



# Digital Hydrogeological Map Data of Great Britain

Information Note, 2007: [625k Hydro](#)

[Hydrogeological Data](#)

1:625 000 scale

***This note should be read in conjunction with:***

*DiGMapGB Information Note, 2007: 'General' for data at all scales.*

## 1 Caution

The 1:625 000 scale data may be used as a guide to the aquifers at a regional or national level, but should not be relied on for local information. The scale of the original information is indicated by the nominal scale attribute (NOM\_SCALE: 625000) embedded in the data. Do not over-enlarge the data; for example, do not use 1:625 000 nominal scale data at 1:250 000, 1:100 000 or 1:50 000 working scale. If more-detailed hydrogeological information is required there is a range of hydrogeology maps at a variety of more-detailed scales from 1:25 000 to 1:250 000 covering selected parts of the country which may also be consulted. These are listed in the BGS map catalogue which can be seen at <http://shop.bgs.ac.uk/Bookshop/hydroMaps.cfm>. The 'out of print' maps may also be available as 'print on demand' facsimile copies.

The 1:625 000 scale hydrogeological maps were compiled from other, more-detailed, maps mostly at 1:50 000 (or 1:63 360) scale maps by cartographical selection and simplification. The generalised hydrogeological lines were fitted to Ordnance Survey 1:625 000 topographical bases available at the time of publication, as indicated by the nominal OS year value (attribute NOM\_OS\_YR). It does not necessarily fit different, including more modern, topographical bases.

The compilation of geological lines (i.e. the cartographic accuracy) is probably no better than 1 mm which equates to 625 m on the ground for the 1:620 000 scale base map and for practical purposes this could probably be rounded up to 1 km.

## 2 Sources of 1:625 000 scale information

The digital data are based on the two published 1:625 000 scale hydrogeology maps of England & Wales (1977) and Scotland (1988). It comprises the polygons which have been digitised and labelled with single feature attribution which replicates the categories used on the printed map keys, for example Keuper Marl is referred to rather than Mercia Mudstone Group, its modern name. Linear and hydrology point data (such as streams, springs and extraction sites) are currently not included.

## 3 Hydrogeology

The hydrogeological map indicates aquifer potential in generalised terms using a threefold division of geological formations: 1) those in which intergranular flow in the saturated zone is dominant; 2) those in which flow is controlled by fissures or discontinuities; 3) less permeable formations including aquifers concealed at depth beneath covering layers. Highly productive aquifers are distinguished from those that are only of local importance or have no significant groundwater. Within each of these classes the strata are grouped together according to age or lithology.

Please note that the maps are not based on the 1:625 000 scale geology maps; the polygons are often more simplified, and they are a composite of superficial and bedrock linework.



## 4 Contacts

For further information on the compilation of these maps, hydrogeological information in general or specific up-to-date information on water extraction points please contact the BGS Groundwater Management programme in Wallingford.

**British Geological Survey,**

Maclean Building,  
Crowmarsh Gifford,  
Wallingford,  
Oxfordshire OX10 8BB.  
Tel: +44 (0)1491 838800

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/contacts/sites/wallingford/wahome.html>