Hikashop Shipping Plugin With Extra Features

plg_hikashopshipping_bfextrafeatures

1. Overview

Using this plugin you can create multiple Hikashop shipping methods with additional criteria in addition to the built-in Hikashop restrictions.

- **Enhanced Postcode Handling**
  Initially developed for use with UK postcodes it can also be used (or extended) to cater for other postcode formats. In some cases it maybe easier to configure than built-in Hikashop postcode handling.

- **Enhanced Price Restrictions and Shipping Method Prices**
  If you have 8 delivery options each with 3 order value tiers then without this plug-in you will have to configure 24 shipping methods. With this plug-in you only need 8 shipping methods.

- **Order Item Product Shipping Method Restrictions**
  Shipping methods can be restricted according to order item product categories.

- **Customer Selectable Delivery Dates**
  Installing an additional extension allows a customer to select a delivery date.
  See: plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydate.
  This extension can be particularly useful when deliveries (shipping methods) are constrained by a customer postcode.

  In addition the number of total number of deliveries available for a particular day of the week can be controlled. This prevents customers selecting a delivery date when that threshold has been reached. Christmas / holiday overrides can be configured.

  Other extensions which cater for delivery slots and locker collections are also available.
  See: plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslots
  plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslocker

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1.1 Example Shipping Method Listings

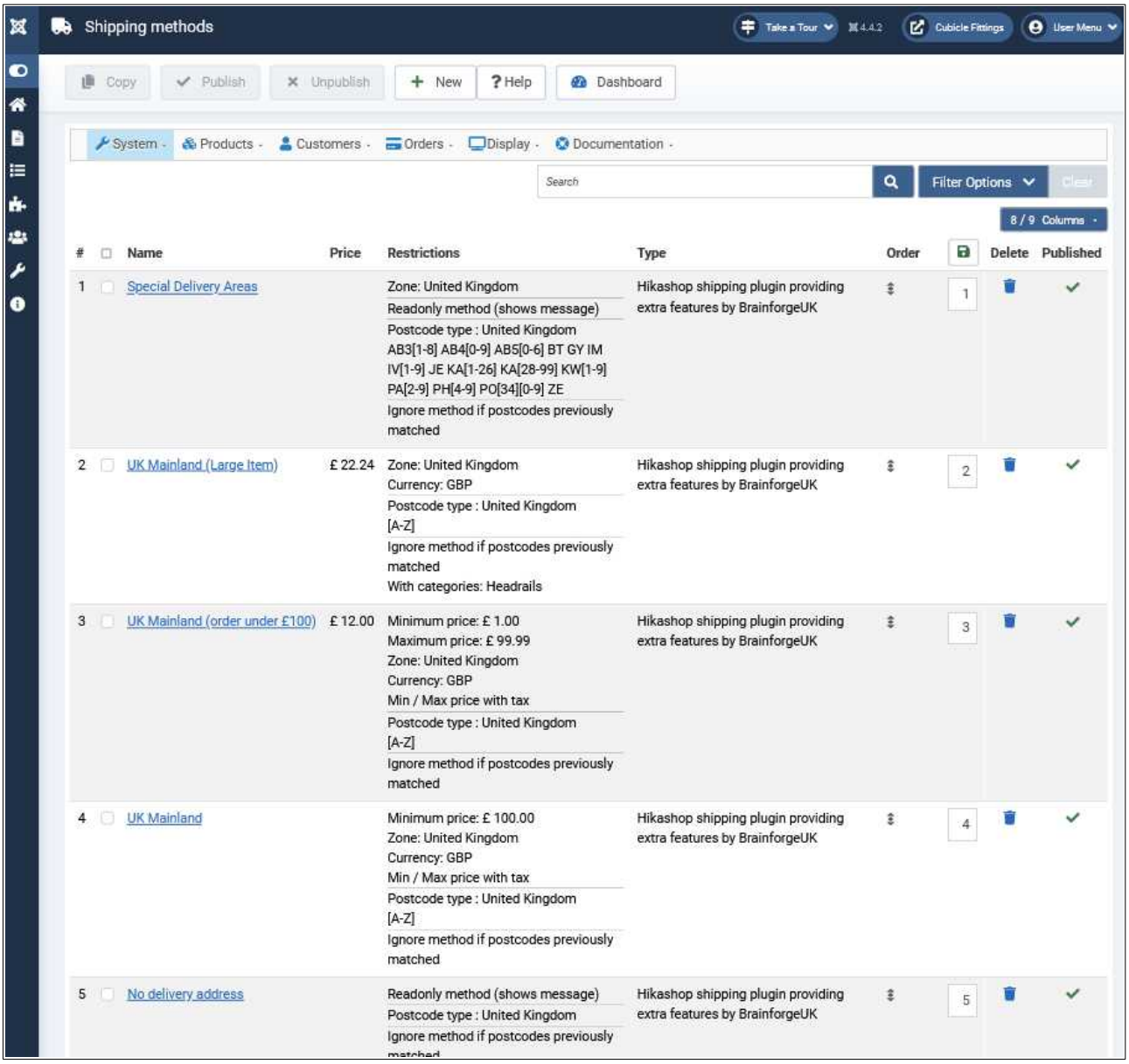
Key features are illustrated in following Hikashop shipping method listings.
Note that the shipping methods are processed in the order listed (Hikashop feature).

1.1.1 Example Shipping Method Listing

#	Name	Price	Restrictions	Type	Order	Delete	Published
1	Portsmouth (Central)		Postcode type: United Kingdom PO[1-5]_	Hikashop shipping plugin providing extra features by BrainforgeUK	1		
2	Portsmouth (Outer)	£ 5.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom PO[6-9]_ PO[1-2][0-9]_	Hikashop shipping plugin providing extra features by BrainforgeUK	2		
3	Portsmouth (Isle of Wight)	£ 10.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom PO3[0-9]_	Hikashop shipping plugin providing extra features by BrainforgeUK	3		
4	Elsewhere (except Scottish Islands and Highlands)	£ 2.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom AB[3-5][1-9] FK1[7-9] FK21 KA2[78] KW0 KW1[0-7] PA[2-7][0-9] PA[2-7][0-9] PH1[5-9] PH[23][0-9] PH4[5-9] PH[5-9][0-9] IV ZE Shipping not available	Hikashop shipping plugin providing extra features by BrainforgeUK	4		
5	Scottish Islands and Highlands	£ 20.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom Ignore method if postcodes previously matched	Hikashop shipping plugin providing extra features by BrainforgeUK	5		

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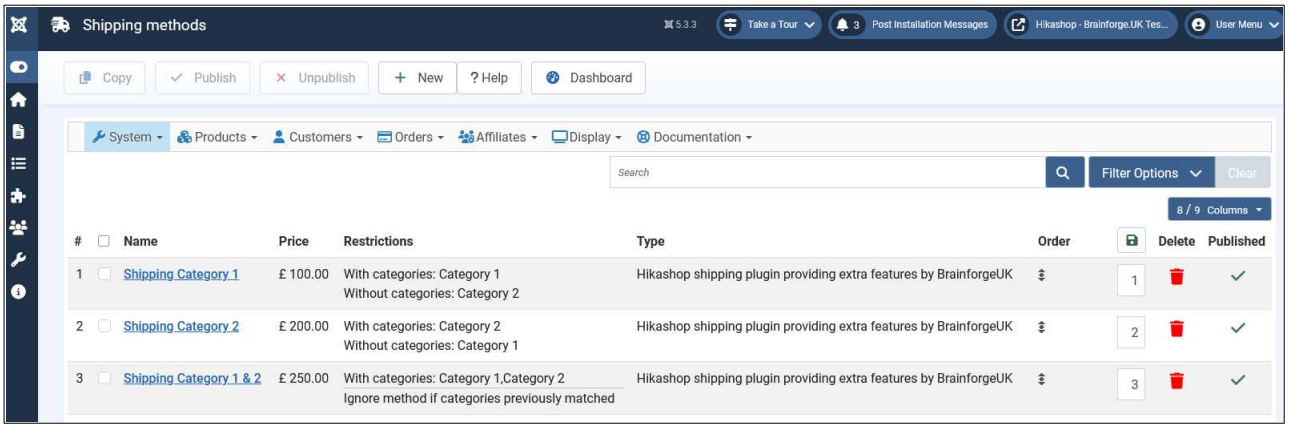
1.1.1 Example Shipping Method Listing (Using Advance Features)



The *Readonly method (shows message)* feature allows you to display a sensible message to the user instead of a shipping method. For instance:

- **Special Delivery Areas** (e.g. not UK mainland & Scottish Highlands).
  Please contact us to arrange delivery and price for delivery.
- **No Delivery Address**
  Delivery price will be calculated after delivery postcode entered.

1.1.2 Example Shipping Method Listing (With / Without Categories)



- **With categories**
  The shipping method is **only** available when the order contains one or more products in one (or more) of the selected shipping categories.
- **Without categories**
  The shipping method is **not** available when the order contains one or more products in one (or more) of the selected shipping categories.

See section 2.6.

In this example without the *Shipping Category 1 & 2* method the customer would never be able to place an order containing products in both categories 1 and 2 – they would have to place a separate order for each i.e. giving a total shipping cost of £300.

