

# Pointon & Sempringham Parish Council

## Subject Access Request Procedure

This procedure is to be followed when an individual (person) contacts Pointon & Sempringham Parish Council to request access to their personal information held by the Council.

Requests must be completed within 1 month, so it should be actioned as soon as it is received. SAR's should be provided free of charge, however, you can charge a 'reasonable fee' when a request is manifestly unfounded or excessive, particularly if it is repetitive.

**The steps below will be followed to action the request:**

### 1. Is it a valid subject access request?

- a) The request must be in writing (letter, email, social media or fax).
- b) Has the person requesting the information provided you with sufficient information to allow you to search for the information? (The Parish Council is allowed to request for more information from the person if the request is too broad).

### 2. Verify the identity of the requestor.

- a) The Parish Council must be confident that the person requesting the information is indeed the person the information relates to. The Parish Council will ask for the person to attend a meeting with their passport/photo driving licence and confirmation of their address (utility bill/bank statement).

### 3. Determine where the personal information will be found

- a) Consider the type of information requested and use the data processing map to determine where the records are stored.

(Note: Personal data is data which relates to a living individual who can be identified from the data (name, address, email address, database information) and can include expressions of opinion about the individual).

Where the Parish Council **does not** hold any personal data, we will inform the requestor.

Where the Parish Council **does** hold personal data, we will take the following step:

### 4. Information Screening

Some of the information we retrieve **may not be disclosable** due to exemptions and further or legal advice **will be sought** before applying exemptions.

**Examples of exemptions include (but are not limited to):**

- References you have given
  - (i) Publicly available information
- Crime and taxation
- Management information (restructuring/redundancies)
- Negotiations with the requestor
- Regulatory activities (planning enforcement, noise nuisance)
- Legal advice and proceedings
- Personal data of third parties

## **5. Is the Parish Council able to disclose all the information?**

In some cases, emails and documents may contain the personal information of other individuals who have not given their consent to share their personal information with others. If this is the case, the other individual's personal data must be redacted before the SAR is sent out.

## **6. Preparing SAR responses**

The Parish Council will use the letter template (appendix A and B) which will include as a minimum the following information:

- a) the purposes of the processing.
- b) the categories of personal data concerned.
- c) the recipients or categories of recipients to whom personal data has been or will be disclosed, in third countries or international organisations, including any appropriate safeguards for transfer of data.
- d) where possible, the envisaged period for which personal data will be stored, or, if not possible, the criteria used to determine that period.
- e) the existence of the right to request rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing of personal data concerning the data subject or to object to such processing.
- f) the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office ("ICO").
- g) if the data has not been collected from the data subject: the source of such data.
- h) the existence of any automated decision-making, including profiling and any meaningful information about the logic involved, as well as the significance and the envisaged consequences of such processing for the data subject.

The Parish Council will also provide a copy of the personal data undergoing processing.

All SAR's should be logged to include the date of receipt, identity of the data subject, summary of the request, indication of if the Council can comply, date information is sent to the data subject.

Date of policy: November 2024

Date of Council meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Policy version reference: SAR Policy

Date for next review: November 2025 or when legislation updates require.

## Replying to a subject access request providing the requested personal data

“[Name] [Address]

[Date]

Dear [Name of data subject]

### **Data Protection subject access request**

Thank you for your letter of *[date]* making a data subject access request for *[subject]*.

We are pleased to enclose the personal data you requested.

- a) *the purposes of the processing.*
- b) *the categories of personal data concerned.*
- c) *the recipients or categories of recipients to whom personal data has been or will be disclosed, in particular in third countries or international organisations, including any appropriate safeguards for transfer of data.*
- d) *where possible, the envisaged period for which personal data will be stored, or, if not possible, the criteria used to determine that period.*
- e) *the existence of the right to request rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing of personal data concerning the data subject or to object to such processing.*
- f) *the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office (“ICO”).*
- g) *if the data has not been collected from the data subject: the source of such data.*
- h) *the existence of any automated decision-making, including profiling and any meaningful information about the logic involved, as well as the significance and the envisaged consequences of such processing for the data subject.*

Copyright in the personal data you have been given belongs to the council or to another party.

Copyright material must not be copied, distributed, modified, reproduced, transmitted, published or otherwise made available in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the copyright holder.

Yours sincerely”

**Release of part  
of the personal  
data, when the  
remainder is  
covered by an  
exemption**

“[Name] [Address]

[Date] Dear [Name of data subject]

### Data Protection subject access request

Thank you for your letter of *[date]* making a data subject access request for *[subject]*. To answer your request we asked the following areas to search their records for personal data relating to you:

- [List the areas]

I am pleased to enclose *[some/most]* of the personal data you requested. *[If any personal data has been removed]* We have removed any obvious duplicate personal data that we noticed as we processed your request, as well as any personal data that is not about you. You will notice that *[if there are gaps in the document]* parts of the document(s) have been blacked out. *[OR if there are fewer documents enclose]* I have not enclosed all of the personal data you requested. This is because *[explain why it is exempt]*.

- a) the purposes of the processing.*
- b) the categories of personal data concerned.*
- c) the recipients or categories of recipients to whom personal data has been or will be disclosed, in particular in third countries or international organisations, including any appropriate safeguards for transfer of data.*
- d) where possible, the envisaged period for which personal data will be stored, or, if not possible, the criteria used to determine that period.*
- e) the existence of the right to request rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing of personal data concerning the data subject or to object to such processing.*
- f) the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office (“ICO”).*
- g) if the data has not been collected from the data subject: the source of such data.*
- h) the existence of any automated decision-making, including profiling and any meaningful information about the logic involved, as well as the significance and the envisaged consequences of such processing for the data subject.*

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Yours sincerely”

**Replying to a subject access request explaining why you cannot provide any of the requested personal data**

“[Name] [Address]

[Date]

Dear [Name of data subject]

**Data Protection subject access request**

Thank you for your letter of *[date]* making a data subject access request for *[subject]*.

I regret that we cannot provide the personal data you requested. This is because *[explanation where appropriate]*.

[Examples include where one of the exemptions under the data protection legislation applies. For example the personal data might include personal data is ‘legally privileged’ because it is contained within legal advice provided to the council or relevant to on-going or preparation for litigation.

Other exemptions include where the personal data identifies another living individual or relates to negotiations with the data subject. The Parish Council data protection officer (DPO) will be able to advise if a relevant exemption applies and if the council is going to rely on the exemption to withhold or redact the data disclosed to the individual, then in this section of the letter the council should set out the reason why some of the data has been excluded.]

Yours sincerely”