

GDPR, Data Protection and Cyber Security at the NGS - A Quick Overview

What is GDPR?

It stands for the General Data Protection Regulation and is an EU directive

It is enforceable from the 25th May 2018

It replaces the Data Protection Act

Even though we are leaving the EU much of the legislation will still be enforceable

It is designed to harmonise data protection regulation across the EU and give the general public greater control over how their personal data is used.

Why the change?

Current Data Protection Laws were enforced back in the late 1990's. Lots has changed since then, particularly the way we process data online.

There have been high profile data breaches in recent years that have put the spotlight on how organisations across the board treat personal data. GDPR seeks to redress the balance of data power towards individuals.

What is Personal Data?

“‘Personal data’ means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’)” Taken from GDPR regulation.

This can include, but is not limited to, name, addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, images of you etc.

How does this effect the NGS?

All organisations, including charities, need to comply with this regulation.

At Head Office we have mapped out all the personal data we hold, how it is stored and how it is used. We have also attempted to do this with all the personal data at County level.

We are now at the stage to give recommendations to County Teams as to how they can collect, store and use personal data, resources that you can use to keep you GDPR compliant and how to avoid a data breach.

It requires all of us to think about data protection first, before implementing any new projects that involve personal data collection or processing. We also have to review our current processes for collecting, storing and using personal data and will involve us refreshing the permissions we have from those we hold personal data for.

Many of you will keep meticulous records already, so carry on doing this with the above in mind.