Adding the *Shipping Category 1 & 2* method allows a customer to include both categories of products in the order thus giving them a saving.

In addition the product quantity, weight, volume, postcode restrictions continue to work as normal.

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1.2 Installation Summary

- Install and enable this Hikashop shipping plugin.
  plg_hikashopshipping_bfextrafeatures
- If required install and enable one or more postcode handling plug-ins.
  plg_hikashopbfpostcodes_shippingnetherlands
  plg_hikashopbfpostcodes_shippingunitedkingdom
- If required install and enable the delivery date plugin.
  plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates
  - You may also require one or more of the following.
    plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslots (only if parent/child shipping methods required).
    plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslocker (only if collection lockers required)
- If using the *delivery date* plug-ins you will also need to create Hikashop custom fields on the *order* table for the following:
  - Delivery date field.
  - Delivery slot field (when using *plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslots*).
  - Delivery locker field (when using *plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslocker*).
- Create one or more Hikashop shipping methods using this shipping plugin.

1.3 Update Summary

When applicable these plug-ins can be updated in the usual manner.

1.3.1 Upgrading Legacy (pre 4.0.0) Versions of *ofplg_hikashopshipping_bfextrafeatures*

All the associated plug-ins (identified above) must also be upgraded to v4.0.0 or above.

Before upgrading a site backup is strongly recommended and, if possible, evaluate the upgrade on a test site.

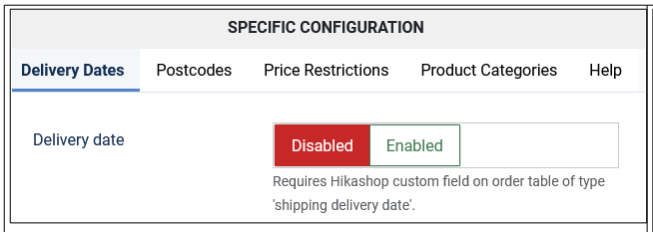
Refer to Appendix D for more information.

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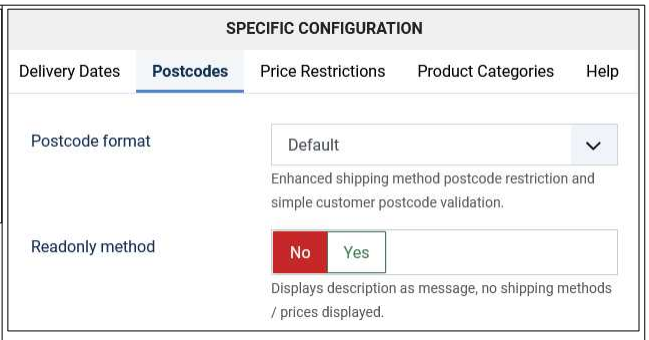
2. Specific Configuration

2.1 Basic

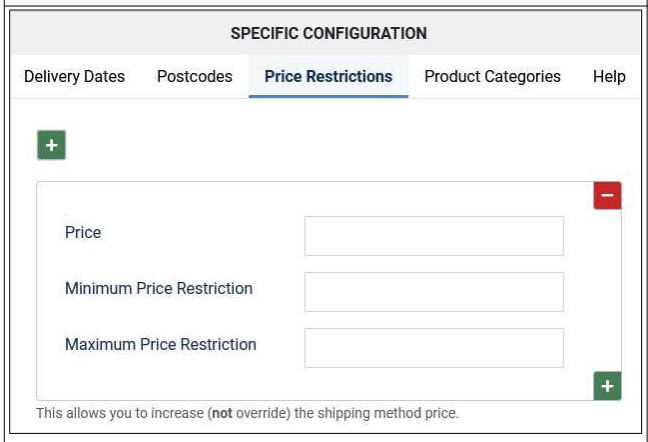
Without any specific configuration the plugin processes the Hikashop generic configuration and restrictions (i.e. same as the Hikashop Manual Shipping plugin).

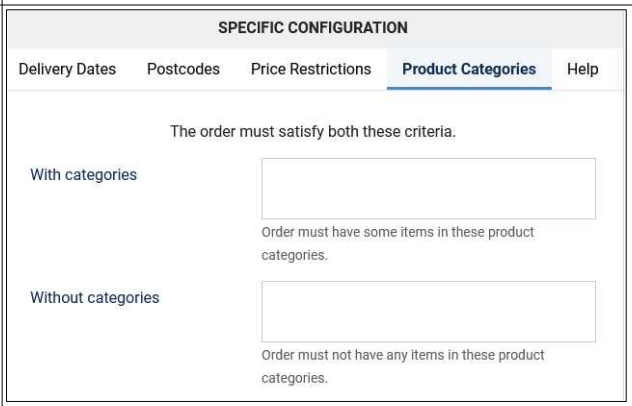


The *Delivery date* option is only available when the separately available Hikashop plugin *plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates* is installed, enabled and the corresponding delivery date Hikashop custom field type configured on the *order* table.



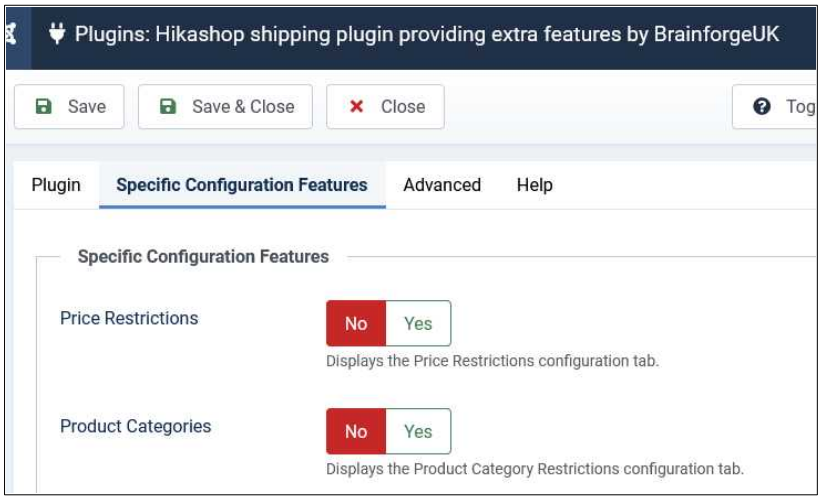
The *Postcode format* option is only available when one or more of the separately available Joomla plug-ins of type *plg_hikashopbfpostcodes* are installed, and enabled.





The following built-in features are only available when enabled in the plugin-options.

- Price Restrictions
- Product Categories

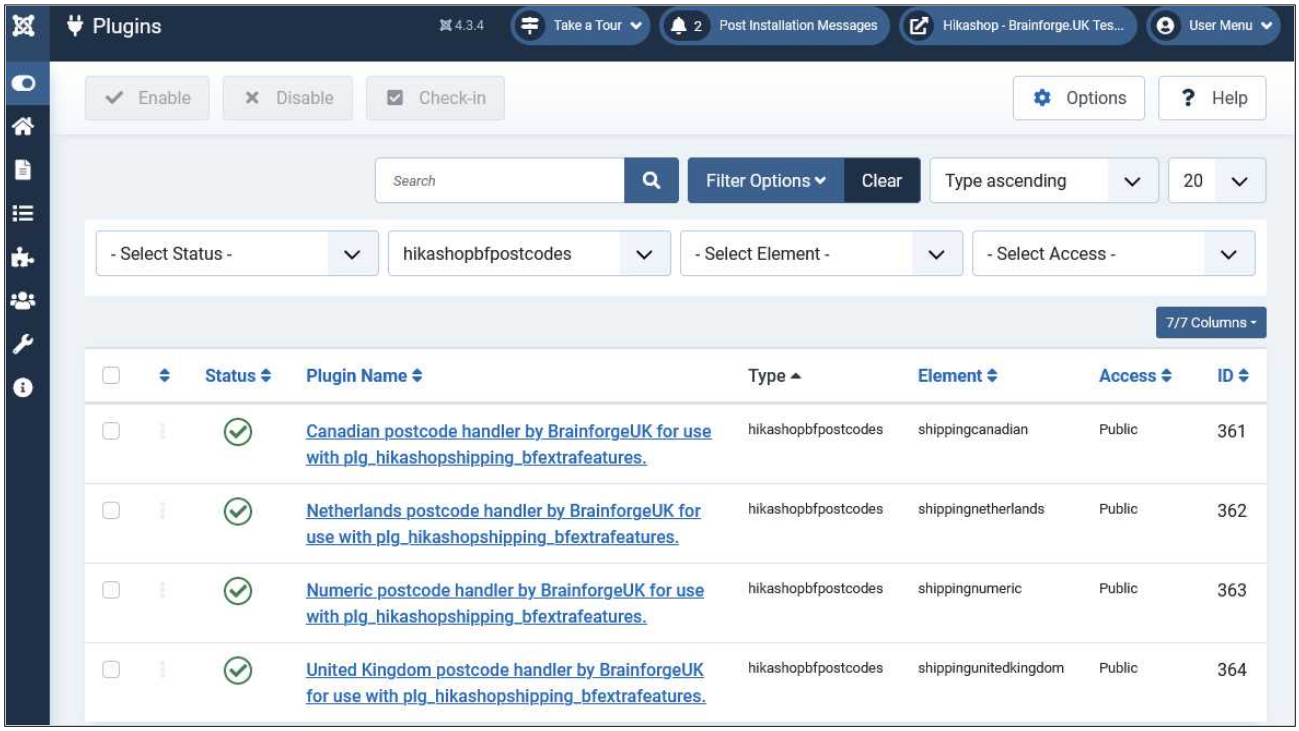


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2.1.1 Supplied Postcode Formats

Most sites will only require one of the examples listed to be installed and enabled.
Other postcode formats available on request. Please contact us for further information.

