these are categorised as small or larger users depending on the amount of mail they receive. If the Organisation is not provided it will be residential delivery point	string	Aberdeen City Council	2500
Department	The Department is used to define the premise in conjunction with the Organisation.	string	Education Department	450
POBox	With a PO Box service, the customer receives a shortened, easy-to-remember address that provides a degree of anonymity	string	10290	6
SubBuilding	Identifier for subdivisions of properties.	string	Flat 1	3000
Building	a description applied to a single building or a small group of buildings,	string	Marischal College	3500
BuildingNumber	Building number is a number given to a single building or a small group of buildings, thus identifying it from its neighbours,	string	79	450

DependantThoroughfare	In certain places, for example, town centres, there are named thoroughfares within other named thoroughfares, for example, parades of shops on a high street where different parades have their own identity.	string	Broad Street	80
Thoroughfare	A road, track or named access route on which there are Royal Mail delivery points	string	Concert Court	80
DoubleDependantLocality	Double Dependant Locality This is used to distinguish between similar thoroughfares or the same thoroughfare within a dependent locality.	string	Gateway Business Park	40
DependantLocality	Dependent locality areas define an area within a post town. These are only necessary for postal purposes and are used to aid differentiation where there are thoroughfares of the same name in the same locality.	string	Bridge Of Dee	40
PostTown	The town or city in which the Royal Mail sorting office is located which services this record	string	ABERDEEN	30
Postcode	A postcode unit is an abbreviated form of address made up of combinations of between five and seven alphanumeric characters.	string	AB10 1AB	8
DPSuffix	The DPS is a unique Royal Mail 2-character code (the first numeric & the second alphabetical – e.g. 2B), which, when added to the Postcode, enables each live Delivery Point to be uniquely identified	string	1A	350
UDPRN	The UDPRN is the Unique Delivery Point Reference Number – this is a unique identifier for all delivery points.	string	52447276	1000
PostcodeType	There are two types of Postcode: Large User Postcode is assigned to one single address either due to the large volume of mail received at that address, or because a PO Box service has been set up. Small User Postcode identifies a group of Delivery Points. On average there are 15 Delivery Points per Postcode. However this can vary between 1 and 100. There will never be more than 100 Delivery Points on a Postcode.	string	L	1
SUORDIND	Small User Organisation Indicator can have the values 'Y' or space. A value of 'Y' indicates that a Small User Organisation is present at this address.	string	Y	1
PostalCounty	The county is not required as part of a correct postal address and is not required for addressing purposes. The Former Postal County, Traditional County and Administrative County data is sourced from a Royal Mail Alias product and is provided in the Standard Geoplan supply.	string		30
TraditionalCounty		string		30
AdministrativeCounty		string		30

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The Postcode Address File (PAF) at postcode level provides all the current address points and postcode locations for the UK.. The file is updated and verified by Royal Mail who make up to 3,500 updates per day.

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2. IMAGES

3. DATA

Layer Name	Total Records
Premise Level PAF	30,441,000

Source – Royal Mail

Recency – Updated quarterly

Geographical Coverage and Accuracy – UK

Projection – OSGB

Available Formats – .csv

Layer Type – Point

4. DATA HEALTH

Data Health	Green
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- The most up to date address point dataset for the UK

5. LICENSE INFORMATION

License type – Annual

Update cycle – Updated quarterly

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Data Specification

Header Record	Description	Data Type	Example	Max Field Size
Organisation	The organisation is used to define the premise. The names of Organisations are provided on PAF and these are categorised as small or larger users depending on the amount of mail they receive. If the Organisation is not provided it will be residential delivery point	string	Aberdeen City Council	70
Department	The Department is used to define the premise in conjunction with the Organisation.	string	Education Department	70
POBox	With a PO Box service, the customer receives a shortened, easy-to-remember address that provides a degree of anonymity	string	10290	6
SubBuilding	Identifier for subdivisions of properties.	string	Flat 1	40
Building	a description applied to a single building or a small group of buildings.	string	Marischal College	60
BuildingNumber	Building number is a number given to a single building or a small group of buildings, thus identifying it from its neighbours.	string	79	4
DependantThoroughfare	In certain places, for example, town centres, there are named thoroughfares within other named	string	Broad Street	80

	thoroughfares, for example, parades of shops on a high street where different parades have their own identity.			
Thoroughfare	A road, track or named access route on which there are Royal Mail delivery points	string	Concert Court	80
DoubleDependantLocality	Double Dependant Locality This is used to distinguish between similar thoroughfares or the same thoroughfare within a dependent locality.	string	Gateway Business Park	45
DependantLocality	Dependent locality areas define an area within a post town. These are only necessary for postal purposes and are used to aid differentiation where there are thoroughfares of the same name in the same locality.	string	Bridge Of Dee	45
PostTown	The town or city in which the Royal Mail sorting office is located which services this record	string	ABERDEEN	30
Postcode	A postcode unit is an abbreviated form of address made up of combinations of between five and seven alphanumeric characters.	string	AB10 1AB	8
DPSuffix	The DPS is a unique Royal Mail 2-character code (the first numeric & the second alphabetical – e.g. 2B), which, when added to the Postcode, enables each live Delivery Point to be uniquely identified	string	1A	2
UDPRN	The UDPRN is the Unique Delivery Point Reference Number – this is a unique identifier for all delivery points.	string	52447276	8
PostcodeType	There are two types of Postcode: Large User Postcode is assigned to one single address either due to the large volume of mail received at that address, or because a PO Box service has been set up. Small User Postcode identifies a group of Delivery Points. On average there are 15 Delivery Points per Postcode. However this can vary between 1 and 100. There will never be more than 100 Delivery Points on a Postcode.	string	L	1
SUORDIND	Small User Organisation Indicator can have the values 'Y' or space. A value of 'Y' indicates that a Small User Organisation is present at this address.	string	Y	1
PostalCounty	The county is not required as part of a correct postal address and is not required for addressing purposes. The Former Postal County, Traditional County and Administrative County data is sourced from a Royal Mail Alias product and is provided in the Standard Geoplan supply.	string		30
TraditionalCounty		string		30
AdministrativeCounty		string		30

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