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# The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

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The [General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\)](#) is a piece of EU-wide legislation which will determine how people's personal data is processed and kept safe, and the legal rights individuals have in relation to their own data.

'Personal data' means information that can identify a living individual.

**I am told the risk is if a personal computer is hacked and then all personal info held could be used.**

The [regulation](#) will apply to all from **25 May 2018**, and will apply even after the UK leaves the EU.

## Main principles

The GDPR sets out the **key principles** that all personal data must be processed in line with.

- **Data must be:** processed lawfully, fairly and transparently; collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes; limited to what is necessary for the purposes for which it is processed; accurate and kept up to date; held securely; only retained for as long as is necessary for the reasons it was collected.

There are also **stronger rights for individuals** regarding their own data.

- **The individual's rights include:** to be informed about how their data is used, to access their data, to rectify incorrect information, to have their data erased, to restrict how their data is used, to move their data from one organisation to another, and to object to their data being used at all.

## PROPOSAL for SMO

**To ensure that we cover ourselves, the Membership Secretary will:**

1. **Ask all existing members to complete a new form, with current personal information, which sets out that this information will only be used for SMO communication. I suggest the minimum we need is first name, surname, telephone contact number, email. Do we need to hold addresses?**
2. **Members will be assured that all previous data held will be shredded/wiped**
3. **Information relating to any former members will be deleted from Membership Secretary's computer**
4. **All members will be asked to check their computers and erase all SMO email addresses.**
5. **Members will be asked to agree that their information can be shared by designated committee members. I propose Membership Secretary, Chair, Finance Officer and Secretary.**

*NB – having looked at the original data that was passed on to me, dated 2014, our membership was 53, and is currently 44.*