# Sample Data Protection Policy

# Please Note

# This sample policy is based upon CVS Cheshire East’s own policy and each organisation’s data will be totally different so do not assume this policy can be adopted as it is. Your organisation will need to assess what data it holds, whether it is a data controller, processor or both of that data and what your organisation’s legal basis for holding that data is – see Information Commissioner’s Website for guidance: :<https://ico.org.uk/>

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# Introduction

[Organisation name] is fully committed to compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the UKGDPR which came into effect on 1st January 2021, which would have implications should our organisation transfer any data between the UK and EEA. The organisation will also comply with the [Data Protection and Digital Information Bill](https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3430) act of March 2023.

[Organisation name], acts as both the data controller and processor (***this may not be the case for your organisation so revise as necessary***) for the purposes of data protection and will therefore follow procedures that aim to ensure that all employees, trustees, volunteers, contractors or partners of the organisation who have access to any personal data held by or on behalf of the organisation, are fully aware of and abide by their duties and responsibilities of the Act and Regulations.

# Statement of Policy

In order to operate efficiently, [Organisation name] has to collect and use information about people with whom it works. These may include members of the public, current, past and prospective employees, clients and customers, and suppliers. In addition, it may be required to collect and use information in order to comply with the requirements of funding agreements. This personal information must be handled and dealt with properly, however it is collected, recorded and used, and whether it be on paper, in computer records or recorded by any other means, and there are safeguards within the Act to ensure this.

The organisation regards the lawful and correct treatment of personal information as very important to its successful operations and to maintaining confidence between the organisation and those with whom it carries out business.

To this end, the organisation fully endorses and adheres to the principles of the Act and Regulations.

[Organisation name] has appointed a Senior Responsible Individual (SRI). This must be a member of senior management and will be responsible for monitoring data protection compliance.

# *Name of Senior Responsible Individual: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

# *Contact information for SRI: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

# The Principles of Processing

[Organisation name] will follow these general principles when acting as a data controller.

Personal information:

1. Shall be processed fairly and lawfully and, in particular, shall not be processed unless specific conditions are met

2. Shall be obtained only for one or more specified and lawful purposes and shall not be further processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes

3. Shall be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose or purposes for which it is processed

4. Shall be accurate and where necessary, kept up to date

5. Shall not be kept for longer than is necessary for that purpose or those purposes

6. Shall be processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects under the Act

7. Shall be kept secure i.e. protected by an appropriate degree of security

8. Shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of data protection.

The Act/Regulations provide conditions for the processing of any personal data. They also make a distinction between **personal data** and **special category data**.

Personal data is defined as meaning any information relating to an identifiable person who can be directly or indirectly identified, in particular by reference to an identifier.

This definition provides for a wide range of personal identifiers to constitute personal data, including, name, identification number, location data, online identifier, reflecting changes in technology and the way the organisation collects information about people.

The Act/Regulations apply to both automated personal data and to manual filing systems where personal data are accessible according to specific criteria.

Personal data that has been pseudonymised – e.g. key-coded – can fall within the scope of the Act/Regulations depending on how difficult it is to attribute the pseudonym to a particular individual. The organisation will ensure whenever it codes data it will use a system which cannot be easily attributed to individual e.g. not using initials.

Special category data is defined as personal data consisting of information as to:

* Racial or ethnic origin
* Political opinion
* Religious or other beliefs
* Trade union membership
* Physical or mental health or condition
* Sexual life

To process data about criminal proceedings or convictions the organisation must have a lawful basis for undertaking this. [Organisation name] currently does not hold any data about service users and will only hold any information if relevant for staffing DBS purposes.

# Lawful Basis for Processing

***NOTE – this section of your organisation’s policy will need to be based on what data you hold and your own determination of the lawful basis upon which you are processing it – see*** [***ICO website***](https://ico.org.uk/) ***for guidance***

Within the Act/Regulations there are six lawful bases for processing data. [Organisation name] has reviewed these and has identified that it will process data under 4 of the headers, Consent, Legitimate interests, Legal and Contract.

**Consent** – within this lawful basis the individual must have given clear consent for the organisation to process their personal data for a specific purpose.

**Legitimate interests** – this process is necessary for the organisation’s legitimate interests in order to deliver our services. This is used in instances where people’s data would reasonably be expected to be used for the purpose and has minimal privacy impact.

**Legal** – this processing is necessary for us to comply with the law.

**Contract** – this processing is necessary for a contract we have with an individual, or because they have asked us to take specific steps before entering into a contract.

