



## Data protection policy

### Statement of policy

North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service (NSDAS) is fully committed to compliance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Data Protection Act 1998 and any successor legislation (together, the 'data protection legislation'). NSDAS is committed to a policy of protecting the rights and freedoms of individuals with respect to the processing of their personal data and special category personal data.

NSDAS will therefore follow procedures which aim to ensure that all employees and volunteers, and others who have access to any personal data held by or on behalf of the local office, are fully aware of and responsible for the handling of personal data in line with the data protection legislation.

To operate efficiently, NSDAS must collect and use information about people with whom it works. These may include current, past and prospective clients; current, past and prospective employees; current, past and prospective volunteers; and our suppliers.

**Data protection legislation and Article 5 (1) of the GDPR requires that personal data shall be used in accordance with the following principles:**

- a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals;
- b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;

e) 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; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and  
f) 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.”

Article 5 (2) of the GDPR requires that:

“the controller shall be responsible for, and be able to demonstrate, compliance with the principles.”

### **Lawful basis for processing personal data and special category personal data under the data protection legislation**

NSDAS primarily uses consent and explicit consent as the lawful basis for processing client personal data and special category personal data.

NSDAS also process personal data under the following lawful bases:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/lawful-basis-for-processing/>

Contract: the processing is necessary for a contract you have with the individual, or because they have asked you to take specific steps before entering into a contract.

Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests.

NSDAS also process special category personal data under the following lawful bases:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/lawful-basis-for-processing/special-category-data/>

### **Handling of personal data and special category personal data**

NSDAS will, through appropriate management and the use of appropriate controls adhere to the following regarding our use of personal data and special category personal data;

- Provide up to data privacy notices to data subjects.
- Collect and process appropriate information and only to the extent that it is needed to fulfil operational needs or to comply with legal requirements.

- Ensure the quality and accuracy of information when collected or received and during its use.
- Apply checks to determine the length of time information is retained.
- Take appropriate technical and organisational security measures based on risks to data subjects.
- Not transfer outside the EEA without suitable safeguards.
- Ensure that relevant information incidents are reported to the Information Commissioners Office.
- Mitigate risks to the data subjects in the event of an information incident using an appropriate data breach policy.
- Ensure that the rights of our data subjects can be properly exercised.

These rights include:

1. The right to be informed
2. The right of access
3. The right to rectification
4. The right to erase
5. The right to restrict processing
6. The right to data portability
7. The right to object
8. Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

In addition, we will ensure that:

- There is someone with specific responsibility for data protection in the organisation. The post responsible for data protection is the Chair of Trustees
- Organisational information and privacy risks are risk assessed, documented and controlled.
- Everyone managing and handling personal data and special category personal data understands that they are responsible for following good Information Governance / Assurance practice and for complying with the data protection legislation.
- Everyone managing and handling personal data and special category personal data is appropriately trained and supervised to do so.
- Queries about processing personal data and special category personal data are promptly and courteously dealt with within the requirements of the data protection legislation.
- Data sharing and processing is carried out under an appropriate written agreement, setting out the scope and limits of the sharing. Any disclosure of personal data will be following approved procedures.

All employees and volunteers are to be made fully aware of this policy and their duties and responsibilities under it. All employees and volunteers will take steps to ensure that personal data is kept secure always against unauthorised or unlawful loss or disclosure.

## **Client management systems**

Oasis is used to process information, personal data and special category personal data provided by clients to NSDAS.

All information, personal data and special category personal data is to be regarded as being confidential between the individual and NSDAS unless expressly indicated otherwise.

Data sharing is required so that both the client and NSDAS have flexibility in where, how and when clients receive the service and the need to only enter this client data once. The data protection legislation provides the legal framework under which personal data and special category personal data can be processed.

Data is shared to provide the service to clients, to refer clients to other organisations, for following up with the client for feedback, to enable NSDAS to act on behalf of the client when authorised, to understand trends and carry out research to enable policy work. The data shared will always be the minimum necessary required to carry out the business purpose.

In all cases the relevant consent must be obtained, or alternative lawful basis determined, for any processing or sharing of client personal data and special category personal data.

## **Relationship with existing policies and supporting documentation**

This policy has been formulated within the context of a range of policies such as those relating to IT security, confidentiality and information assurance.