

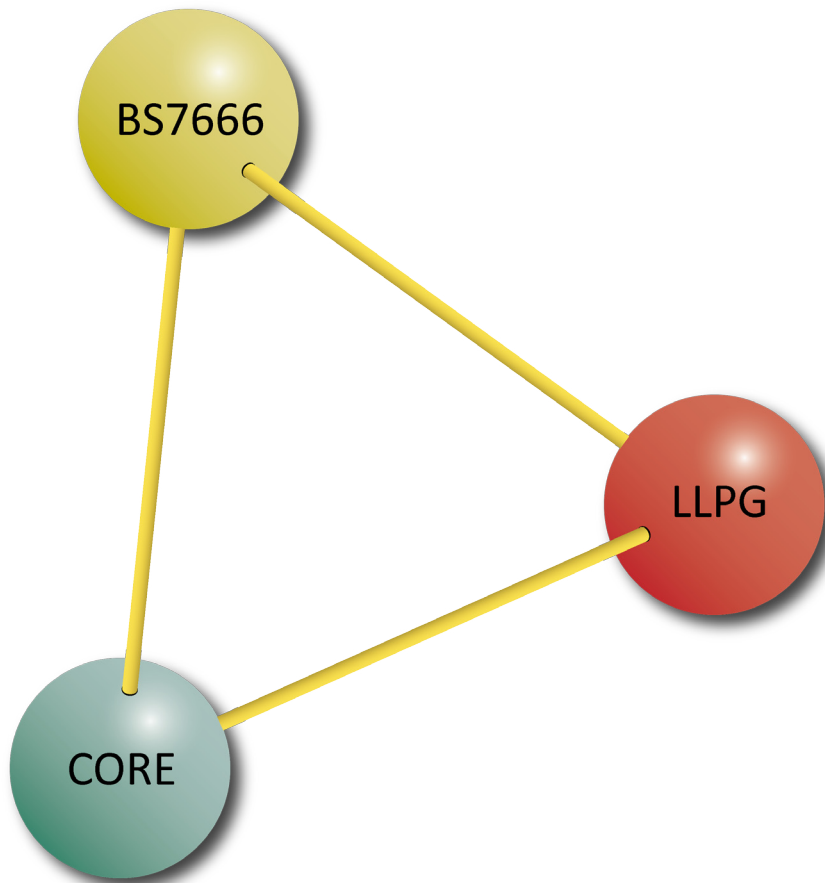


NUMBER ONE FOR GAZETTEERS



# Matching Electoral Registers to BS7666

Software to comply with the Ministry of Justice directive



## The whys, the wherefores and what the future holds

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has issued a directive stating that by the **1st December 2009** all electoral registers have to comply with BS7666 and must contain a Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN). This requirement will necessitate the matching of existing electoral registers with the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG).

As the standardisation of each authority's LLPG allowed for the creation of the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG), the standardisation of electoral registers are intended to allow for the development of the Co-ordinated on-line Record of Electors (CORE). This central database is not intended to replace local registers but will enable a single access point that will assist in checks against electoral fraud.

The matching of electoral registers to the LLPG is one of the first steps in a much wider-ranging programme of reforms that will see all local authority address data brought in line with BS7666 standardisation.

With the successful implementation of CORE it will only be a matter of time before local authorities will be expected to match their council tax, environmental health, benefits, non-domestic rates etc to the LLPG.

Although the emphasis will be placed with the custodian of the electoral register address data, the common denominator will always be the LLPG data and therefore meeting the expectation will fall upon the LLPG custodian. As the authorities' expert on BS7666, the LLPG custodians will increasingly find themselves involved in this address matching procedure.

One process open to local authorities is the employment of services from expensive data matching companies, who in the case of CORE will take both the electoral register and the LLPG and run them through automatic address matching software.

This process, depending on the way the electoral register has been maintained will return matches of anywhere between 50% - 95% with any unmatched data then being returned to the authority for manual matching. It is this manual process of matching that is time consuming to the local authorities and one that can only minimally be assisted by the data matching companies.

The problem with this option is that as each dataset requires matching, a new fee will be charged and with each authority holding many distinct collections of address data, this cost will quickly begin to escalate.

**Aligned Assets can offer authorities the opportunity to run this automatic data matching themselves as many times as they need with Symphony iMatch...**

