



## **D6 DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

Version 1.0

LAST UPDATED 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018

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## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW KEY DETAILS

### Introduction

Accipio needs to gather and use certain information about individuals.

These can include customers, suppliers, business contacts, employees and other people the organisation has a relationship with or may need to contact.

This policy describes how this personal data must be collected, handled and stored to meet the company's data protection standards — and to comply with the law.

### Why this policy exists

This data protection policy ensures Accipio:

- Complies with new GDPR laws and follows good practice
- Protects the rights of staff, customers and partners
- Is open about how it stores and processes individuals' data
- Protects itself from the risks of a data breach and has mitigating processes in place

### General Data Protection Regulation

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) enforces organisations — including Accipio— to transparently collect, process and store personal data.

These rules apply regardless of whether data is stored electronically, on paper or on other materials, and applies to organisations who control or process data within the EU.

## PEOPLE, RISKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Accipio Ltd and all subsidiaries (Accipio Digital Ltd and Accipio Leadership Ltd).
- All staff and volunteers of Accipio
- All contractors, suppliers and other people working on behalf of Accipio

It applies to all data that the company holds relating to identifiable individuals. This can include:

- Names of individuals
- Postal addresses
- Email addresses
- Telephone numbers
- ...plus, any other information relating to individuals needed for the delivery of service

## DATA PROTECTION RISKS

This policy helps to protect Accipio from some very real data security risks, including:

- **Breaches of confidentiality.** For instance, information being given out inappropriately.
- **Failing to offer choice.** For instance, all individuals should be free to choose how the company uses data relating to them.
- **Reputational damage.** For instance, the company could suffer if hackers successfully gained access to sensitive data.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Everyone who works for or with Accipio has some responsibility for ensuring data is collected, stored and handled appropriately.

Each team that handles personal data must ensure that it is handled and processed in line with this policy and data protection principles.

However, these people have key areas of responsibility:

- The **board of directors** is ultimately responsible for ensuring that Accipio meets its legal obligations.
- The Data Protection Officer, Sascha Benson-Cooper, is responsible for:
  - Keeping the board updated about data protection responsibilities, risks and issues.
  - Reviewing all data protection procedures and related policies, in line with an agreed schedule.
  - Arranging data protection training and advice for the people covered by this policy.
  - Handling data protection questions from staff and anyone else covered by this policy.
  - Dealing with requests from individuals to see the data Accipio holds about them (also called 'subject access requests').
  - Checking and approving any contracts or agreements with third parties that may handle the company's sensitive data.

The IT manager, Sascha Benson-Cooper, is responsible for:

- Ensuring all systems, services and equipment used for storing data meet acceptable security standards.
- Performing regular checks and scans to ensure security hardware and software is functioning properly.
- Evaluating any third-party services the company is considering using to store or process data. For instance, cloud computing services.
- **The marketing manager, Jo Addison, is responsible for:**
  - **Approving any data protection statements attached to communications such as emails and letters.**
  - **Addressing any data protection queries from journalists or media outlets like newspapers.**
  - Where necessary, working with other staff to ensure marketing initiatives abide by data protection principles.

General staff guidelines

- The only people able to access data covered by this policy should be those who **need it for their work.**
- Data **should not be shared informally.** When access to confidential information is required, employees can request it from their line managers.

- **Accipio will provide training** to all employees to help them understand their responsibilities when handling data.
- Employees should keep all data secure, by taking sensible precautions and following the guidelines below.
- In particular, **strong passwords must be used** and they should never be shared.
- Personal data **should not be disclosed** to unauthorised people, either within the company or externally.
- Data should be **regularly reviewed and updated** if it is found to be out of date. If no longer required, it should be deleted and disposed of.
- Employees **should request help** from their line manager or the data protection officer if they are unsure about any aspect of data protection.

## DATA COLLECTION

To comply with the law, personal information must be collected and used for only the purposes that are necessary to carry out legitimate functions. Users whose data is stored must opt in for their consent for us to process the data. This consent will be given at the point of signing up and will have access to an easy to understand privacy notice details how Accipio will use their data. The information will be stored safely and securely, with processes in place in the case of a data breach.

## DATA STORAGE

These rules describe how and where data should be safely stored. Questions about storing data safely can be directed to the IT manager or data controller.

When data is **stored on paper**, it should be kept in a secure place where unauthorised people cannot see it.

