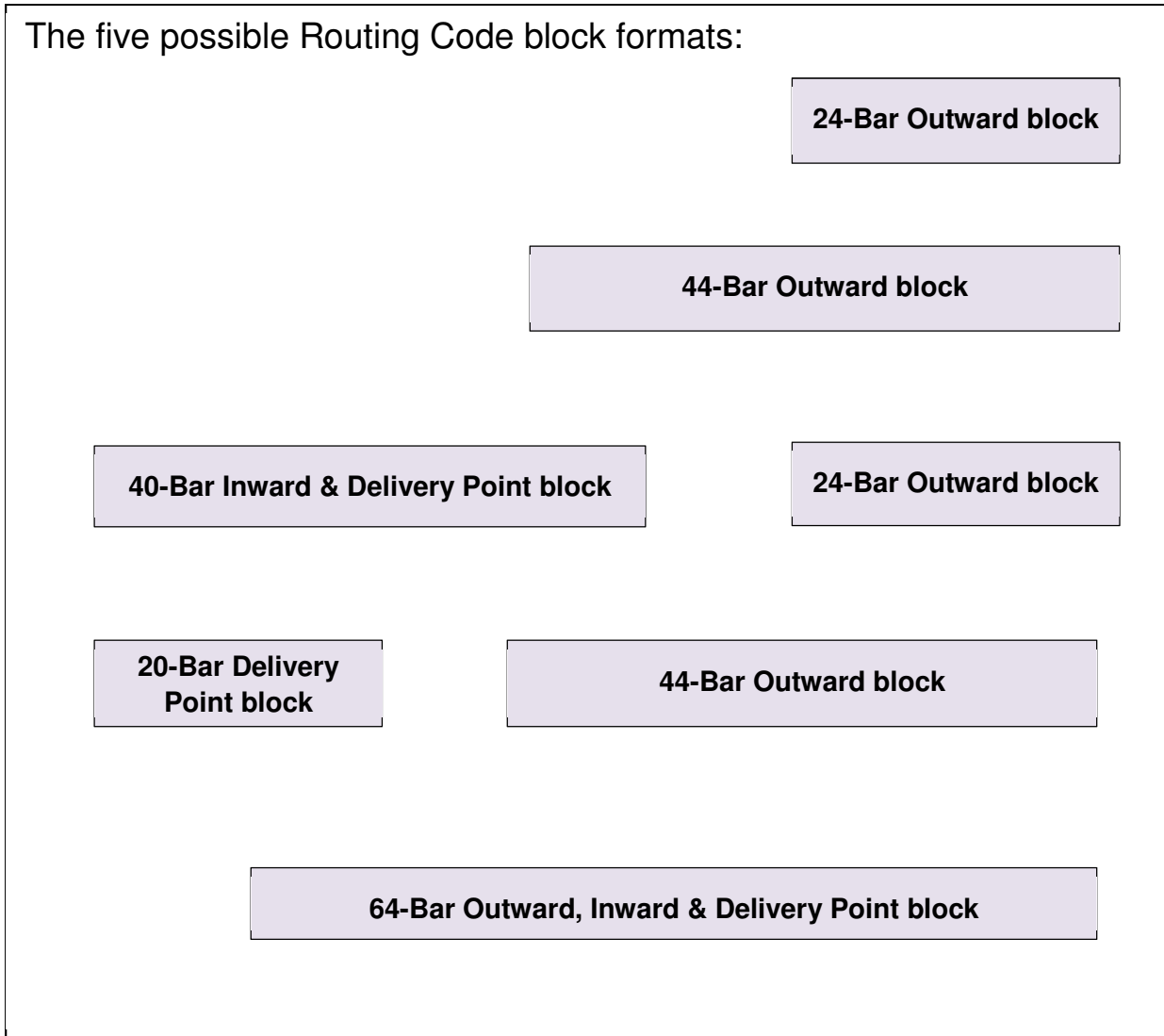
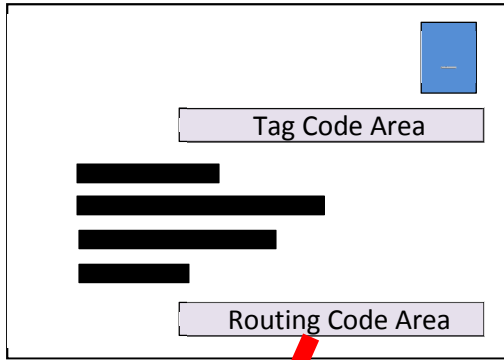


Routing Code Block Formats

The diagram below shows the five possible Routing Code block formats that are printed in phosphor ink at the lower right of envelopes during the sorting process.