These examples provide simple customer entered postcode format validation. This will detect where an O (letter) has been entered instead of a 0 (zero). Please contact us if you wish to use a database of all valid postcodes or postcode areas.



2.1.2 Valid Postcode Field Format (applies to all postcode formats)

Enter into this field a space separated list of postcodes (or first part thereof i.e. the area identifier).

Postcodes can be entered either as several on one line (space separated) or singly one on each line.

Regular expressions can be used to define valid postcodes.

Spaces in these postcodes can be included as underscore ('_').
For example in the United Kingdom PO1 1AA must be entered as PO1_1AA.

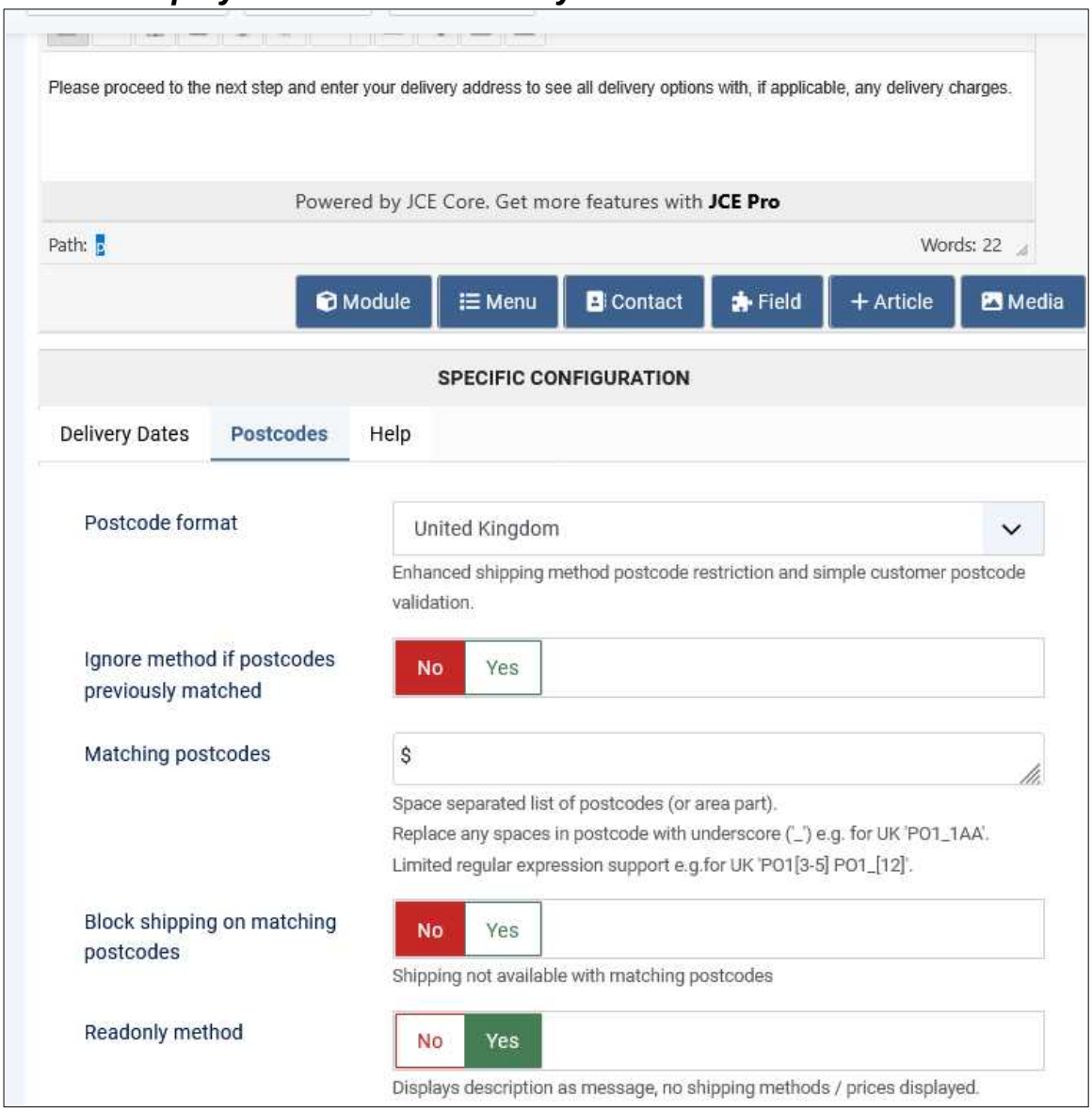
Comment lines can be included in the valid postcode list, the first character must be a hash (#).

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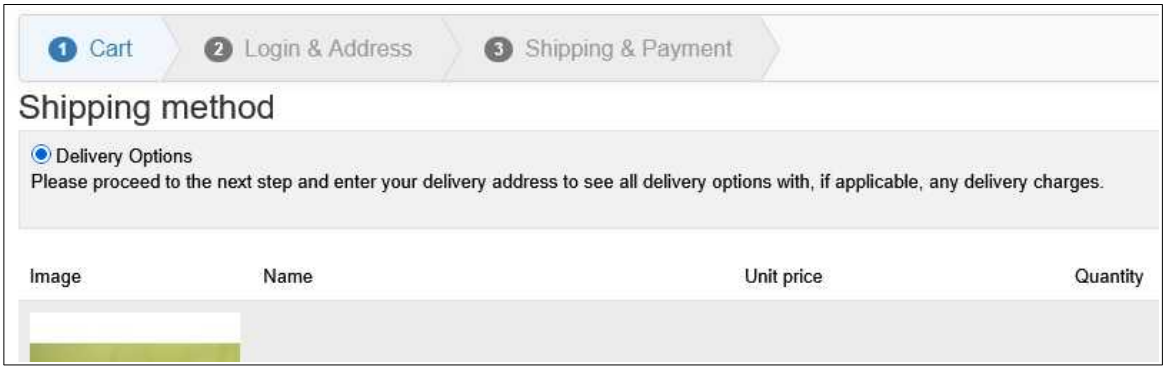
2.1.3 Read-only shipping method

This feature allows you to display a message instead of a shipping method / price.
Some scenarios where this feature might be useful are illustrated below.

2.1.3.1 Cart displayed before the delivery address has been entered.

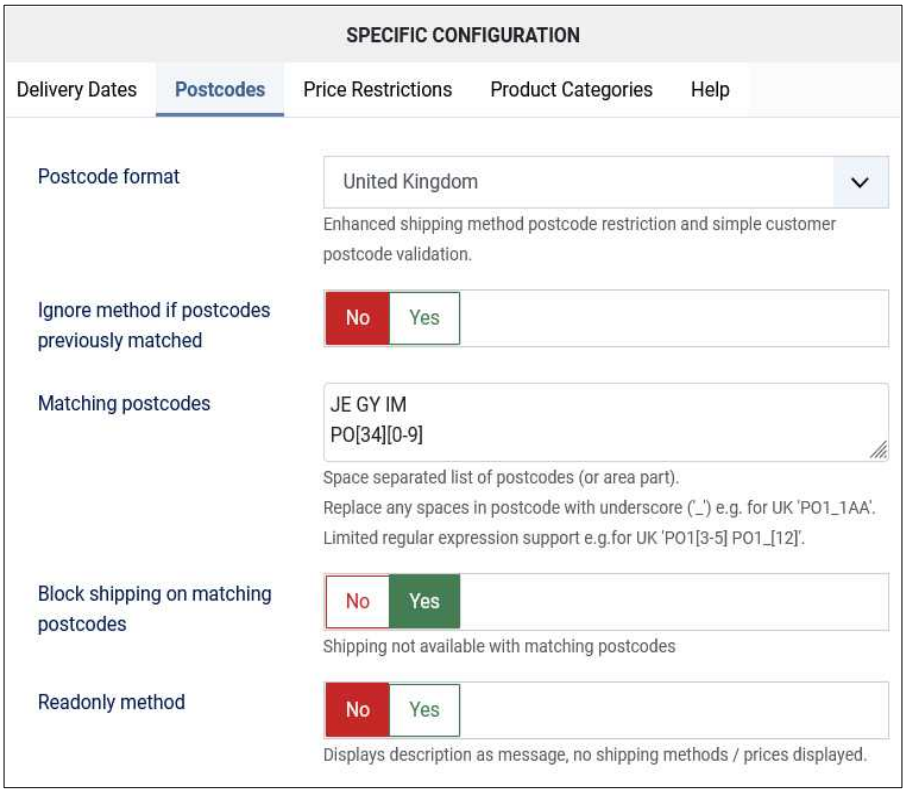


Checkout Display



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2.1.3.2 Blocked Postcodes (e.g. Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight).



