



Law Society of Ireland
Privacy Statement – Protected Disclosure

We are the Law Society of Ireland of Blackhall Place, Dublin 7, Ireland (the “**Law Society**”, “**we**”, “**us**”, “**our**”). We are the educational, representative and regulatory body of the solicitors’ profession in Ireland.

We take our responsibilities under applicable data protection law, including the General Data Protection Regulation and implementing legislation such as the Data Protection Act 2018 very seriously. The purpose of this notice is to inform you of the personal data relating to you that we may collect and use (including disclosures to third parties) we may make of such data.

The Law Society is the controller of this personal data. If you have any questions about our use of your personal data, please contact us at dataprivacy@lawsociety.ie.

Personal Data that we collect and Process

We will collect and process personal data relating to you only in the case where you choose to forgo your anonymity. This personal data may include your name, position, employment details or any other data you choose to disclose for the purposes of filing a protective disclosure.

While your choice of anonymity will be respected and preserved to the best of our ability, your identity may be inferred from the details you may provide to us. In these cases, your presumed identity will be protected by the confidentiality obligation of the designated person.

Purposes of Processing and Legal Basis

The purpose of the processing is the investigation of the matter to which the protected disclosure refers.

The law society is obliged to process the personal data, where revealed, under statutory obligation, pursuant to Protected Disclosures Act 2014 as amended by the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022.

Sources of Data

The primary source of the data is the data subject themselves. Other personal data may be sourced from other sources during the investigation process.

Recipients of Data

Your data, if the protected disclosure is not anonymous, may be shared in accordance with the legislative requirements.

Although we do not intend to transfer your data to any other organisation at this time, it may be held in the managed cloud storage provided by a third party. In any case, the data about the investigation will be encrypted by the designated person.

Similarly, the data, although encrypted, may be accessible to third-party vendors for the purposes of system maintenance or management.

Retention

We will not hold your data for longer than is necessary. We retain your personal data for the duration of the investigation and, thereafter, as required by law.

Transfers Abroad

In connection with the above we might transfer your personal data outside the European Economic Area, including to a jurisdiction which is not recognised by the European Commission as providing for an equivalent level of protection for personal data as is provided for in the European Union. If and to the extent that we do so, we will ensure that appropriate measures are in place to comply with our obligations under applicable law governing such transfers. These may include entering into a contract governing the transfer that contains the 'standard contractual clauses' approved for this purpose by the European Commission. If you would like to receive further details of the measures that we have taken in this regard, please contact us at dataprivacy@lawsociety.ie.

Your rights

You have the following rights, in certain circumstances and subject to certain restrictions, in relation to your personal data:

- **Right to access the data** – You have the right to request a copy of the personal data that we hold about you, together with other information about our processing of that personal data.
- **Right to rectification** – You have the right to request that any inaccurate data that is held about you is corrected, or if we have incomplete information you may request that we update the information such that it is complete.
- **Right to erasure** – You have the right to request us to delete personal data that we hold about you. This is sometimes referred to as the right to be forgotten.
- **Right to restriction of processing or to object to processing** – You have the right to request that we no longer process your personal data for particular purposes, or to object to our processing of your personal data for particular purposes.
- **Right to data portability** – Where our processing of your personal data is based on (i) you having provided your consent, or (ii) being necessary for the performance of a contract with you, you have the right to request us to provide you, or a third party, with a copy of your personal data in a structured, commonly used machine readable format.
- **Right to withdraw your consent** – Where our processing of your personal data is based on you having provided your consent, you have the right to withdraw such consent.

If you wish to exercise any of the rights set out above, please contact us at dataprivacy@lawsociety.ie.

Complaints

If you have any queries or complaints in connection with our processing of your personal data, you can contact us at dataprivacy@lawsociety.ie.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Irish Data Protection Commission if you are not happy with the way we have used your information or addressed your rights. Details of how to lodge a complaint can be found at <https://www.dataprotection.ie> or you can call the Data Protection Commission at 353 (0)761 104 800.

Updates

The Law Society may update its Privacy Statement from time to time. When we change the statement in a material way, a notice will be posted on our website along with the updated Privacy Statement.

Dated January 2025