Normally it is the 'Format 5' (i.e. the full 64-bar code) one that is printed.



Delivery Point & Mailsort Codes for WDPS members

The following table shows a sample of WDPS members' postcodes with their associated Delivery Point Codes (DPCs) and Mailsort codes.

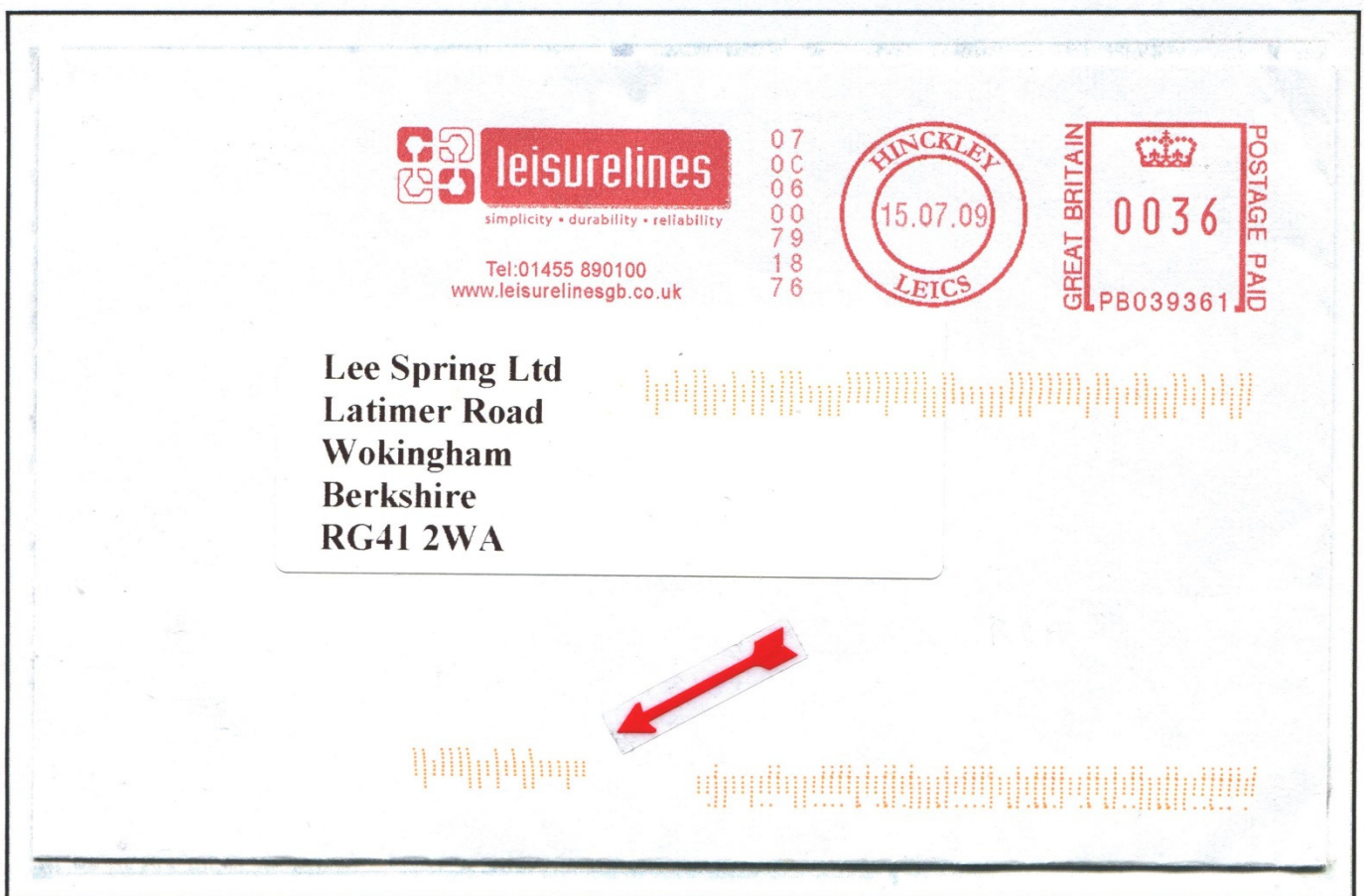
This table has been removed from the web version of my display.

