Postal Geographies

Postcodes are administered by Royal Mail and do not fit other boundaries. Each postcode is around 15 households, but can contain up to 100.

Postcode Area   eg. TR
Postcode District   eg. TR1
Postcode Sector   eg. TR1 3
Unit Postcode   eg. TR1 3AY

Service Geographies

Council services and partner organisations such as the Police and Public Health operate their own boundaries. For more information contact the relevant service or agency.

View Boundaries Online

To view the boundaries online please visit in the Cornwall Council online mapping:
https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/website/ccmap

Or use ONS Map viewer
http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadBoundaryViewer.do

Sources:

- Office for National Statistics; a Beginner's Guide to UK Geography

- Neighbourhood Statistics Geography Policy, April 2005

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If you would like this information in another format please contact:

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Understanding geography
A bitesize guide

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CORNWALL COUNCIL

Introduction

Understanding geography is essential for collecting, processing and aggregating data.

This leaflet aims to help understand the different types of geography and how they relate to each other.

Administrative Geographies

The following areas are used for the administration of local and national government in England.

- Government Office Regions (9)

  - **Greater London (1)**
    London Boroughs (32)

  - **Counties (27)**
    Non Metropolitan Districts (201)

  - **Metropolitan Counties (6)**
    Metropolitan Districts (36)

  - **Unitary Authorities (56)**

Unitary Authorities are a single tier which means that they are responsible for all the Council services delivered in that area.

Cornwall is a Unitary Authority (code: 00HE) and forms part of Government Office South West.

Electoral geographies

Electoral Divisions are the units used to elect local government councilors. They do not match other boundaries. There are 123 electoral divisions in Cornwall.

City, town and parish councils

City, town and parishes are elected bodies that provide local facilities and represent their community.

Parishes are not contiguous with electoral divisions. Some parishes share boundaries with census geographies, but this is not usually the case.

There are 213 parish and town councils in Cornwall. Details can be found on our website:
www.cornwall.gov.uk/parishcouncils

Community Network Areas

When Cornwall County Council and the 6 Districts became a Unitary Authority in 2009 an additional local tier was also formed called Community Network Areas.

Community Network Areas are built from parishes.

There are 19 Community Network Areas. Details can be found on our website:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/communitynetworks

Census Geographies

Output areas and Super Output Areas were introduced by ONS in 2001 for the reporting of small area statistics.

The geographies are arranged as a hierarchy which increase in size and are built up from the smaller unit, meaning that data can be aggregated.

These geographies will remain stable, so data for these areas will be comparable over time.

Local Authority

Middle Layer Super Output Areas
(73 in Cornwall)

Minimum population: 5,000
Average population: 7,200

Lower Layer Super Output Areas
(326 in Cornwall)

Minimum population: 1,000
Average population: 1,500

Census Output Areas
(1,792 in Cornwall)

Minimum population: 100
Average households: 125