For these postcodes no shipping method will be available and this message displayed at checkout:

No shipping method for postcode.

Alternatively you might want to cater for those blocked postcodes like this:

Elsewhere (except Scottish Islands and Highlands)	£ 2.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom AB[3-5][1-9] FK1[7-9] FK21 KA2[78] KW0 KW1[0-7] PA[2-7][0-9] PA[2-7][0-9] PH1[5-9] PH[23][0-9] PH4[5-9] PH[5-9][0-9] IV ZE Shipping not available
Scottish Islands and Highlands	£ 20.00	Postcode type: United Kingdom Ignore method if postcodes previously matched

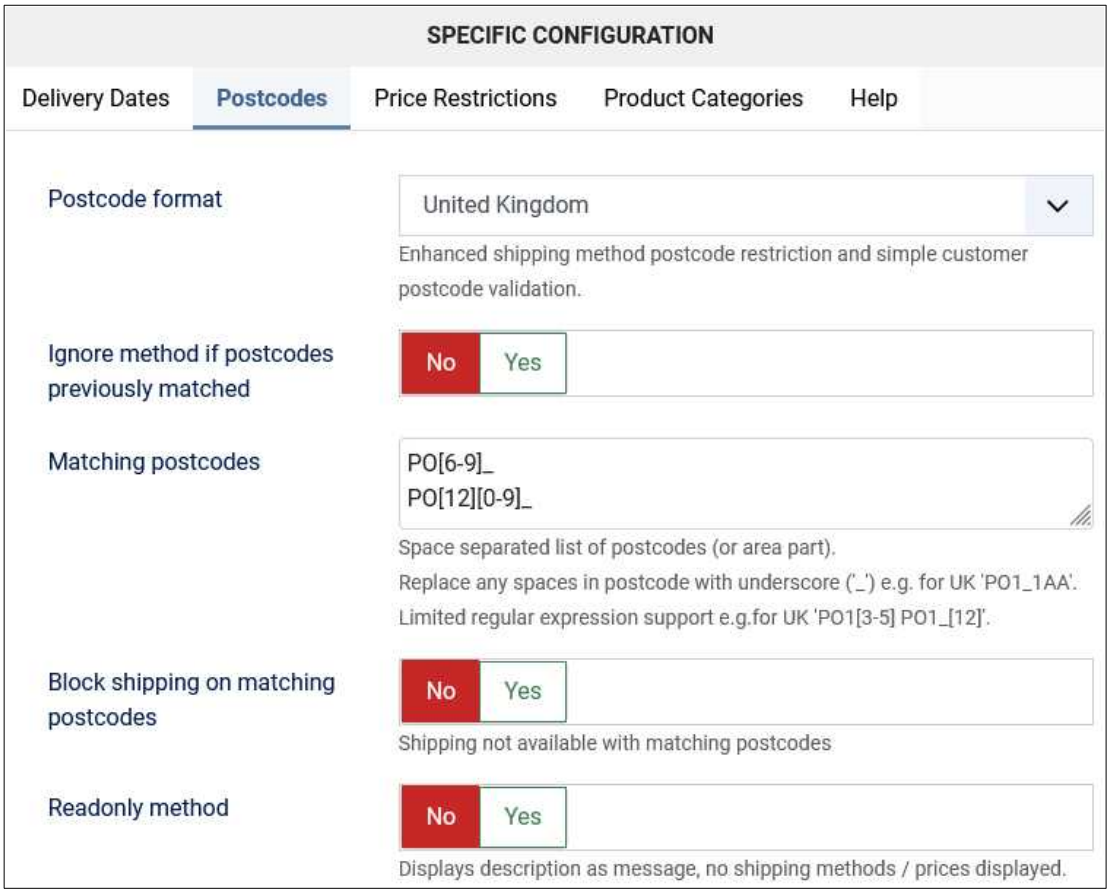
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2.2 Supported Postcode Formats

The following postcode formats are available as additional plugins and usually distributed with this *Extra Features* shipping plugin.

Other formats maybe available or can be implemented on request.

2.2.1 UK Postcode Format



UK Postcode Districts With a Single Digit (e.g. PO1 M1 etc.)

To restrict a shipping method to only PO1 postcodes you must add an underscore (_) suffix (**PO1_**). Just PO1 on its own will match all of PO1, PO11, PO12, PO13 etc…

Using Exclamation To Negate Postcode Match Result

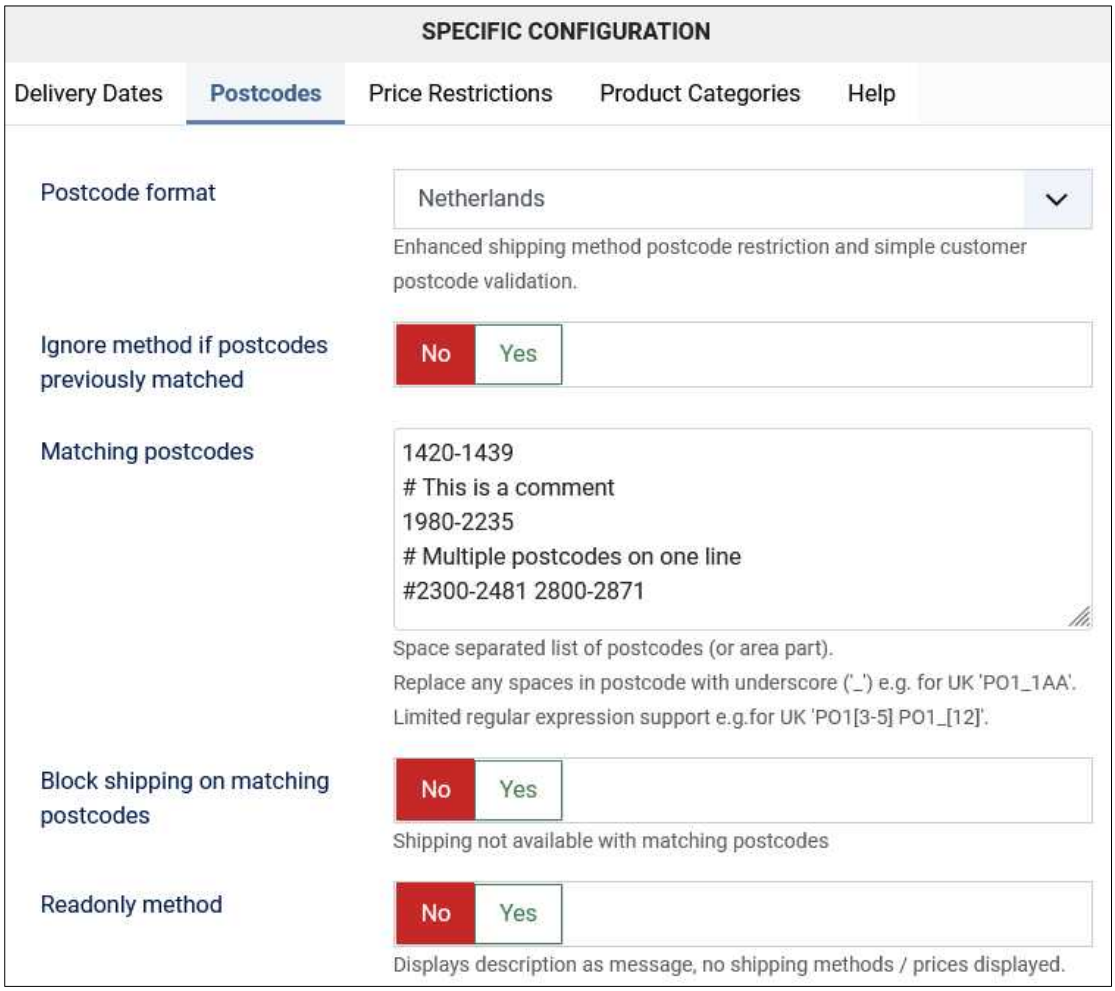
Entering an exclamation mark (!) at the beginning of the *Valid postcodes* field will negate the result.
! PO[1-2]_ will match everything except PO1 and PO2.
In this simple example PO[^1-2]_ would achieve the same result (using regular expression syntax).
This is similar to using the *Block shipping on matching postcodes* parameter.

UK Postcode Districts With a Suffix (e.g. WC1A EC1B etc.)

You can match these using WC1[A-E] WC1[F-Z] or simply WC1 WC2 etc..
There is currently no risk of confusion with WC10 and WC20 as these don't exist.

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2.2.2 Netherlands Postcode Format



This screenshot illustrates how you could define a single shipping method covering Amsterdam, Haarlem and Leiden.

Assuming no other restrictions apply this is easier to implement as a single shipping method than the Hikashop Manual shipping plugin.