64-Bar Routing Code with a 20-Bar Extension!

A one-off example is known where a 20-Bar extension has been applied to a 64-Bar routing code as shown below.

The cover was an incoming item from abroad and was initially processed at Leicester MLO on 16th July 2009.

It is possible that during inward sorting at Reading MLO, the equipment was confused by spurious dots in the 64 bar code and the image was sent for video coding. It is possible that an operator keyed-in the postcode again, resulting in the 20 bar extension being applied.

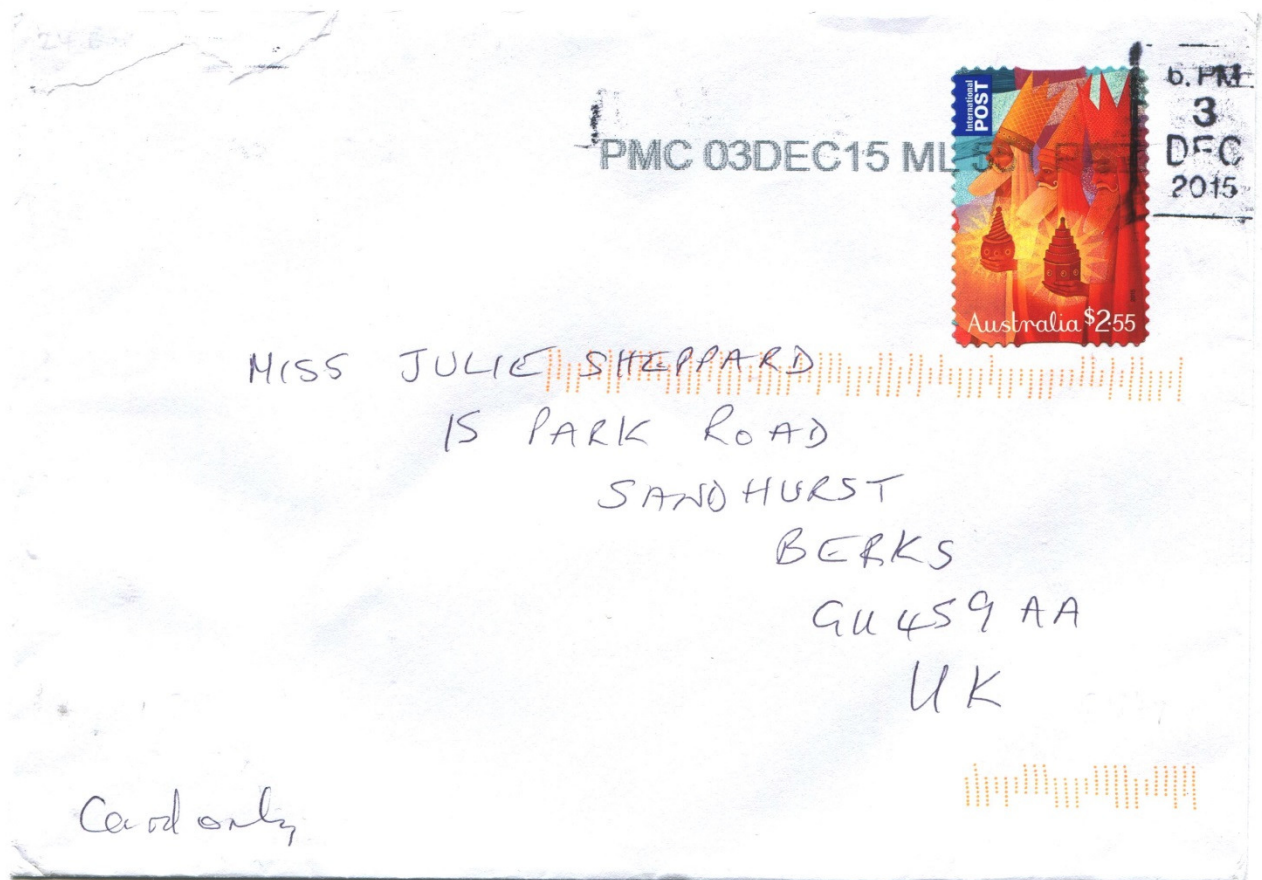


