



Data Protection Act 2018

2018 CHAPTER 12

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

2 Protection of personal data

- (1) The [^{F1}UK GDPR] and this Act protect individuals with regard to the processing of personal data, in particular by—
 - (a) requiring personal data to be processed lawfully and fairly, on the basis of the data subject's consent or another specified basis,
 - (b) conferring rights on the data subject to obtain information about the processing of personal data and to require inaccurate personal data to be rectified, and
 - (c) conferring functions on the Commissioner, giving the holder of that office responsibility for monitoring and enforcing their provisions.
- (2) When carrying out functions under the [^{F2}UK GDPR] and this Act, the Commissioner must have regard to the importance of securing an appropriate level of protection for personal data, taking account of the interests of data subjects, controllers and others and matters of general public interest.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 2(1) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications \(Amendments etc\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/419\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 3](#) (with reg. 5); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F2** Words in s. 2(2) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications \(Amendments etc\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/419\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 3](#) (with reg. 5); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

Changes to legislation:

Data Protection Act 2018, Section 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 December 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 13A inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 31\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 8(1)(y) added by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 78\(3\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 13A inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 31\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 8(1)(y) added by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 78\(3\)](#)