Entering an exclamation mark (!) at the beginning of the *Valid postcodes* field will negate the result. For example:

! 1435 2230 2820-2029

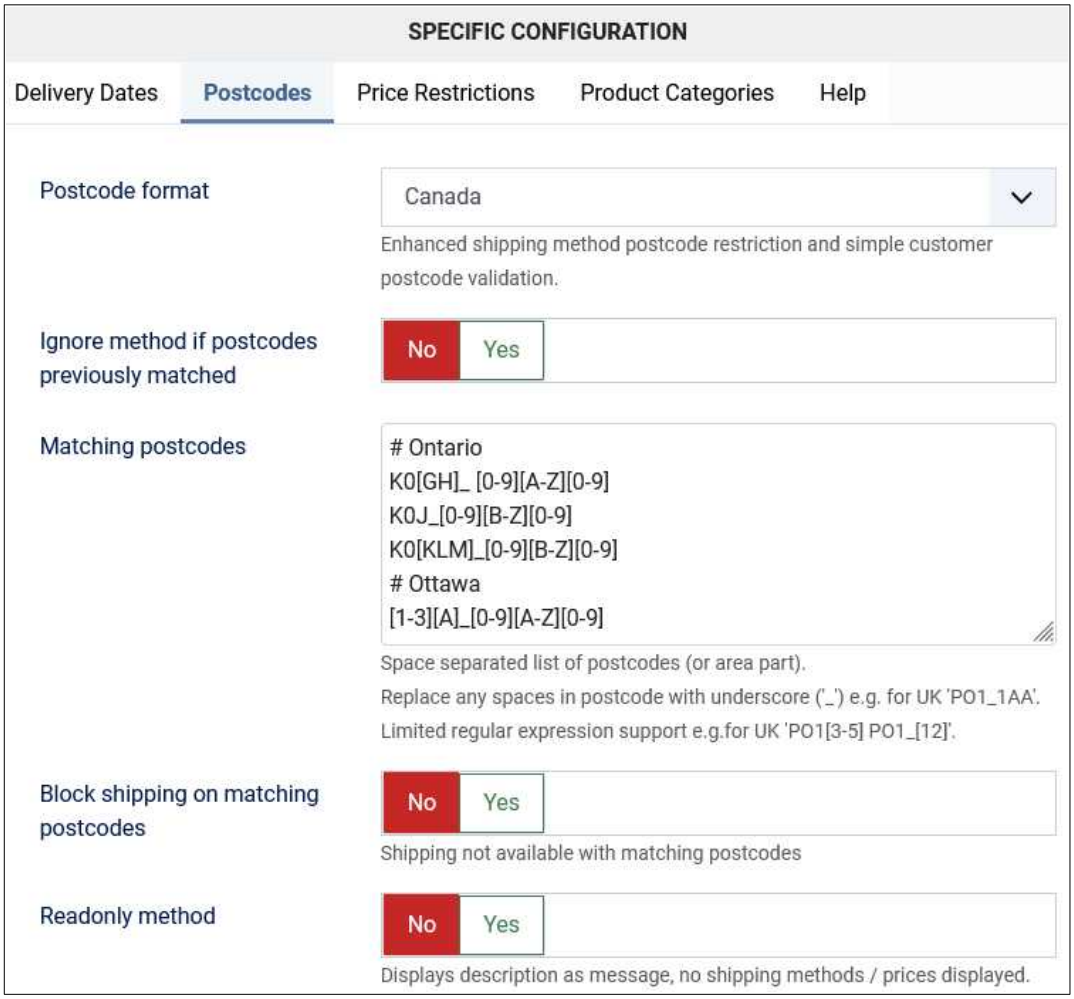
will match everything except 1435 2230 2820, 2821, 2822 etc…

On the Hikashop shipping method admin listing (see screenshot in *Overview* section) this method will appear as follows (*Name* is the name of the shipping method):

Name	Price	Restrictions
Amsterdam, Haarlem and Leiden		Postcode type : Netherlands 1420-1439 1980-2235 2300-2481 2800-2871

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2.2.3 Canada Postcode Format



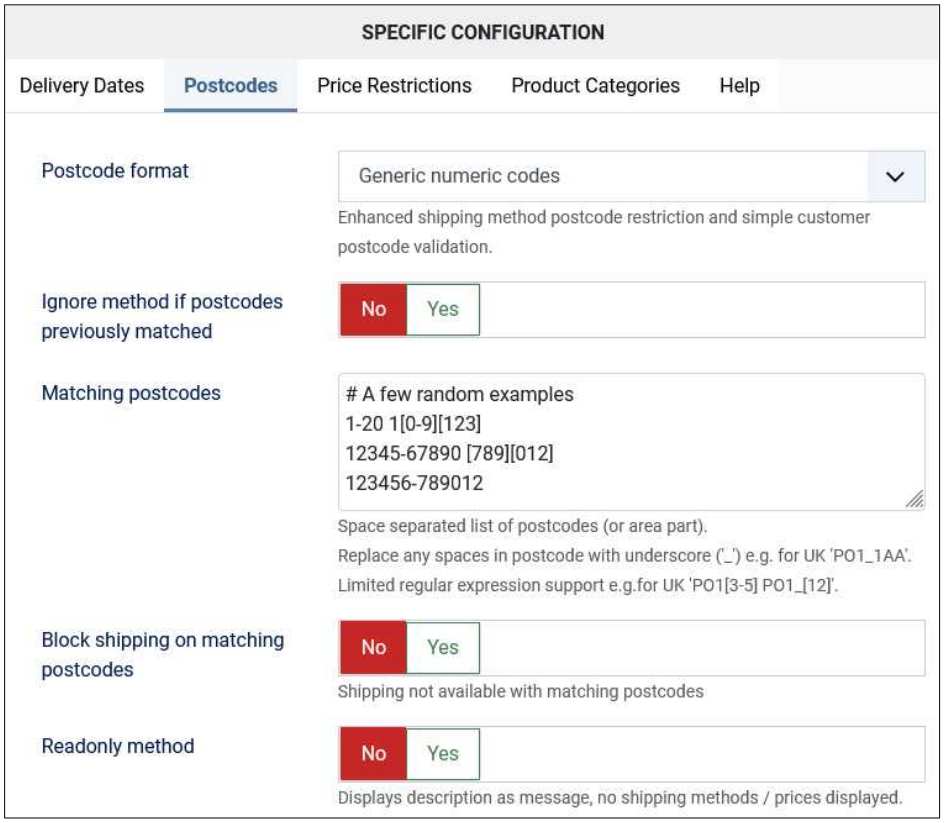
This screenshot illustrates how you could define a single shipping method covering Ottawa and Ottawa.

Assuming no other restrictions apply this is easier to implement as a single shipping method than the Hikashop Manual shipping plugin.

Entering an exclamation mark (!) at the beginning of the *Valid postcodes* field will negate the result.

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2.2.4 Generic Numeric Postcode Format



Assuming no other restrictions apply this is easier to implement as a single shipping method than the Hikashop Manual shipping plugin.

This could be used instead of *Netherlands Postcode Format* examples above but in this case there will not be any validation of the address data (e.g. 123456789 could be entered).

Entering an exclamation mark (!) at the beginning of the *Valid postcodes* field will negate the result.