Appendix 1 shows which areas of our service will be used to process personal data. Categories of personal data marked with an \* are classed as special category data. We will minimise the collection of special category data and only do so when legally required or if there is a specific purpose.

In deciding to use legitimate interest for the processing of personal data, [Organisation name] has carried out a Legitimate Interests Assessment (LIA). The LIA identified that we needed to collect this information in order to maintain the service. None of the information collected was sensitive special data and would have a minimal impact on an individual.

Guidelines for the collection and processing of personal data

**Acquisition of personal data**

When obtaining personal data, the organisation will ensure that we will tell data subjects:

* The purpose(s) for which the data is being gathered
* The lawful basis under which the data is being processed
* Obtain their explicit consent using clear language, especially if special category data is being collected
* Inform them that the orgnisation will be the data controller for the Act
* Inform them of any third-party data processers who will manage their data
* Disclose the identities of any other persons or organisations to whom the data may be disclosed
* The decision-making process used to determine the retention period
* The existence of each data subject rights and how they can contact us
* The right to lodge a complaint with the ICO
* Whether the provision of personal data is part of a statutory or contractual requirement or obligation and possible consequences of failing to provide the personal data

Appendix 2 shows when and how [Organisation name] will tell the data subjects about the above information.

No more data than is necessary for the declared purpose(s) will be collected.

**Holding/safeguarding/disposal of personal data:** Data will not be held for longer than necessary.

When data has reached the retention duration such data will be earmarked for destruction. Appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that data cannot be reconstructed or processed by third parties.

Processing of personal data

Personal data will only be processed for the purpose(s) for which they were obtained or for a similar purpose. If the new purpose is different, the data subject’s consent will need to be obtained.

**Disclosures and transfers of personal data**

The organisation aims to protect the confidentiality of those whose personal data it holds. Employees and volunteers of the organisation may not disclose any information without the consent of the data subject.

It is [Organisation name]’s policy that it will not transfer data outside of the organisation without the data subject’s consent.

[Organisation name] uses data processors to manage some of the personal data that it holds *(****assess your own organisation’s position in relation to this****)*. The organisation will ensure that there is a written contract in place with the data processor to ensure that both parties understand their responsibilities and liabilities. This will include ensuring they are able to provide information from any requests within relevant time frames.

In addition, [Organisation name] will ensure that:

* There is someone with specific responsibility for data protection in the organisation
* Everyone managing and handling personal information understands that they are contractually responsible for following good data protection practice
* Everyone managing and handling personal information is appropriately trained to do so
* Everyone managing and handling personal information is appropriately supervised
* Anyone wanting to make enquiries about handling personal information, whether a member of staff or a member of the public, knows what to do;
* Queries about handling personal information are promptly and courteously dealt with
* All processing activities will be documented and include maintaining records on several things such as processing purposes, data sharing and retention
* Methods of handling personal information are regularly assessed and evaluated and include consideration of pseudonymisation, transparency and improving security features-
* Performance with handling personal information is regularly assessed and evaluated
* Data sharing is carried out under a written agreement, setting out the scope and limits of the sharing. Any disclosure of personal data will be in compliance with approved procedures
* There are robust breach detection, investigation and internal reporting and recording procedures in place. These will facilitate decision-making about when the organisation will be required to notify the ICO and the affected individuals.

Data subject’s rights

**Under the Act/Regulations individuals have the:**

* **Right of Access -** individuals have the right of access to their personal data and supplementary information
* **Right to rectification -** individuals are entitled to have personal data rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete or is needed to be changed
* **Right to erasure -** individuals have the right to request the deletion or removal of their personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
* **Right to restrict processing -** individuals have the right to ‘block’ or suppress the processing of personal data. It can still be stored but not further process it
* **Right to data portability -** the individuals are able to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes across different services. This allows them to move, copy or transfer personal data easily from one IT environment to another in a safe and secure way
* **Right to object - i**ndividuals have the right to object to processing on legitimate interest of the performance of a task in the public interest, direct marketing and processing for purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics.

[Organisation name] is fully committed to facilitating the rights of individuals under the Act/Regulations (‘applicants’) to their personal data, while bearing in mind the need to protect other individual’s rights of privacy.

All individuals are able under the Act/Regulations to request to obtain:

* Confirmation that their data is being processed
* Access to their personal data and
* Other supplementary information which the organisation will make available in the privacy notice

Individuals have this right so that they are aware of and can verify the lawfulness of the processing.

