



Data Protection Policy

1. Aim and scope of policy

This policy sets out our approach to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679, Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 and any other applicable data protection legislation. It applies to all personal data we hold relating to any identifiable living person.

We're a data controller and a data processor. We maintain our appropriate registration with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) as per our data controller responsibilities as we process personal data. Our registration number is ZA248321.

We're not currently bound by requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, but we'll provide the regulator with the information they need to respond to any such request.

2. Definitions

Personal data

Data which can identify an individual - for example name, home address, IP address, tenancy reference number and phone number.

Special category data

Data which includes information about racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or similar beliefs, trade union membership, health, criminal offences and genetic or biometric information.

3. Policy

3.1 Principles

We're committed to complying with all data protection legislation and following best practice in the protection of the rights and freedoms of data subjects whose information we collect and process.

3.1.1 Lawful, fair and transparent

We process personal data and special category personal data fairly, lawfully and in a transparent manner.

We apply at least one of the following lawful basis (conditions) when handling personal data:

- Consent - we hold recent, clear, explicit, and defined consent from an individual to process their data for a specific purpose.
- Contract – we process data to fulfil or prepare a contract for the individual.
- Legal obligation - we have a legal obligation to process the data.
- Vital interests – we process the data to protect human life.

- Public interest– we process the data to carry out a task of public interest.
- Legitimate interest – we process data for our legitimate interests e.g. carrying out surveys to help us to improve our services in the interests of our customers.

In addition, for special category data, we also apply at least one of the following conditions:

- Explicit consent
- Employment law, social security and social protection law
- Vital interests
- Carried out by foundation, association or not-for-profit body with a political, philosophical, religious or trade union aim
- Data made public by the data subject
- Establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- Substantial public interest
- Purposes of preventative or occupational medicine
- Public interest (public health)
- Public interest (archiving, scientific or historical research or statistical purposes)

We maintain an Information Asset Register (IAR) which outlines our processing activities. It states what data we hold, where we hold it, why we hold it, who we share it with and how long we retain it for. We keep this register up to date and relevant.

3.1.2 Limited for its purpose

We only collect data for specific purposes. Our privacy notice is available on our website and VIV, it details what data we process and why.

3.1.3 Data minimisation

We collect necessary data which is not excessive for its purpose.

3.1.4 Accurate

We work towards ensuring that personal data we process is accurate, for example by using system prompts to tell us when customer information is due for review.

3.1.5 Retention

We retain personal data for no longer than is necessary by following our Data Retention Schedule.

3.1.6 Integrity and confidentiality

We keep personal data secure against loss or misuse by following our Information Systems Security and Acceptable Use Policy.

Any personal data breaches are managed in accordance with our Breach Reporting Procedure.

Our data processing agreement reflects where third parties process personal data on our behalf.

3.2 Rights of individuals

Individuals have rights to their data which we respect and comply as per our regulatory obligations.

3.2.1 Right to be informed

We provide concise, transparent, intelligible and easily accessible privacy notices free of charge.

We keep a record of how we use personal data to demonstrate compliance with the need for accountability and transparency.

3.2.2 Right of access

We facilitate individuals' access to their personal data upon an access request.

3.2.3 Right to rectification

We'll correct an individual's personal data if it is inaccurate or incomplete.

3.2.4 Right to erasure

We'll erase personal data and cease processing, upon request, unless we have a lawful basis to continue processing.

If personal data has been processed by third parties, we will inform them of their obligations to erase the data.

3.2.5 Right to restrict processing

We'll restrict, block, or suppress the processing of personal data upon request, unless we have a lawful basis to continue processing;

3.2.6 Right to data portability

We'll provide personal data to an individual upon request, so that it can be reused for their purposes, free of charge and in a commonly used, machine-readable format.

3.2.7 Right to object

We'll respect an individual's right to object to certain processing for example, marketing to individuals. We'll explain if there are circumstances which mean we are unable to do this.

3.2.8 Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling

We'll offer simple ways to request human intervention or challenge any automated decision.

3.3 Third parties

We've contracts in place with third parties who handle your data. This will detail both ours and their liabilities, obligations and responsibilities. We only appoint processors who can provide sufficient guarantees of compliance with data protection legislation.

If we act as a data processor for a data controller, we'll act on the instructions of the controller and acknowledge our responsibilities as a data processor.

3.4 Reporting breaches

In line with our Breach Reporting procedure, any breach of data protection laws must be reported immediately to the Governance team and your line manager. We'll report any high-risk data breaches to the ICO within 72 hours.

3.5 Data Protection Impact Assessments

We're required to undertake an impact assessment on projects, new technologies or changes in the way in which we process personal data. An impact assessment helps us to identify and appropriately address any privacy risks or concerns when processing an individual's information.

3.6 Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

We've a number of CCTV cameras located within our properties and our offices. The purpose of these cameras is to detect, prevent and reduce the incidence of crime, to investigate anti-social behaviour cases, protect our properties and assets and for the safety of our staff. We manage the camera equipment, images and footages to ensure that we are compliant with data protection laws.

4. Responsibilities

All staff must:

- fully understand and comply with this policy
- complete data protection online training annually

Information Governance Manager/ Data Protection Officer has:

- overall responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of this policy
- responsibility for arranging data protection training and providing professional advice as required
- responsibility for liaising directly with the ICO

Executive team:

- will review and approve this policy on an annual basis

5. Related documents

- Data Retention Schedule
- Privacy Notice (available on our website and VIV)
- Data Protection Impact Assessment
- Breach Reporting Procedure
- Breach Reporting form
- Information Systems Security and Acceptable Use Policy

Author	Owner	Date approved	Review date
Lauren Cannon	Data Protection Officer	May 2020	May 2021