Example of a human error corrected by a machine!

In the item below, the sender has written "GU45", whereas it should have been addressed to "GU47" as there is no such postcode area as "GU45".

However, the full address has been read by the Royal Mail sorting equipment and it knows that "Sandhurst" has the postcode area "GU47" and a 24-bar 4-state routing code has been printed at the bottom of the envelope so that the item can be routed to the correct destination.

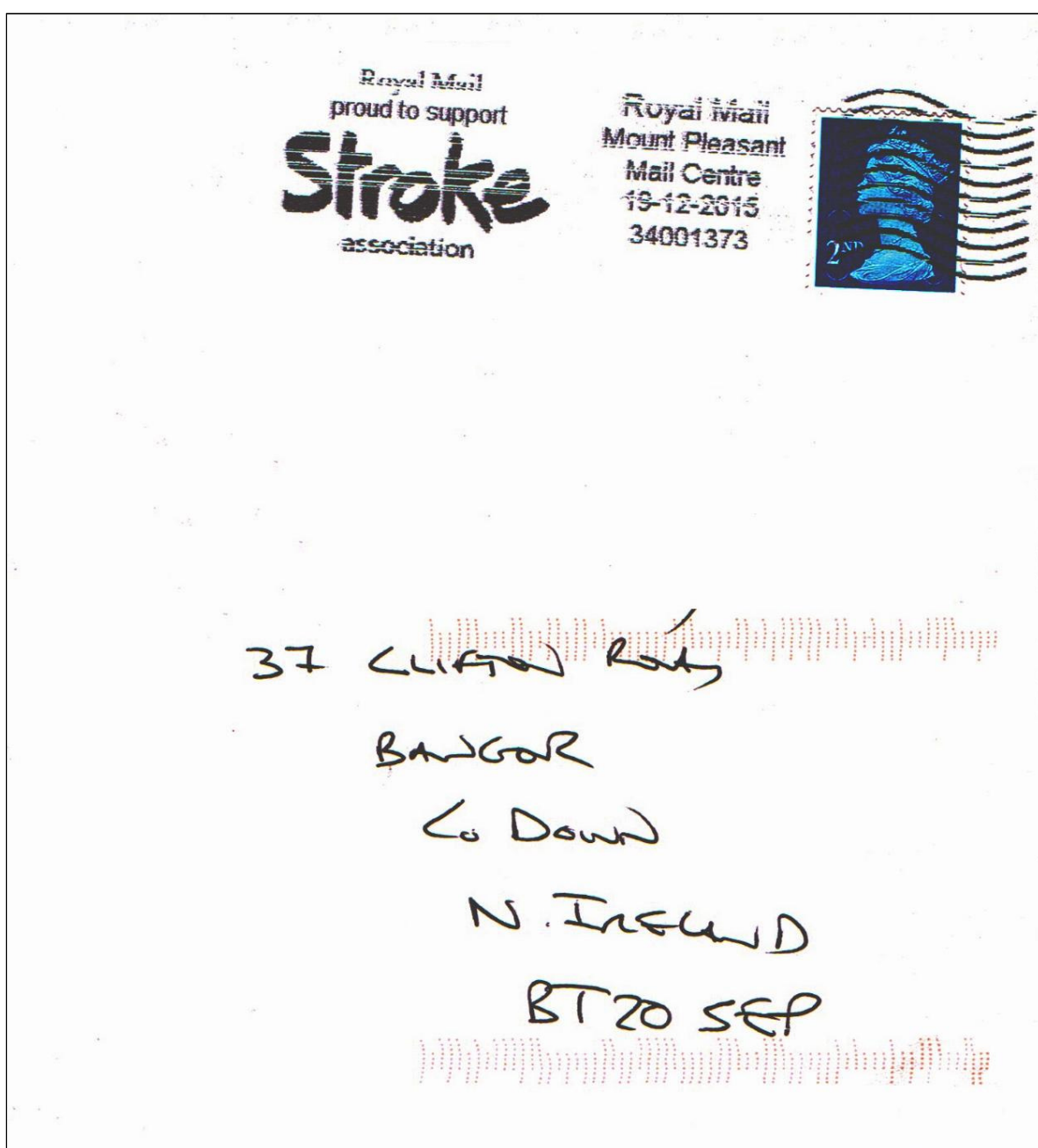
The routing code in this case decodes as binary '07-36' which is the short code for "GU47".