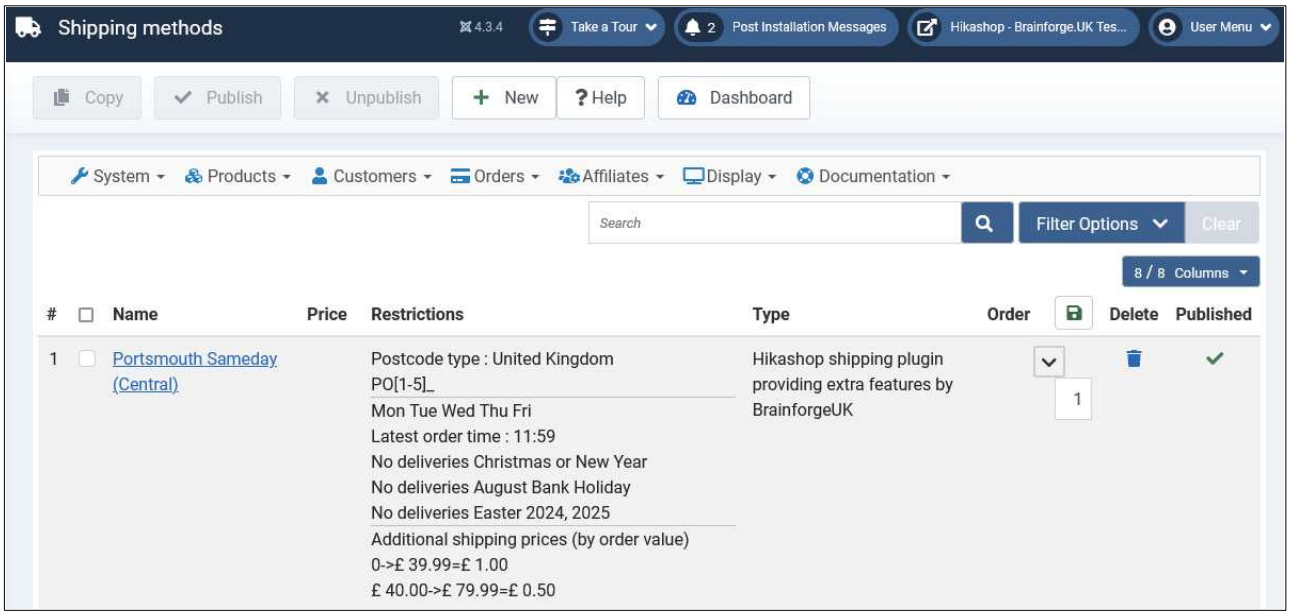
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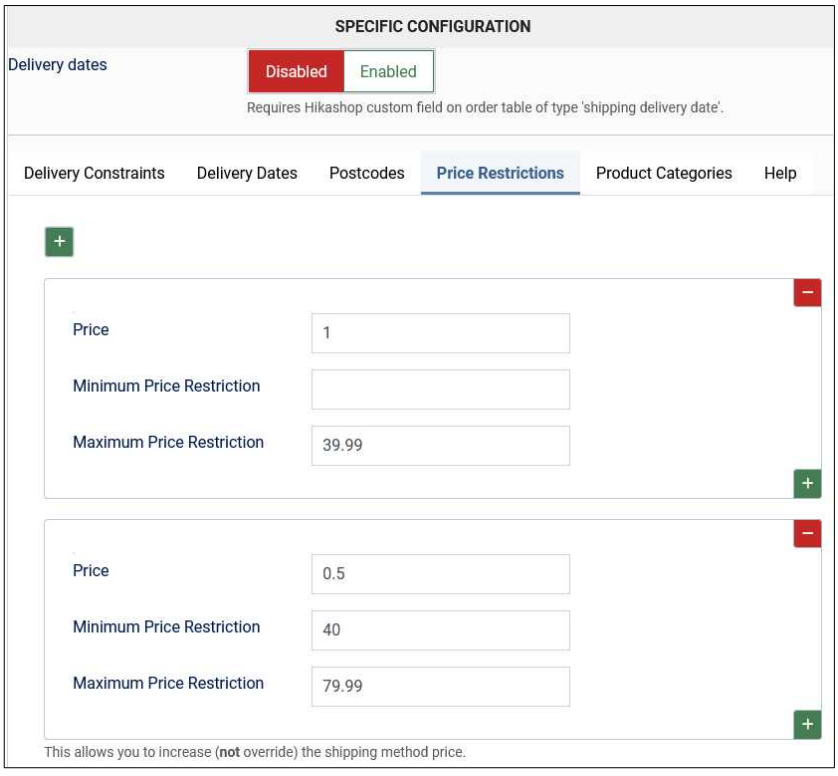
2.5 Price Restrictions

This screenshot illustrates a shipping plugin which has different shipping prices according to the size of the order.

- Shipping charged at £1 for orders below £40.
- Shipping charged at £0.50 for orders above £39.99 and below £80.
- Shipping free for orders over £79.99.

Without this feature implementing this would require 3 shipping methods one for each price criteria. If you have lots of shipping methods for different postcode / delivery date combinations the number of methods can quickly multiply making maintenance difficult.





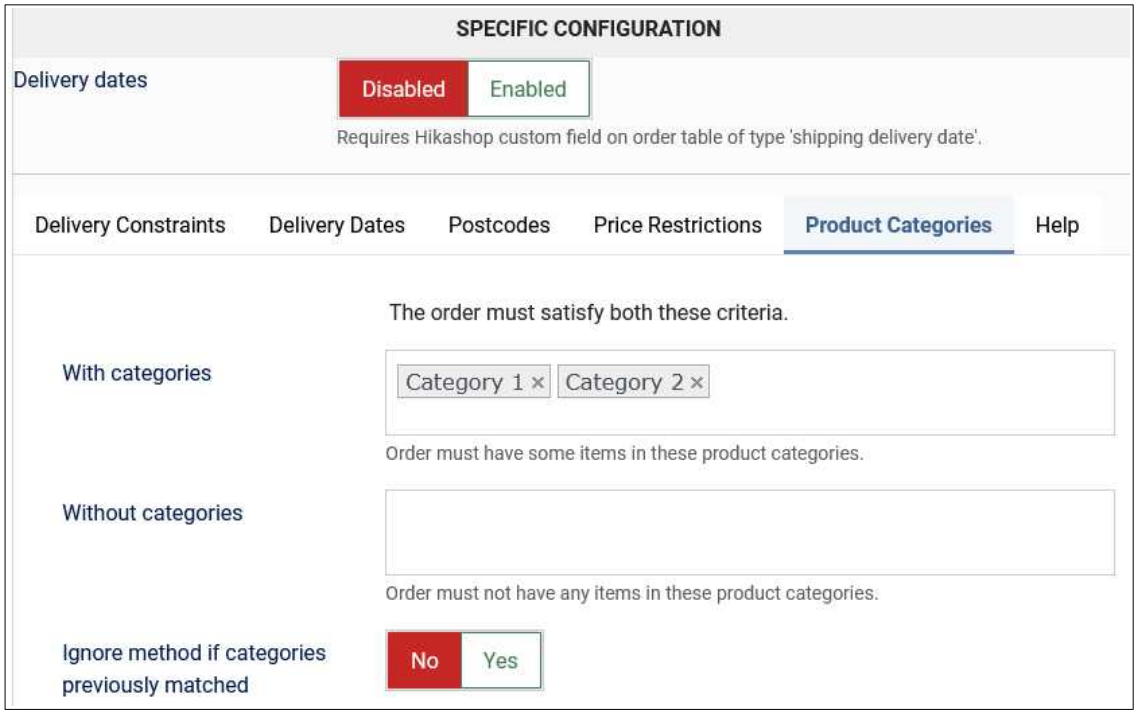
For no *Maximum price restriction* leave this field blank. In the shipping method listing an infinity symbol will be displayed.

For no *Minimum price restriction* leave this field blank. In the shipping method listing 0 (zero) will be displayed.

0->£ 39.99=£ 2.00
£ 40.00->∞=£ 0.00

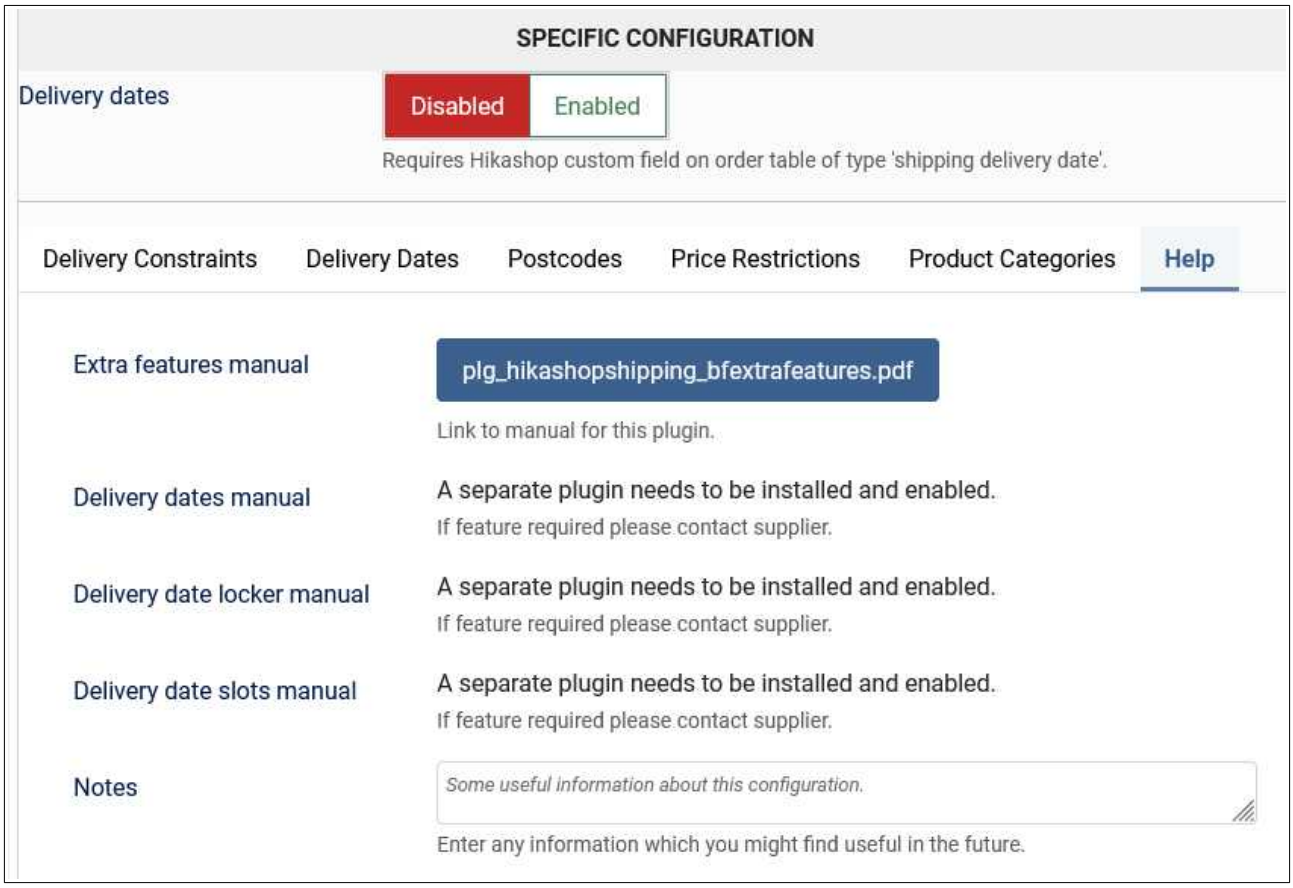
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2.6 Product Categories



