

How the Met protects special category and criminal convictions personal data.

This document explains how the Met protects special category and criminal conviction personal data relating to members of the public.

Article 10 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) sets out our legal authority for processing criminal convictions and offences and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). The MPS process criminal conviction personal data for the purposes of the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties, including the safeguarding against and the prevention of threats to public security.

This policy meets the requirements of the DPA that an appropriate policy document be in place where the processing of special category personal data is necessary for the purposes of performing or exercising obligations or rights which are imposed or conferred by law on the controller or the data subject in connection with employment, social security or social protection.

This policy also meets the requirements in the DPA that an appropriate policy document be in place where the processing of special category personal data is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the [MPS Privacy Notice](#).

1. Procedures for securing compliance

Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation and Section 35 to 40 of Part 3 of the Data Protection Act 2018 set out the data protection principles. These are our procedures for ensuring that we comply with them.

1.1 Principle 1

Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject.

The Met will:

- ensure that personal data is only processed where a lawful basis applies, and where processing is otherwise lawful
- only process personal data fairly, and will ensure that data subjects are not misled about the purposes of any processing
- ensure that data subjects receive full privacy information so that any processing of personal data is transparent

1.2 Principle 2

Personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.

The Met will:

- only collect personal data for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes, and we will inform data subjects what those purposes are in a privacy notice
- not use personal data for purposes that are incompatible with the purposes for which it was collected. If we do use personal data for a new purpose that is compatible, we will inform the data subject first

1.3 Principle 3

Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.

The Met will only collect the minimum personal data that we need for the purpose for which it is collected. We will ensure that the data we collect is adequate and relevant.

1.4 Principle 4

Personal data shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.

The Met will ensure that personal data is accurate, and kept up to date where necessary. We will take particular care to do this where our use of the personal data has a significant impact on individuals.

1.5 Principle 5

Personal data shall be kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed.

The Met will only keep personal data in identifiable form as long as is necessary for the purposes for which it is collected, or where we have a legal obligation to do so. Once we no longer need personal data it shall be deleted or rendered permanently anonymous.

1.6 Principle 6

Personal data shall be 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.

The Met will ensure that there appropriate organisational and technical measures in place to protect personal data.

2. Accountability principle

The data controller shall be responsible for, and be able to demonstrate compliance with these principles.

We will:

- ensure that records are kept of all personal data processing activities, and that these are provided to the Information Commissioner on request
- carry out a Data Protection Impact Assessment for any high risk personal data processing, and consult the Information Commissioner if appropriate
- ensure that a Data Protection Officer is appointed to provide independent advice and monitoring of the departments' personal data handling, and that this person has access to report to the highest management level of the department
- have in place internal processes to ensure that personal data is only collected, used or handled in a way that is compliant with data protection law
- take a 'data protection by design and default' approach - putting appropriate data protection measures in place throughout the entire lifecycle of our processing operations
- implement appropriate security measures to protect all personal data held
- record and investigate all personal data breaches
- We review and update our accountability measures at appropriate intervals

3. Data controller's policies as regards retention and erasure of personal data

We will ensure, where special category or criminal convictions personal data is processed, that:

- there is a record of that processing, and that record will set out, where possible, the envisaged time limits for erasure of the different categories of data
- where we no longer require special category or criminal convictions personal data for the purpose for which it was collected, we will delete it or render it permanently anonymous
- where possible all data subjects will details of our full privacy information about how their data will be handled, and that this will include the period for which the personal data will be stored, or if that is not possible, the criteria used to determine that period

4. Further information

The Data Protection Officer can be contacted by email at: DataProtection_FreedomofInformationOfficer@met.police.uk

The Met's Information Rights Unit manages the Met's data protection compliance and can be contacted at: SARenquiries@met.police.uk