

Code of Data Matching Practice

**Laid before Parliament pursuant to section 32G of
the Audit Commission Act 1998**

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Appendix 1 – Definitions of terms used in the Code

For the purposes of this Code the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Auditor	A person appointed by the Audit Commission under section 3 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to act as an auditor in relation to the accounts of an audited body.
Audited body	A local government or NHS body to which the Commission appoints the auditor. This includes police authorities, local probation boards and fire and rescue authorities as well as local councils. These bodies are listed in Schedule 2 to the Audit Commission Act 1998.
Best value authority	An authority described in section 1(1) of the Local Government Act 1999.
Key contact	The officer nominated by a participant's senior responsible officer to act as point of contact with the Commission for the purposes of data matching exercises.
Mandatory participant	An audited body or an English best value authority that is required by the Commission to provide data for a data matching exercise.
Participant	An organisation that provides data to the Commission for the purposes of a data matching exercise, which may be on either a mandatory or voluntary basis.
Patient data	Data relating to an individual that are held for medical purposes (within the meaning of section 251 of the National Health Service Act 2006) and from which the individual can be identified. This includes both clinical data (for example, the medical records) and demographic data (for example, the name and address) of patients.
Senior responsible officer	The Director of Finance or other senior named officer of the participant responsible for ensuring compliance with this Code
Voluntary participant	An organisation from which the Commission considers it appropriate to accept data on a voluntary basis for the purpose of data matching