# Simplify your Address Matching with Symphony iMatch

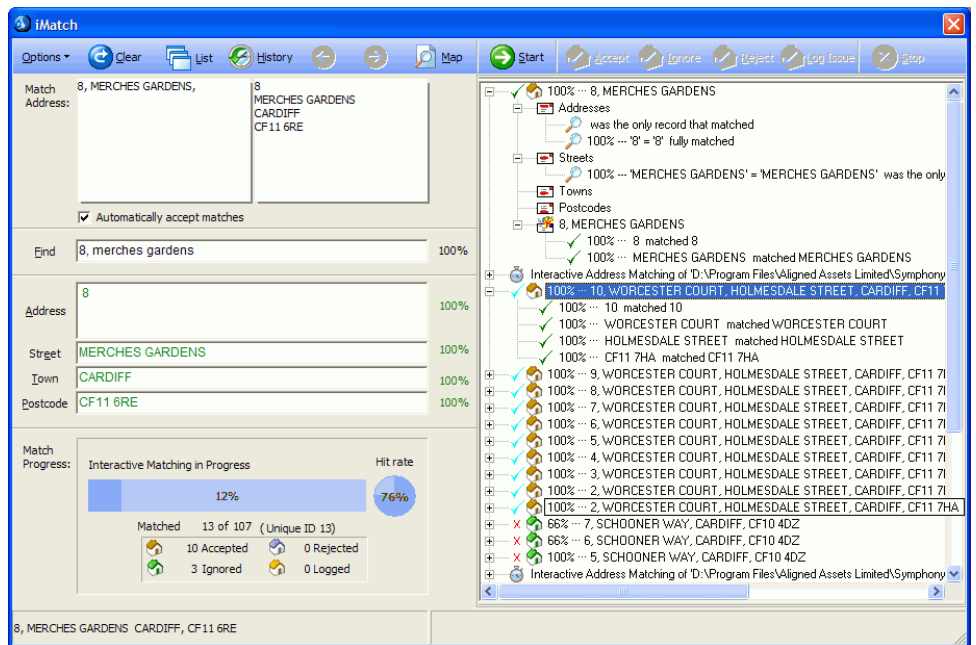
iMatch is a module within the Symphony Suite of gazetteer management solutions. Its main function is to match address datasets against the LLPG to create uniform, standardised addressing across local authorities.

iMatch allows for the running of an automatic matching process that will in most instances result in the exact matching of the majority of address records.

The procedure most often undertaken to facilitate this is to run the automatic matching against all address fields and then to progressively reduce the fields in order to increase the hit rate.

As with all Symphony Suite modules, iMatch is customisable and allows for the matching criteria to be tailored to the users specific requirements. This includes the matching threshold that can be set to allow only for 100% matches, 85% matches etc.

Symphony iMatch uses ADO to connect directly to your BS7666 database in any format.



Once the automatic data matching process has been completed, any remaining records can then be matched interactively by selecting the relevant records to match against.

During the interactive matching process there is the ability to Accept, Ignore, Reject or Log Issue and a Remember Match feature to improve hit rates when known mismatches are identified.

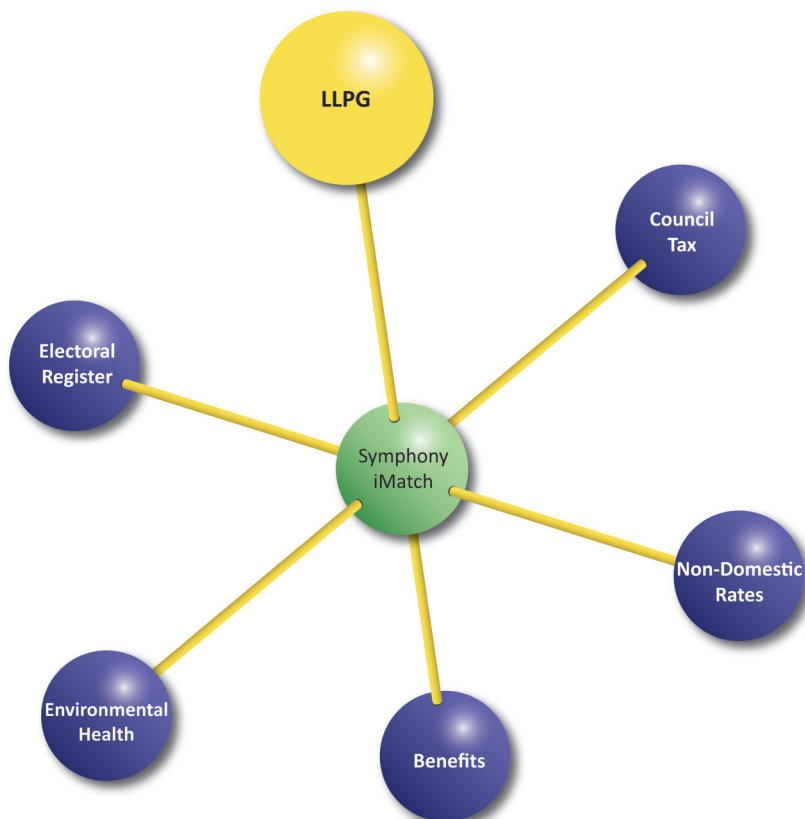
## Other Functions of Symphony iMatch

In addition to address matching and the ability to tag other address datasets with UPRNs, iMatch also allows for the geocoding of that address data.

This function allows for the assigning of x,y coordinates to an address, which allows for that address data to be viewed spatially using a variety of GIS technologies.

iMatch also has a powerful and user-friendly search engine built-in that allows for searching of addresses within the LLPG.

It has the capability to perform 'fuzzy searches' that enable searching any mixture of upper and lower case, incomplete entries, spelling mistakes and abbreviations. iMatch will then search the entire LLPG and return the closest matches.

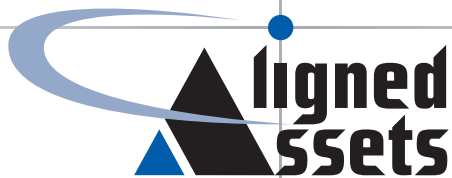


**What to do next...**

To find out more about how iMatch can assist in address matching and enable you to comply with the MoJ's electoral register requirements contact:

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