



Penhow Community Council

Information & Data Protection Policy

Introduction

To conduct its business, services and duties, the Council processes a wide range of data, relating to its own operations and some which it manages on behalf of partners. In broad terms, this data can be classified as:

- Data shared in the public arena about the services it offers, its mode of operations and other information it is required to make available to the public.
- Confidential information and data not yet in the public arena such as ideas or policies that are being worked up.
- Confidential information about other organisations because of commercial sensitivity.
- Personal data concerning its current, past, and potential employees, Councillors, and volunteers.
- Personal data concerning individuals who contact it for information, to access its services or facilities or to make a complaint.

The Council will adopt procedures and manage responsibly, all data which it manages and will respect the confidentiality of both its own data and that belonging to partner organisations it works with and members of the public. In some cases, it will have contractual obligations towards confidential data, but in addition will have specific legal responsibilities for personal and sensitive information under data protection legislation.

The Council will periodically review and revise this policy in the light of experience, comments from data subjects and guidance from the Information Commissioners Office.

The Council will be as transparent as possible about its operations and will work closely with public, community and voluntary organisations. Therefore, in the case of all information which is not personal or confidential, it will be prepared to make it available to partners and members of the community. Details of information which is routinely available is contained in the Council's Publication Scheme which is based on the statutory model publication scheme for local councils.

Protecting Confidential or Sensitive Information

The Council recognises it must at times, keep and process sensitive and personal information about both employees and the public, it has therefore adopted this policy not only to meet its legal obligations but to ensure high standards.

The 2018 Data Protection Act like the Data Protection Act 1998 before it, seek to strike a balance between the rights of individuals and the sometimes, competing interests of those such as the Council with legitimate reasons for using personal information.

The policy is based on the premise that Personal Data must be:

- Processed fairly, lawfully and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject.
- Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
- Adequate, relevant, and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- Kept in a form that permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed.
- Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction, or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Data Protection Terminology

Data subject - means the person whose personal data is being processed. That may be an employee, prospective employee, associate, or prospective associate of LCC or someone transacting with it in some way, or an employee, Member, or volunteer with one of our clients, or persons transacting or contracting with one of our clients when we process data for them.

Personal data - means any information relating to a natural person or data subject that can be used directly or indirectly to identify the person.

It can be anything from a name, a photo, an address, date of birth, an email address, bank details, and posts on social networking sites or a computer IP address.

Sensitive personal data - includes information about racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, and religious or other beliefs, trade union membership, medical information, sexual orientation, genetic and biometric data, or information related to offences or alleged offences where it is used to uniquely identify an individual.

Data controller - means a person who (either alone or jointly or in common with other persons) determines the purposes for which and the way any personal data is to be processed.

Data processor - in relation to personal data, means any person (other than an employee of the data controller) who processes the data on behalf of the data controller.

Processing information or data - means obtaining, recording, or holding the information or data or conducting any operation or set of operations on the information or data, including:

- organising, adapting, or altering it
- retrieving, consulting, or using the information or data
- disclosing the information or data by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making it available
- aligning, combining, blocking, erasing, or destroying the information or data regardless of the technology used.

The Council processes **personal data** to:

- fulfil its duties as an employer by complying with the terms of contracts of employment, safeguarding the employee and maintaining information required by law.
- pursue the legitimate interests of its business and its duties as a public body, by fulfilling contractual terms with other organisations, and maintaining information required by law.
- monitor its activities including the equality and diversity of its activities.
- fulfil its duties in operating the business premises including security.
- assist regulatory and law enforcement agencies.
- process information including the recording and updating details about its Councillors, employees, partners, and volunteers.
- process information including the recording and updating details about individuals who contact it for information, or to access a service, or make a complaint.
- undertake surveys, censuses, and questionnaires to fulfil the objectives and purposes of the Council.
- undertake research, audit, and quality improvement work to fulfil its objects and purposes.
- conduct Council administration.

Where appropriate and governed by necessary safeguards we will conduct the above processing jointly with other appropriate bodies from time to time.

The Council will ensure that at least one of the following conditions is met for personal information to be considered processed:

- The individual has consented to the processing.
- Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract or agreement with the individual.
- Processing is required under a legal obligation.
- Processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the individual.
- Processing is necessary to conduct public functions.
- Processing is necessary to pursue the legitimate interests of the data controller or third parties.

Particular attention is paid to the processing of any **sensitive personal information** and the Council will ensure that at least one of the following conditions is met:

- Explicit consent of the individual.
- Required by law to process the data for employment purposes.
- A requirement to protect the vital interests of the individual or another person.

Who is responsible for protecting a person's personal data?

The Council as a corporate body has ultimate responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Data Protection legislation. The Council has delegated this responsibility day to day to the Clerk.

Email: clerk@penhowcommunity.org

Write: Clerk to The Council c/o Yr Hen Berllan, Common-y-coed, Magor, NP26 3AX

Tel: 07785747762

Diversity Monitoring

The Council monitors the diversity of its employees, and Councillors, to ensure that there is no inappropriate or unlawful discrimination in the way it conducts its activities. It undertakes similar data handling in respect of prospective employees. This data will always be treated as confidential. It will only be accessed by authorised individuals within the Council and will not be disclosed to any other bodies or individuals. Diversity information will never be used as selection criteria and will not be made available to others involved in the recruitment process. Anonymised data derived from diversity monitoring will be used for monitoring purposes and may be published and passed to other bodies.

The Council will always give guidance on personnel data to employees, councillors, partners, and volunteers through a Privacy Notice and ensure that individuals on whom personal information is kept are aware of their rights and have easy access to that information on request.

Appropriate technical and organisational measures will be taken against Unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data.

Information provided to us.

The information provided (personal information such as name, address, email address, phone number) will be processed and stored so that it is possible for us to contact, respond to or conduct the transaction requested by the individual. By transacting with the Council, individuals are deemed to be giving consent for their personal data provided to be used and transferred in accordance with this policy, however wherever possible specific written consent will be sought. It is the responsibility of those individuals to ensure that the Council can keep their personal data accurate and up to date. The personal information will not be shared or provided to any other third party or be used for any purpose other than that for which it was provided.

The Councils Right to Process Information

General Data Protection Regulations (and Data Protection Act) Article 6 (1) (a) (b) and (e)

- Processing is with consent of the data subject, or
- Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation.
- Processing is necessary for the legitimate interests of the Council.

Information Security

The Council cares to ensure the security of personal data. We make sure that your information is protected from unauthorised access, loss, manipulation, falsification, destruction, or unauthorised disclosure. This is done through appropriate technical measures and appropriate policies. We will only keep your data for the purpose it was collected for and only for as long as is necessary, after which it will be deleted.

Children

We will not process any data relating to a child (under 13) without the express parental/guardian consent of the child concerned.