3. Online Manuals

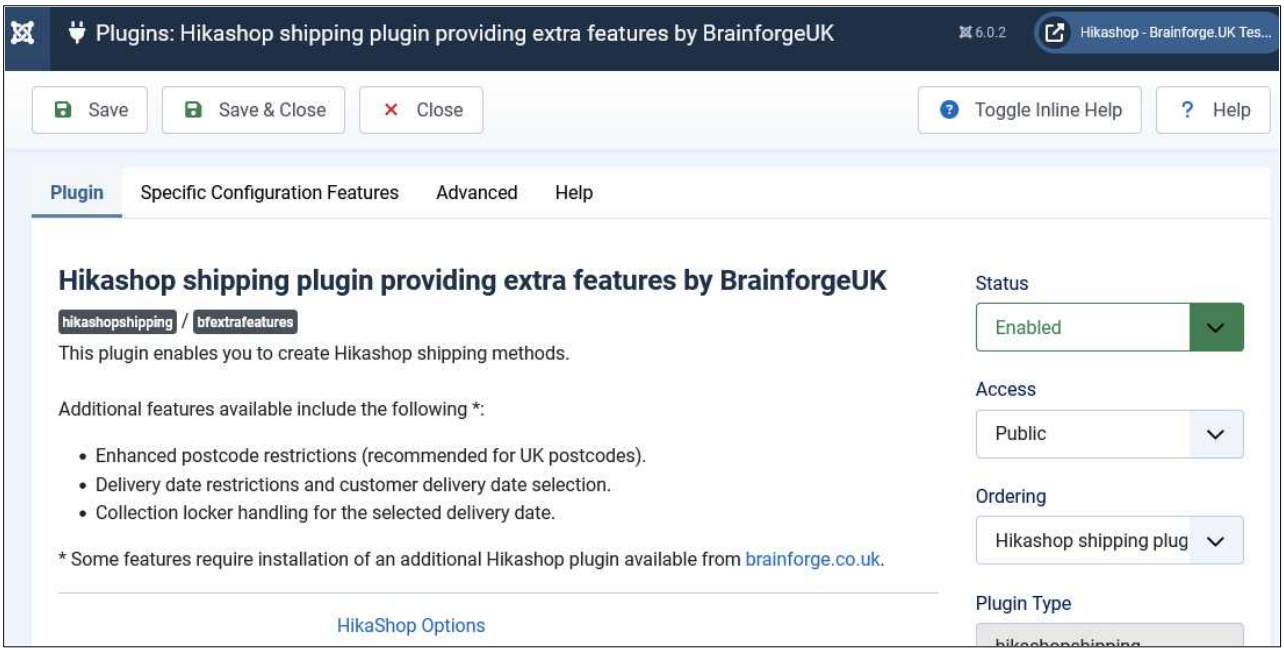
For convenience these are directly available from the Hikashop shipping method edit page.



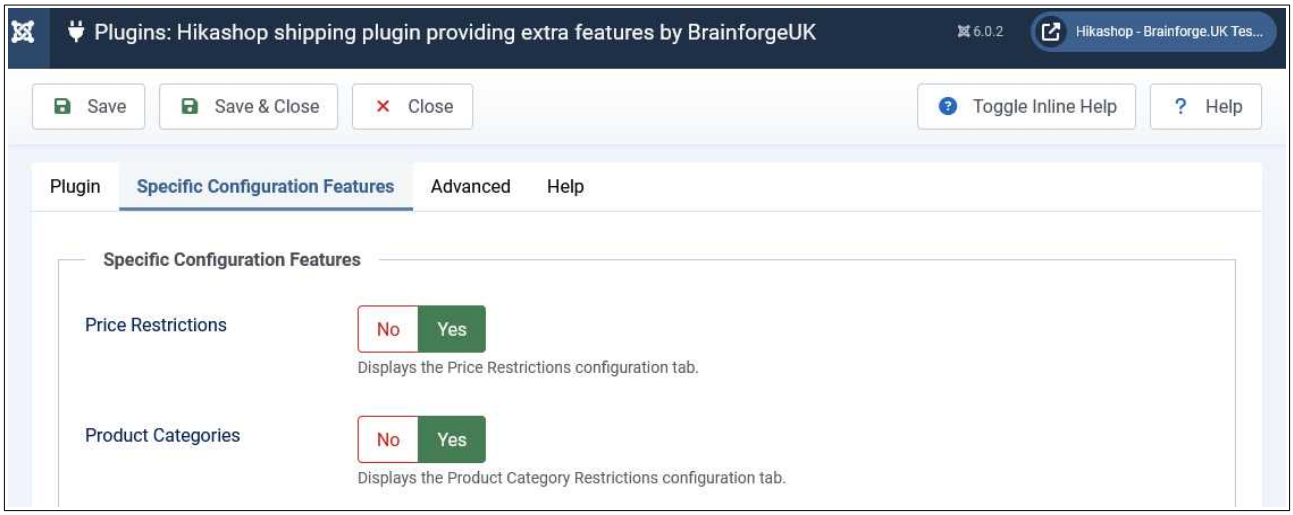
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4 Plugin Parameters