An Unexplained Routing Code Error!

This item was received in error by the occupant of 37 Clifton Road, London, SE25 6PX, even though it was clearly addressed to 37 Clifton Road, Bangor, Northern Ireland BT20 5EP.

The route code applied actually decodes as SE25 6PX, so somehow the Royal Mail decoding 'system' has mis-interpreted the address for no explicable reason! This is an exceptionally unusual occurrence and clearly resulted in the item suffering an unacceptable delay.



Decoding the Matrix Block in a Meter Frank

Barcode reader programs such as *ClearImage* are available for free on-line to enable the matrix block in a meter frank to be decoded. The block itself comprises 768 pixels (16 rows and 48 columns).



JGB B1110001PB556903 00640110005106170615

JGB	B	1	1	1	0001	PB556903	0064011	£00.51	0	6	17.06.15
-----	---	---	---	---	------	----------	---------	--------	---	---	----------

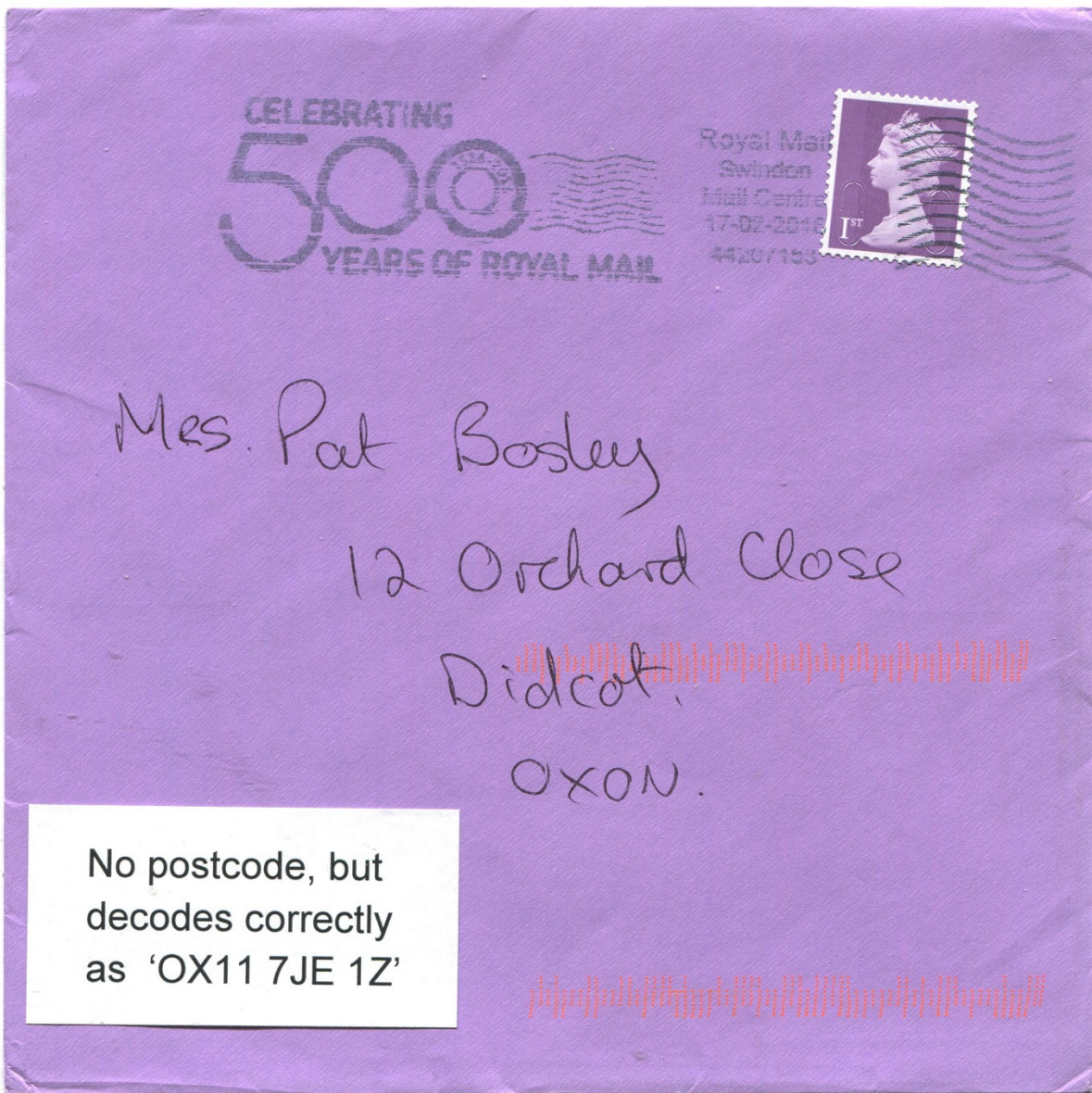
Country	Type	Version	Format	Class	Mail Type	Serial	Item count	Postage	Tariff Rate	Tariff Version	Date
---------	------	---------	--------	-------	-----------	--------	------------	---------	-------------	----------------	------

Are Postcodes still necessary?

If a postcode is completely omitted from an address, one would expect the OCR machine to read the town name, find the outward code for that town, and print the appropriate short 24-bar routing code on the envelope.

