



# Owslebury Parish Council Data Protection Policy

Adopted by the Council in January 2023

Reconfirmed on 13 December 2021

Reviewed and Adopted 16 January 2023

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## 1. The General Data Protection Regulation 2018

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into effect in the UK on 25 May 2018. It replaced the existing law on data protection (Data Protection Act 1998) and gives individuals more rights and protection regarding how their personal data is used by Councils. Local Councils and parish meetings must comply with its requirements, just like any other organisation.

## 2. The purpose of the GDPR are:

- To increase the obligations on organisations when acting as data controllers and processors.
- To increase the rights of individuals to ensure that their personal data is respected and only used for legitimate purposes

## 3. Definitions:

**Personal Data** – is any information about a living individual which allows them to be identified from that data such as name, address, email address, photograph.

**Data Controller** – is the person or organisation who determines how and what data is processed i.e. Owslebury Parish Council.

**Data Processor** – is the person(s) or firm that process the data on behalf of the data controller.

**Data Subject** – is the individual about whom the personal data is processed.

**Data Protection Compliance Officer** – is the individual with responsibility for ensuring data protection compliance.

**Consent** – is a positive, active, unambiguous confirmation of a data subject's agreement to have their data processed for a particular purpose. Consent must be easy to withdraw and must be given freely, provided on an opt-in basis rather than opt-out.

## 4. The Council's Commitment

As a local authority and a data controller, Owslebury Parish Council will comply with the underlying principles that personal data: -

- a) Must be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently.
- b) Is only used for a specific, legitimate processing purpose that the data subject has been made aware of and no other purpose, without further consent.
- c) Should be adequate, relevant and limited i.e. only the minimum amount of data should be kept for specific processing.
- d) Must be accurate and where necessary kept up to date.
- e) Should not be stored for longer than is necessary, and that storage is safe and secure.
- f) Should be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security and protection.

## 5. Personal Data Processed

The personal data kept or processed by Owslebury Parish Council includes but is not confined to the following:

- Names, titles and aliases, photographs and video images;
- Contact details such as telephone numbers, addresses and email addresses, social media addresses;



- Financial identifiers such as bank account numbers, payment card details for staff, contractors and for suppliers;
- Demographic and background information on staff and members including gender, age, marital status, employment background and qualifications;
- Some sensitive personal data in relation to staff and members such as racial/ethnic origin, mental and physical health and trade union affiliation;
- Website data such as IP address and analytical data;

## **6. How/Why Personal Data is used**

To deliver public services;

- To confirm identity to provide some services;
- To enable the Council to meet its legal and statutory obligations and powers including delegated functions;
- To contact individuals and organisations;
- To maintain own accounts and records;
- To process financial transactions;
- To protect public funds and facilities;
- To recruit and employ staff and contractors;

## **7. Lawful Bases for Processing Personal Data**

There are six lawful bases for processing data under the GDPR: -

### **1. Consent**

The controller must be able to demonstrate that consent was given.

### **2. Legitimate interests**

This involves a balancing test between the controller and the interests of fundamental rights of and freedoms of the data subject. Councils can't rely on legitimate interests as a legal basis for processing personal data.

### **3. Contractual necessity**

Personal data may be processed if necessary, in order to enter into or perform a contract with the data subject.

### **4. Compliance with legal obligation**

Personal data may be processed if the controller is legally required to perform such processing.

### **5. Vital interests**

Personal data may be processed to protect the vital interests of the data subject.

### **6. Public task**

Personal data may be processed if the processing is necessary for the performance of tasks carried out by a public authority acting in the public's interest.

- As a public authority the Council has certain powers and duties. Most personal data is processed for compliance with a legal obligation which includes carrying out the Council's statutory powers and functions;
- or
- In the performance of a contract or during steps to enter into a contract; or
- With consent. Before using an individual's personal data, the Council will obtain that individual's consent.

## **8. Individual's Rights**

An individual has the following rights in relation to their personal data:



- The right to be informed – via privacy notices and an explanation of the lawful basis for the processing.
- The right to access the personal data the Council holds on that individual – via a subject access request;
- The right to correct and update the personal data;
- The right to have the personal data erased (right to be forgotten);
- The right to restrict processing;
- The right to data portability;
- The right to object to processing;
- The right not to be subject to automated decision-making including profiling.

## **9. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is a type of audit used to help assess privacy risk. OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL will evaluate if a DPIA is required when considering new processing operations. DPIA are mandatory where processing poses a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

## **10. Data Protection Compliance Officer**

Owslebury Parish Council has appointed the Parish Clerk as the Data Protection Compliance Officer.

Duties include:

- Informing the Council and its staff of their obligations in the GDPR and other data protection legislation;
- Monitoring compliance of the Council, both in its policies and practices;
- Raising awareness of data protection law; providing training and advice;
- Carrying out data protection-related audits;
- Acting as a contact point for the Information Commissioner's Office.

## **11. Related Policies and Notices**

- Document Retention and Disposal Policy
- General Privacy Notice

## **12. Information Commissioner's Office**

In the UK the Information Commissioner's Office are responsible for upholding information rights in the public interest. They are responsible for investigating data misuse and have the authority to impose penalties.