

Your Personal Data: Housing Needs

What we need

Mid Sussex District Council will be what's known as the 'Controller' of the personal data you provide to us. The data we collect may include personal data and sensitive personal data. This may consist of name, current address and address history, bank details and income and debt issues, health details, support needs, substance misuse and offending issues etc.

Legal basis for processing

Processing of personal information is carried out in accordance with Article 6 of the General Data Processing Regulation (GDPR):

- Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation
- Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller

and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Why we need it

We need to know your basic personal data in order to provide you with council services. We will not collect any personal data from you we do not need in order to provide and oversee these services. Information you provide will be used to

- Assess and determine the level of assistance you may need
- Provide housing advice
- To assess the suitability of accommodation
- Homelessness related services
- Refer you to third parties and/or other agencies that may be able to help you
- Perform a credit check

We are also required by The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to collect specified data as the MHCLG wants to learn more about the help provided to people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness with a view to improve services. The MHCLG wants to use the information you provide about how you have become homeless (or threatened with homelessness), your housing history and the sort of things that you need help and support with. It wants to look at how you use other public services and benefits you receive. Your personal details (such as your name) will be needed for this, but the researchers will not know whose information they are looking at. Any information you provide will NOT affect the services or benefits that you receive now or in the future or be used by the MHCLG to identify fraud.

What we do with it

All personal data is processed by our staff in the UK on servers located in the UK. No third parties have access to your personal data unless the law allows them to do so. In processing your data, as well as providing it to the MHCLG as detailed above, we may also share essential and relevant information in relation to your application for housing assistance to the Homemove Team, the Council's Medical Adviser, a prospective Support Provider, any Statutory Agency, the CAB, the Housing Benefit Team, any

Temporary Accommodation Provider, or any Housing Provider to whom you may be nominated with a view to rehousing. For credit checks we share data with Experian.

How long we keep it

We carefully consider the personal data that we store, and we will not keep your information in a form that identifies you for longer than is necessary for the purposes set out in this notice or as required by applicable law. In some instances, we are required to hold data for minimum periods: for example, certain UK laws currently specify fixed time periods for retention of some of your personal data. We will keep your data for 6 years from the date of the last contact in relation to your housing need.

What are your rights?

You have the right to request a copy of the information that we hold about you. This is known as a Data Subject Access Request. If you would like a copy of some or all of your personal data please email or write to the Data Protection Officer – see contact details below.

We want to make sure that your personal information is accurate and up to date. If at any point you believe the information we process on you is incorrect you may request to see this information and even have it corrected or deleted.

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data, you can contact our Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are not processing your personal data in accordance with the law you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) - <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

To contact our Data Protection Officer you can email foi@midsussex.gov.uk or write to

Data Protection Officer
Digital & Technology
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath, RH16 1SS

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