It seems, however, in this particular case, that the OCR has managed to read the house number and street name, and use that information to fully code the mail item with a 64-bar routing code!

Hence it would appear that, after 40+ years of Royal Mail telling us that we must use the postcode, the equipment is now so sophisticated that actually we no longer need to include it. **Wow!**



From AFD website:

Organisation:	
Property:	
Street:	12 Orchard Close
Locality:	
Town:	Didcot
Postcode:	OX11 7JE
Country:	United Kingdom
Country ISO:	GBR
DPS:	1Z
Area/STD Code:	01235



From my '64-bar Routing Code' decoder spreadsheet:

64-Bar Routing Code Decoding													
DPCN from Library:	1		Decodes as:		Outward decimal =		511						
DPCA from Library:	Z				Inward decimal =		2609						
					DPC =		1Z						
					Decodes as:		OX11		7JE		1Z		
↓ Library Ref.													
451	E3	E4	E7	E8	E11	E64	E67	E68	E71	E72	E75	E127	
	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	
OWA_W32	E68 + offset						0	0					
OWA_W16	E4 + offset						0	0					
OWA_W8	E67 + offset						0	0					
OWA_W4	E3 + offset						1	4					
OWA_W2	E64-OA8-OA4-OB8						1	2					
OWA_W1	E127-OA32-OA4-OA2-OB32-OB8-OB4						1	1					
							7	7	TRUE				
OWB_W32	E75 + offset						1	32					
OWB_W16	E11 + offset						1	16					
OWB_W8	E72 + offset						1	8					
OWB_W4	E8 + offset						1	4					
OWB_W2	E71 + offset						1	2					
OWB_W1	E7 + offset						1	1					
							63	63	TRUE				