These guidelines also apply to data that is usually stored electronically but has been printed out for some reason:

- When not required, the paper or files should be kept **in a locked drawer or filing cabinet**.
- Employees should make sure paper and printouts are **not left where unauthorised people could see them**, like on a printer.
- **Data printouts should be shredded** and disposed of securely when no longer required.

When data is **stored electronically**, it must be protected from unauthorised access, accidental deletion and malicious hacking attempts:

- Data should be **protected by strong passwords** that are changed regularly and never shared between employees.
- If data is **stored on removable media** (like a CD or DVD), these should be kept locked away securely when not being used.
- Data should only be stored on **designated drives and servers**, and should only be uploaded to an **approved cloud computing services**.
- Servers containing personal data should be **sited in a secure location**, away from general office space.
- Data should be **backed up frequently**. Those backups should be tested regularly, in line with the company's standard backup procedures.

- All servers and computers containing data should be protected by **approved security software and a firewall.**

## DATA PROCESSING

Personal data is of no value to Accipio unless the business can make use of it. However, it is when personal data is accessed and used that it can be at the greatest risk of loss, corruption or theft:

- When working with personal data, employees should ensure **the screens of their computers are always locked** when left unattended.
- Personal data **should not be shared informally**. In particular, it should never be sent by email, as this form of communication is not secure.
- Data must be **encrypted before being transferred electronically**. The IT manager can explain how to send data to authorised external contacts.
- Personal data should **never be transferred outside of the European Economic Area**.
- Employees **should not save copies of personal data to their own computers**. Always access and update the central copy of any data.

## DATA ACCURACY

The law requires Accipio to take reasonable steps to ensure data is kept accurate and up to date.

The more important it is that the personal data is accurate, the greater the effort Accipio should put into ensuring its accuracy.

It is the responsibility of all employees who work with data to take reasonable steps to ensure it is kept as accurate and up to date as possible.

- Data will be held in **as few places as necessary**. Staff should not create any unnecessary additional data sets.
- Staff should **take every opportunity to ensure data is updated**. For instance, by confirming a customer's details when they call.
- Accipio will make it **easy for data subjects to update the information** Accipio holds about them. For instance, via the company website.
- Data should be **updated as inaccuracies are discovered**. For instance, if a customer can no longer be reached on their stored telephone number, it should be removed from the database.
- It is the marketing manager's responsibility to ensure **marketing databases are checked against industry suppression files** every six months.

## DATA REQUESTS

**Access-** Users who have personal data stored by Accipio have the right to request the data we have on that specific user. This is restricted only to that user, and information may be further restricted if possibility of identification of other users. This information will be supplied no later than one month after the initial request.

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**Rectification-** Data of users must be kept up to date and accurate. Users can contact us to update their data if it is shown to be inaccurate, and Accipio must update the data within 1 month

**Erasure-** Users who no longer wish to have their details stored on our systems can have their information deleted. All systems used Accipio have the functionality to wipe data and can eliminate user information. If a user contacts Accipio asking for their data to be deleted, Accipio will comply within 1 month.

**Object-** Users can object to having their data processed for the reasons that have been detailed in the privacy policy

## **Restrict Processing**

**Data Portability** In certain circumstances, users have the right to request the information held about them and to be transferred in a machine-readable format for their own personal storage.

All individuals who are the subject of personal data held by Accipio are entitled to:

- Ask **what information** the company holds about them and why.
- Ask **how to gain access** to it.
- Be informed **how to keep it up to date**.
- Be informed how the company is **meeting its data protection obligations**.

If an individual contacts the company requesting this information, this is called a subject access request.

Subject access requests from individuals should be made by email, addressed to the data controller at [email address]. The data controller can supply a standard request form, although individuals do not have to use this.

Individuals will be charged £10 per subject access request. The data controller will aim to provide the relevant data within 14 days.

The data controller will always verify the identity of anyone making a subject access request before handing over any information.

## Disclosing data for other reasons

In certain circumstances, the Data Protection Act allows personal data to be disclosed to law enforcement agencies without the consent of the data subject.

Under these circumstances, Accipio will disclose requested data. However, the data controller will ensure the request is legitimate, seeking assistance from the board and from the company's legal advisers where necessary.

## **PROVIDING INFORMATION**

Accipio aims to ensure that individuals are aware that their data is being processed, and that they understand:

- How the data is being used
- How to exercise their rights

To these ends, the company has a privacy statement, setting out how data relating to individuals is used by the company.