

# Postcode to Parliamentary Constituency Table Notes

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## Table Structure

| Field                           | Description                              |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Postcode                        | The Full 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)                |
| Parliamentary_Constituency_Code | Parliamentary Constituency Code          |
| Parliamentary_Constituency_Name | Official Parliamentary Constituency Name |

## 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.

## Parliamentary Constituency Code and Name

Westminster parliamentary constituencies are the areas used to elect Members of Parliament (MPs) to the House of Commons, which is the primary legislative chamber of the UK and is located in Westminster, London.

At the May 2010 election there were 650 constituencies. The number of MPs in England & Wales is as follows:

|         |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| Country | Number of constituencies/MPs |
| England | 533                          |
| Wales   | 40                           |

The Parliamentary Constituency code and name are matched to the Ward codes to provide the Constituency name for each Postcode in England Wales only (**Scotland and Northern Ireland with their own Parliamentary structures are not covered by this product**).

Due to the process of matching Ward codes to Postcodes as described above, up to 8% of this file may not contain Parliamentary Constituency information. Therefore we have undertaken geographic proximity analysis to allocate every Postcode to an appropriate Parliamentary Constituency. It should be noted that proximity analysis is based on the assumption that an unallocated Postcode falls within the same Parliamentary Constituency as its nearest neighbour and therefore the process cannot be guaranteed to provide exact results.

The Parliamentary Constituency structures in the latest version of this database are based on Parliamentary to Ward relationships from December 2009 which is the latest version available.