4.1 Basic

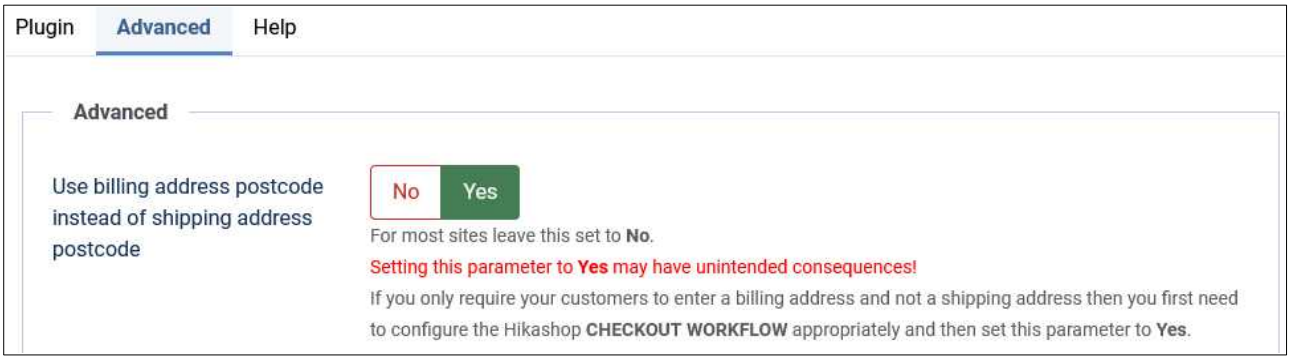


4.2 Specific Configuration Features

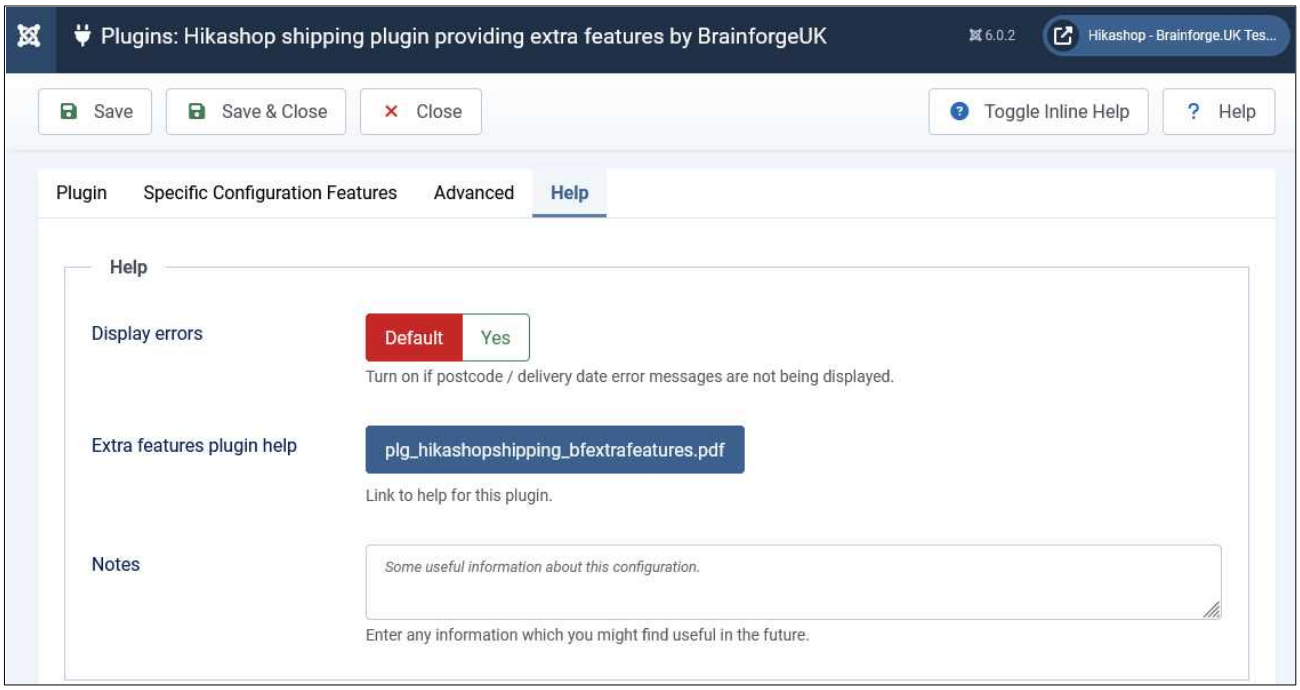


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4.3 Advanced



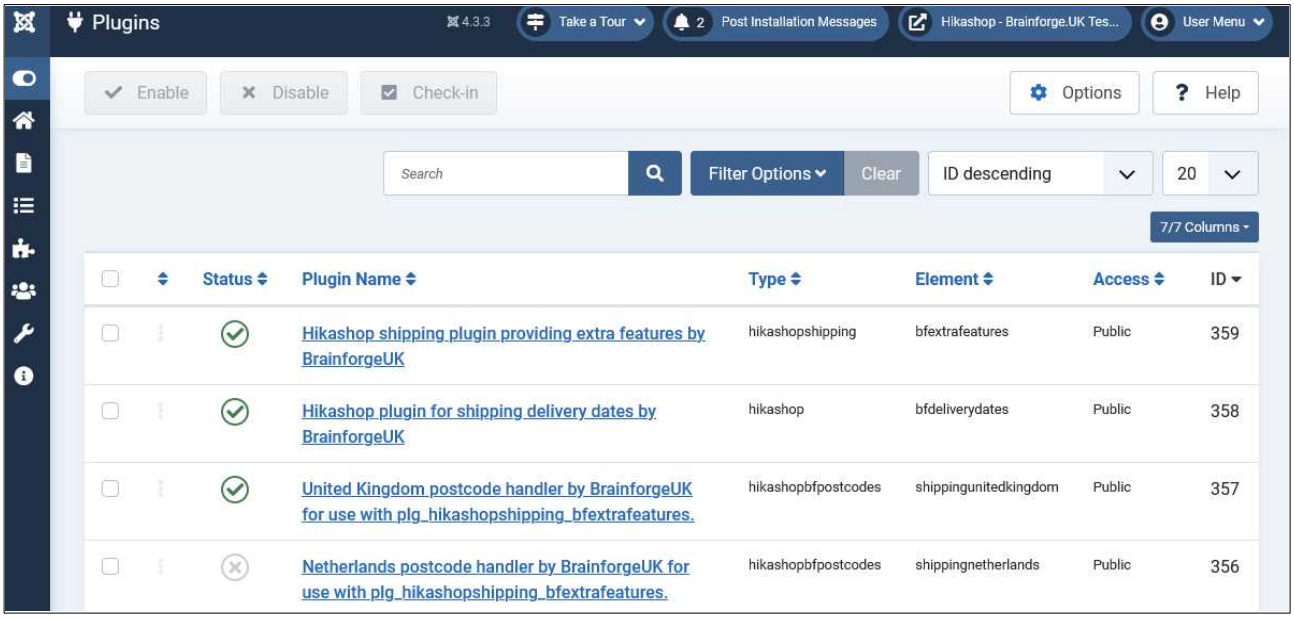
4.4 Help



The help link points to a copy of this document.

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Appendix A Example Plugin Listing (UK Postcodes)



Appendix B Overweight Item Message Example



Appendix C Legacy Shipping Plug-ins Previously Available from Brainforge.UK

This plugin is intended to replace the following plug-ins previously available from https://brainforge.co.uk.

plg_hikashopshipping_bfmanual

plg_hikashop_bforderdeliverydate2

plg_hikashop_bforderdeliveryslot2

Existing customers are recommended to investigate this replacement and, if it suites their purposes, install on their site(s). For more information or in case of difficulty please contact us.

Note that there is no automatic upgrade path – your existing configuration must be re-entered manually.

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Appendix D Upgrading Existing Installations

D.1 Upgrading to v4.0.0 and Above

If installed the following plugins **MUST** be simultaneously upgraded to v4.0.0 (or above).

plg_hikashopshipping_bfextrafeatures

plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates

plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydateslots (depends on plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates)

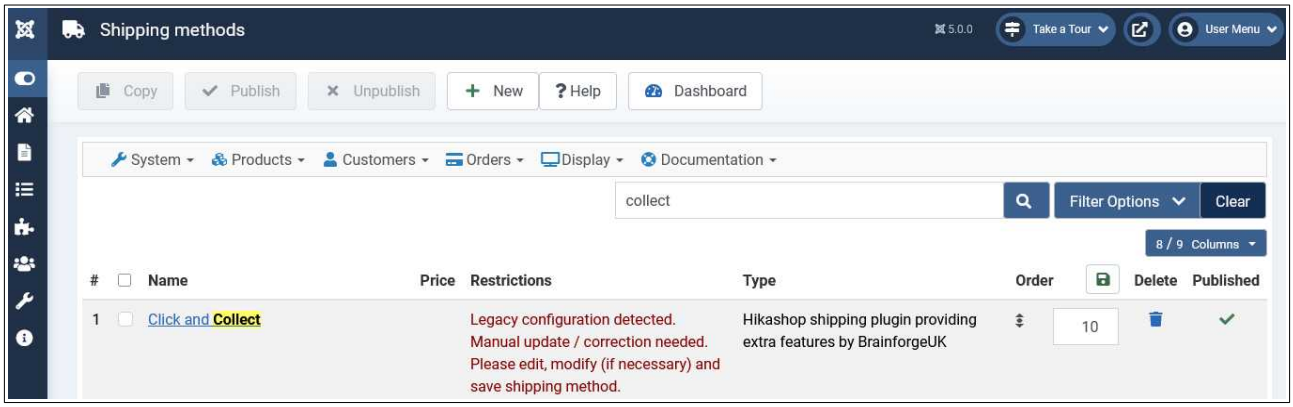
plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydatelocker (depends on plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates)

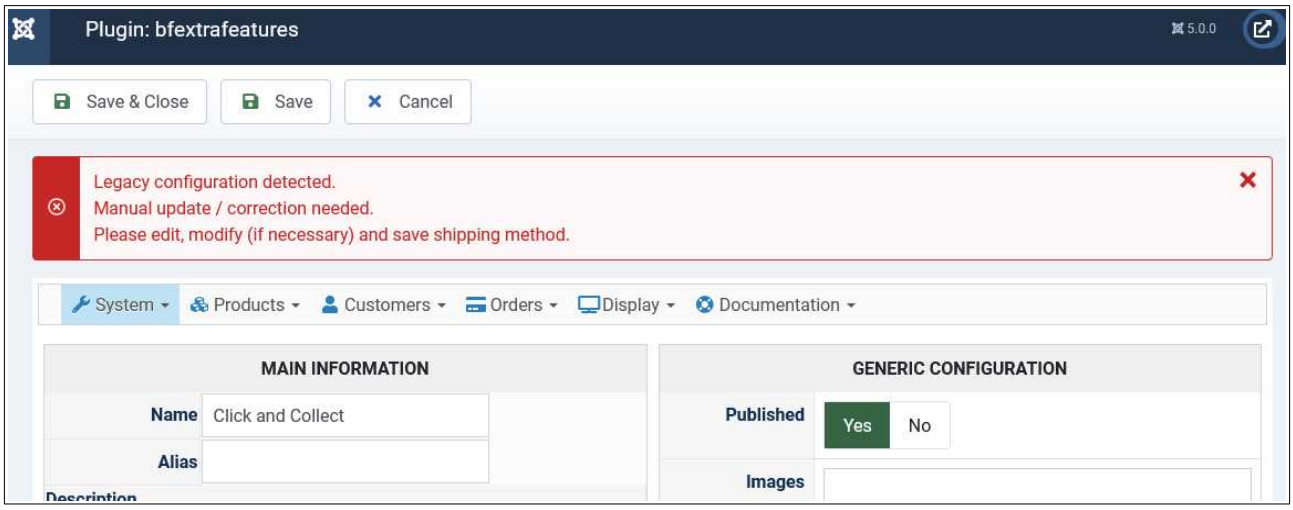
If you are only using postcode plugins the following information does not apply to you.

Following the upgrade some shipping methods using *plg_hikashop_bfdeliverydates* may not be available and require manual intervention. In many cases all that is required is for the shipping method to be saved from the method edit form and the updates will be automatically applied.

This manual step is provided so that you can verify the new configuration.
It also provides you with an opportunity to simplify your configuration by using the new feature for inheriting method parameters from the plugin parameters.

You will be warned when this manual intervention is required from the Hikashop shipping method admin pages, like this:





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