If any request involves providing information relating to another individual (a ‘third party individual’) then the organisation reserves the right to not comply with the request unless:

* The third party has consented to the disclosure or
* It is reasonable in all the circumstances to comply with the request without the consent of the third-party individual

[Organisation name] would expect to provide many requests within the course of normal business for example, checking contact phone numbers and email addresses. These would be dealt with informally, however we will check the identity of the applicant.

When responding to a formal request the organisation will require:

* Information to be sure of the applicant’s identity. If the organisation has cause to doubt the identity of the applicant additional reasonable evidence will be requested.
* Any additional information to enable us to find the relevant records. If additional information is needed from the applicant this will be done promptly

If [Organisation name] holds no personal information on the applicant then this will be reported.

The organisation will not make any changes to information once a request has been received. All terms or codes will be explained within the response.

The organisation may not provide the information if the request if found to be manifestly unfounded or excessive. The organisation would explain this clearly to the individual outlining their right to raise a complaint either internally to [insert name] or with the ICO.

[Organisation name] may not be able to grant one of the rights due to legal or contractual requirements. The organisation would explain this clearly to the individual outlining their right to raise a complaint either internally to [**insert data protection lead name**] or with the ICO.

**Rights related to automated decision-making including profiling** – the organisation would not expect to receive any requests under this right as it does not carry out automated decision making or profiling based on personal data.

Reporting Personal Data breaches

[Organisation name] will have a designated **Senior Responsible Individual** who is responsible for compliance with legislation and to whom all data breach concerns will be reported to and assessed.

[Organisation name] will comply with all duties laid out by the ICO on reporting data breaches. Where it is required, reporting will take place within 72 hours of becoming aware of the breach.

As an action of good practice the organisation will inform individuals of any breach which impacts their data and those where the breach is likely to result in a high risk of adversely affecting individuals’ rights and freedoms. The organisation will inform these individuals without undue delay.

**Review**

This policy will be reviewed periodically to take into account changes in the law and guidance issued by the Information Commissioner

# *Note*

*Your organisation’s policy will need to include appendices based upon your relevant lawful basis– these appendices are included as examples only. Each organisation’s appendices will need to be different based their own data and the lawful basis being relied upon.*

Appendix 1 – Lawful Basis

***Note – This is an example based on CVS data- your content will be different***

**Consent**

*Note – Example content below – please replace with your own content*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of service** | **Categories of personal data** | **Intended use of data** | **Shared with 3rd Party** |
| E-bulletin sign up | e-mail address | Send E-bulletin | No |
|  |  |  |  |

**Legitimate Interest**

*Note - Content is an example only based on CVS data- your content will be different*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of service** | **Categories of personal data** | **Intended use of data** | **Shared with 3rd Party** |
| General data collected to record the activities delivered against individuals. | Name | Contact regarding development / Volunteering / Voice work delivered by CVS  This is our general development work delivered to members e.g. a meeting about funding advice. | No |
| Address | No |
| Phone number | No |
| Email | No |
| Relationship to organisation | No |
| Role in organisation | No |

**Legal**

*Note - Content is an example only based on CVS data- your content will be different*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of service** | **Categories of personal data** | **Shared / Managed by third party** |
| HR - Current Employees | Contact details | SAS Daniels |
| Emergency contact details | SAS Daniels & on sharepoint |
| Holiday record | SAS Daniels |
| performance management details | Saved in Sharepoint |
| CV information | Paper copy in filing cabinet |
| Disability \* | Paper copy in filing cabinet |
| Copy of Passport | Paper copy in filing cabinet |
| Car insurance details | Paper copy in filing cabinet |
| Gender | SAS Daniels |
| marriage status\* | SAS Daniels |
| Criminal record - if applicable | Paper copy in filing cabinet |
| Ethnicity\* | SAS Daniels |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Appendix 2 – Acquisition of Personal data

***Note – This is an example based on CVS data- your content will be different***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Acquisition of Personal Data** | **Method to share** | **When this is shared** |
| The purpose(s) for which the data is being gathered | Email / webpage / leaflet /Form with the information. | At the time of consent |
| obtain their explicit consent using clear language, especially if special category data is being collected | Email / webpage / leaflet /Form with the information | At the time of consent |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

# POLICY DATED (*insert date when approved by trustees/board): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

# SIGNED (Chair of the meeting): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# REVIEW DATE: *2 years after date of policy*