

National Records of Scotland (NRS) Postcode Based Geography Extract 2014/2 Release: Important information

August 2014

Dear Customer,

The 2014/2 edition of our Postcode Index and digital postcode boundary dataset is now available. The data is based on the July 2014 release of Royal Mail's Postal Address File (PAF).

The Postcode Index links live and deleted postcodes to administrative, health, statistical and other areas. It also contains the Gridlink®/NRS 1 metre grid reference as well as NRS assigned grid references.

This version contains:

- 184,928 live and deleted small user records
- 48,866 live and deleted large user records of which 28,207 are PO Boxes and 1,457 are unmapped postcodes.

The number of outstanding postcodes without a digital boundary is 164.

What's new in 2014/2

1. New geographies

1.1 Settlements and Localities 2012

The latest version of Settlements and Localities were published on 31 July 2014.

The [Mid-2012 Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland](#) publication is available on the [Special Area Population Estimates](#) page of the NRS website. The boundaries are also available to download via the [Settlements and Localities Dataset](#) page of the NRS website.

2.1 Updates

2.1 Strategic Development Plan Areas 2013

An amendment to the boundary of the Dundee, Perth, Angus and North Fife Strategic Development Plan area (TAYplan area) to exclude part of the Cairngorms National Park.

2.2 Data Zone and Intermediate Zone 2011

Blank fields have been added to the extract in preparation for these new geographies. For further information on these new geographies please contact Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics, e-mail: neighbourhood.statistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Points of Interest

3.1 Commonwealth Games Athletes' Village

Following a successful Commonwealth Games, the Athletes' Village (where around 6,500 athletes and officials called home) is due to be handed-back to City Legacy, the consortium that built it, on 21 November 2014. Approximately 700 homes and flats in the village will then be sold on in January 2015.

G40 3HJ	Delhi Lane	G40 4RS	Gold Coast Lane
G40 3HL	Melbourne Place	G40 4RW	Edinburgh Drive
G40 3HP	Hamilton Gate	G40 4SH	Brisbane Lane
G40 3HQ	Manchester Place	G40 4SJ	Christchurch Drive
G40 3HR	London Avenue	G40 4TH	Kingston Place
G40 3HT	Perth Lane	G40 4TJ	Cardiff Court
G40 3HX	Victoria Loan	G40 4TP	Vancouver Walk
G40 4RN	Auckland Wynd	G40 4TQ	Sydney Crescent
G40 4RQ	Edmonton Terrace	G40 4TR	Kuala Lumpur Lane



4. Known Errors

4.1 1991 Census Counts

We are currently looking into an anomaly in the postcode index where the 1991 Census counts do not total those published at the time of the 1991 Census.

4.2 Date of Introduction and Deletion

We are currently looking into an anomaly in the postcode index where historical dates of introduction and deletion are overlapping.

5. Improvements

5.1 Unfortunately we have not had time to complete our planned 'How to' guide to help users extract specific data due to other priorities but our Geography Customer Services team will be on hand to provide help and advice. Please contact us if you require assistance. We will publish the guide on the NRS website as soon as we can.

6. Supply arrangements

6.1 Customers are reminded that they can download postcode data directly from the NRS website, both postcode boundaries and PC Index. This extract data will be available via the [NRS Postcode Extract](#) page of our website. Customers wishing to continue receiving data on CD can do so if they prefer.

6.2 Customers should be aware that there is a delay in adding the 2014/2 Extract to the website due to the General Register Office for Scotland website being transferred over to the NRS site.

7. Application to Ordnance Survey (OS) for Derived Data Exemption (DDE) for NRS postcode boundaries

7.1 OS have rejected our DDE application for NRS postcode boundaries. The dataset can continue to be used freely by all members of the One Scotland Mapping Agreement. Non-members wishing to purchase NRS postcode boundaries should contact our Geography Customer Services team to arrange supply. Note that a royalty fee will be payable to OS.

8. Planned changes to the Postcode Index

8.1 From **2015_1** we are planning a number of changes to the Postcode Index. More details will be available on our website over the next few months but briefly we plan to:

- Include the current version of a Geography only e.g. CHP and CHP2011 will be dropped, only CHP2012 will be retained.
- Remove old geographies e.g. fieldnames: 1991 LGD, 1991 LGR etc but a postcode assignment to any geography removed will be available on request.
- Rename field names e.g. 'Council Area' becomes 'CouncilArea2011'. A file converting old label to new label will be available for download.
- Lookup files will limit information to name and code (a few exceptions apply) and the 9 character code applied in all cases where a 9 character code exists. A master set of lookups will be available to download containing old and new 9 character codes.
- Provide additional supporting information to help users understand postcodes and how to use the data.

- 8.2 Delivery of the planned changes is dependent on delivery of a new postcode management system, and it is possible that changes and improvements will slip into 2015_1 or 2015_2 Extract.

9. Copyright and reproduction

9.1 Licence

Postcode Boundaries and Index – Cut Version

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- 9.3 Further information of licensing can be found in the geography [licensing](#) page of the NRS website.

10. Enquiries

- 10.1 Please contact our Geography Customer Services team if you need any further information or queries.

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