

Data Protection Policy

Data Protection Act 1988 and Data Protection (Amendment) Act 2003

Purpose of this policy

This policy is a statement of Volunteer Ireland's commitment to protect the rights and privacy of individuals in compliance with the Data Protection Acts.

The Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003 (the "Data Protection Acts") lay down strict rules about the way in which personal data is collected, accessed, used and disclosed. The Data Protection Acts permit individuals to access their personal data on request, and gives individuals the right to have their personal data amended if found to be incorrect.

Inquiries about this Data Protection Policy should be made to The Safeguard Unit, Volunteer Ireland, 18 Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

Collecting information about you.

We collect and use information to provide the following services:

- to gather statistics on the age, gender and nationality of volunteers
- to provide a Volunteer Placement Service
- to provide a Garda Vetting Service
- to provide training services
- to undertake advertising, marketing, direct recruitment and public relations exercises
- to provide personnel, payroll and pension administration services
- to update databases within Volunteer Ireland
- to enhance or improve your experience on our Services
- to provide you with online services

Data Protection Principles

We will carry out our responsibilities under the Data Protection Acts in accordance with the following eight Data Protection principles:

1. Obtain and process information fairly

VI will obtain and process your personal data fairly and in accordance with statutory and other legal obligations.

2. Keep it only for one or more specified, explicit and lawful purposes

VI will keep your personal data for purposes that are specific, lawful and clearly stated to you. Your personal data will only be processed in a manner compatible with these purposes and as outlined to you.

3. Use and disclose only in ways compatible with these purposes

VI will only disclose personal data that is necessary for the purpose/s or compatible with the purpose/s for which Volunteer Ireland collects and keeps the data as outlined to you.

4. Keep it safe and secure

VI will take appropriate security measures against unauthorised access to, or alteration, disclosure or destruction of your personal data and against its accidental loss or destruction.

5. Keep it accurate, complete and up-to-date

VI will adopt procedures that ensure high levels of data accuracy, completeness and that your data is up-to-date.

6. Ensure it is adequate, relevant and not excessive

VI will only hold your personal data to the extent that it is adequate, relevant and not excessive.

7. Retain for no longer than is necessary

VI has a retention policy for your personal data.

8. Give a copy of his/ her personal data to that individual, on request

VI adopt procedures to ensure that data subjects can exercise their rights under the Data Protection legislation to access their data when permitted by law.

Responsibility Overall responsibility for ensuring compliance with Data Protection Acts rests with Volunteer Ireland. However our responsibility varies depending upon whether we are acting as either a Data Controller or a Data Processor.

All employees, volunteers and clients of Volunteer Ireland who separately collect, control or process the content and use of personal data are individually responsible for compliance with the Data Protection Acts.

The Data Protection Coordinator in Volunteer Ireland coordinates the provision of support, assistance, advice, and training throughout Volunteer Ireland to ensure that Volunteer Ireland is in a position to comply with the legislation. They will liaise with the Data Protection Commissioner's Office for guidance on specific cases.

Security of data Volunteer Ireland takes seriously its security obligations in respect of your personal data under the Data Protection Acts to prevent unauthorised access to, or alteration or destruction of personal data in our possession.

Right of Access Where you have provided us with your personal data you have a right to be given a copy of your personal data in accordance with section 4 of the Data Protection Acts subject to certain exceptions. To request a copy of your personal data please read Volunteer Ireland's Access Request Policy before completing an Access Request Form and sending it to us. Please note the following important requirements:

1. we reserve the right not to process an access request that is not made in our Access Request Form format;
2. we do not accept access requests via telephone, email or text message.

Right of rectification or erasure If we hold incorrect information about you, which was originally submitted by you, you have the right to have the data amended. To request your right to rectification and/or erasure please send your request to us in writing to The Safeguard Unit, Volunteer Ireland, Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7

together with:

1. Your name and address.
2. A description of the specific personal data you wish rectified.
3. If you request an erasure of your personal data all your data will be erased subject to the following important notice.

We are not required to rectify or erase your data where to do so would prevent you from meeting your obligations to us or where we are required to process (including retaining) your personal data for a lawful purpose in accordance with the Data Protection Acts.

Volunteer Ireland trusts that you appreciate we respect your right to privacy and that our honesty and integrity will mean that you will continue to trust us with your personal data, knowing that we will not use it for any inappropriate purpose

Procedures and Guidelines This Data Protection Policy is supplemented (and may be amended) by specific policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Volunteer Ireland. You can request copies of policies from the Safeguard Unit of Volunteer Ireland.

Review This Data Protection Policy will be reviewed regularly in light of any legislative or other relevant developments.