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PCHomes Properties Data Feed Options for v7.0 or higher

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Introduction

Estates IT offer various types of property feed outputs from the PCHomes software. This can help web designers build websites with PCHomes data in a chosen desired format.

The next few pages give more detail on the options that are available.

A client must be running PCHomes v6.71 or above to have any of these feeds running matching the specifications.

If you required more information, or details, please contact feeds@estatesit.com for further assistance.



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Type 1: Rightmove BLM

- 1. V5 RM 2011 format SYS-UPLOAD RIGHTMOVE3R3
 - Supports up to 60 photos and 10 floor plans
 - Uses Rightmove R3v3 format
- 2. V5 RM 2011 format with extensions SYS-UPLOAD RIGHTMOVE3R3E
 - Supports up to 60 photos and 10 floor plans
 - o Uses Rightmove R3v3 format extended with additional information
- 3. V6 RM 2014 format SYS-UPLOAD_RIGHTMOVE3R5
 - Supports up to 60 photos and 10 floor plans
 - Supports Tenant fees text
 - Uses latest Rightmove R3v5 format
- 4. V6 RM 2014 format with extensions SYS-UPLOAD RIGHTMOVE3R5E
 - Supports up to 60 photos and 10 floor plans
 - Supports Tenant fees text
 - Uses latest Rightmove R3v5 format extended with additional information

The above formats all are based on Rightmove specifications. However, the "format with extensions" includes much extra information that allows the designed to get more information from PCHomes than would normally be supplied in a standard Rightmove BLM file. Media files are sent with the BLM (see Media Sending).

Type 2: XML Structure

- Advanced XML output SYSTEM-XML_XMLFORWEBSITESAIv3
 - Supports unlimited photos / floor plan files
 - With media files being sent as part of the FTP
- 2. Advanced XML output with media URLS SYSTEM-XML_XMLFORWEBSITESAIURLv3
 - Supports unlimited photos / floor plan files
 - Media files are not sent and provide as URL links only

The structures between the two XML files are the same except the format of the photo/floor plan tags and how that media is delivered.

Type 3: Web API Service

- 1. Full web API service with 14 different formats available including BLM, JSON and XML
 - o Supports ISO-8859-1 and UTF-8 encoding
 - Supports residential and commercial, sales and lettings records
 - Choose from original, web or thumbnail images
 - o Real time up to date data
 - o Power website from API or use as a bulk importer



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Feed Options & Details

Media Sending

With all outputs for Type 1 (Rightmove BLM), media files are always sent with the BLM upload.

With Type 2 (XML Structure) media files are only sent with option 1. Option 2 will send a URL to the media hosted online by Estates IT. The designer can choose to reference the files directly or to download the images via http.

When media is sent by FTP only new or changed media is sent with the feed, what is referred to as "caching". By caching the upload, this greatly reduces the amount of data that is required to be sent each time. Caches can be reset at any time.

With Type 3 (Web API Service) the designer can choose from original, web or thumbnail images to display.

Formats and Documents

All the formats detailed here are documented and have the structure and feed information detailed in additional documents provided by Estates IT upon request. All the above formats include all generally required information to power a website property database including:

- Unique Property ID
- Address and Postcode information
- Descriptions
- Price and Frequency Information
- Bedrooms
- Photos and Floor Plans
- EPC Links & PDF Particulars links
- Rooms Details (typically as structured HTML format)

What records are included

All of the uploads specified (Type 1 and Type 2) are "bulk uploads". That is, these uploads will always include all properties to be advertised. Standard filters are applied to the data but can be re-specified by the client if advancing data filtering is required. If a property was in a previous feed file and then does not appear in the new feed file, it should be removed from the website/portal. Type 3 is a web API that queries the database to call the data in real time.

Customisation

Custom versions of Type 1 and Type 2 can be created if required. Customisation is typically charged at £70 per hour. The amount of changes and whether the customisation can be done will depend on the specific customisation requirements. Type 3 (API) cannot be customised.

Older format of the RMv3 or XML feeds are available upon request but not recommended.

Setup Fees

Type 1: Rightmove BLM - £300 per setup.

Type 2: XML Structure - £300 per setup.

Type 3: API Service - £35 per key per month (one key required per website)



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Manual Uploads

Type 1 and Type 2 format options can be included in a PCHomes client installation and hence can be run directly from the client site without any intervention from Estates IT. They can be configured and added to a menu like favourites or custom, so the user can run them at any time manually. The process can then be used by users who have this module made available to them on the menus. One of the advantages of a manual upload is that the user can choose specifically which properties they wish to include as part of the upload manually.

Automated Uploads

If the client wishes to automate the upload format specifically then there are two ways to do this.

- 1. The client has the process scheduled on their own copy of PCHomes on site
- 2. Estates IT can schedule and run the process automated from the Estates IT servers.

With Automation Option 1 PCHomes desktop clients:

- Estates IT would recommend that the client will need a dedicated machine where the automation copy of PCHomes can be run from. This is typically a server where the upload can be left to run 24/7 on schedule times.
- The client will need an automation licence to run this option which is charged at £20 per month per branch.
- Support with this option is provided on a consultancy basis, charged at £70 per hour.

With Automation Option 2:

- The client will need a subscription to a custom upload of data from the Estates IT servers, costing £5 per month per branch.
- In this case no setup is required on the users site/machines, it is setup on Estates IT servers. Setup fees apply.
- Support is provided as part of the subscription.

The charges quoted above apply to both PCHomes and PCHomes Plus. All prices quoted are exclusive of VAT. All prices correct as of 15/04/2019.

