

<<insert Company name>>

1. Introduction

This document sets out the policy of the Company name>> (the “Company”) to protect data (electronic and physical) held by the Company, and to protect the computing environment, and the IT Systems”) from damage, loss, theft, or accidental.

For the purposes of this Policy, the following type(s) of data:

- a) <<insert list of data types>>
- b) <<add further data types>>

This Policy shall be subject to the Data Protection Legislation. “Data Protection Legislation” means all legislation and regulations in force from time to time relating to the privacy of electronic communications, including the version of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (the “UK GDPR”) as it forms part of the law of the United Kingdom, Scotland, and Northern Ireland by virtue of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003 as amended, and any successor legislation.

For the purposes of this Policy, “personal data” means all information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (a “data subject”) which can be identified, directly or indirectly, by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier, or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural, or social identity of that natural person.

2. Key Principles

- 2.1 All IT Systems and data must be protected against unauthorised access.
- 2.2 All IT Systems and data must be processed only in compliance with relevant Company Policies.
- 2.3 All personal data must be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Legislation and the Company Policy.
- 2.4 All employees of the Company who have access to the IT Systems and data, including, but not limited to, “Users”), must ensure that they comply with this Policy and must adhere to it at all times.
- 2.5 All line managers must ensure that they are under their control and direction.

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must adhere to and paragraph 2.4.

at all times as required under

- 2.6 All data must be managed in accordance with all relevant parts of the Data Protection Legislation and any applicable laws whether now or in the future in force.

- 2.7 All data must be classified, including, but not limited to, personal data, "special category data" (as defined in Article 9 of the UK GDPR), and confidential data. All data so classified must be handled appropriately in accordance with the classification.

- 2.8 All data, whether stored in hardcopy format, shall be available only to those who have a genuine need for access.

- 2.9 All data, whether stored in hardcopy format, shall be protected against unauthorized processing.

- 2.10 All data, whether stored in hardcopy format, shall be protected against loss.

- 2.11 All IT Systems are maintained, serviced, repaired, and upgraded by <<insert name of department>> (the "IT Department") or by such third party as the IT Department may from time to time authorise.

- 2.12 The responsibility for the security of all IT Systems and the data stored thereon (including, but not limited to, the security, integrity, and confidentiality of that data) shall rest with the IT Department unless expressly stated otherwise.

- 2.13 The responsibility for the security of data that is not stored on the IT Systems lies with the Data Protection Officer, <<insert name and contact details>>] **AND/OR** <<insert name and contact details of any other individuals and/or department(s) responsible>>.]

- 2.14 All breaches of security of IT Systems or any data stored thereon shall be promptly investigated by the IT Department. [Any breach which is either known or suspected to involve personal data shall be reported to the Data Protection Officer, <<insert name and contact details>>.]

- 2.15 All breaches of security of data that is not stored on the IT Systems shall be reported and investigated by [the Data Protection Officer, <<insert name and contact details>>] **AND/OR** [<<insert details of the individuals and/or department(s) responsible>>.] [Any breach which is either known or suspected to involve personal data shall be reported to the Data Protection Officer, <<insert name and contact details>>.]

- 2.16 All Users must report any concerns relating to the IT Systems or to the data stored thereon to the IT Department. [If any such concerns relate in any way to personal data, such concerns must [also] **OR** [instead] be reported to the Data Protection Officer.]

- 2.17 All Users must report any concerns relating to data that is not stored on the IT Systems to the Data Protection Officer, <<insert name and contact details>>] **AND/OR** [<<insert details of the individuals and/or department(s) responsible>>.] [Any such concerns relate in any way to personal data, such concerns must [also] **OR** [instead] be reported to the Data Protection Officer.]

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3. Department Responsibilities

- 3.1 The IT Manager, <<insert details>>, shall be responsible for the following:
- a) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods are assessed and deemed suitable for compliance with the Company's security requirements;
 - b) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods are effectively implemented and reviewed, working in consultation with the Company's security officer and Data Protection Officer, as appropriate, and reporting the outcome of such reviews to the Company's senior management;
 - c) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods comply with the requirements of this Policy and other relevant legislation, regulations, and other relevant rules whether in force now or in the future including, but not limited to, the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- 3.2 [The Data Protection Officer, <<insert details of the Data Protection Officer and contact details>>] **AND/OR** [the department(s) responsible>>] shall be responsible for the following:
- a) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods are assessed and deemed suitable for compliance with the Company's security requirements;
 - b) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods are effectively implemented and reviewed, working in consultation with the Company's security officer and Data Protection Officer, as appropriate, and reporting the outcome of such reviews to the Company's senior management;
 - c) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods comply with the requirements of this Policy and other relevant legislation, regulations, and other relevant rules whether in force now or in the future including, but not limited to, the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- 3.3 The IT Staff shall be responsible for the following:
- a) assisting all users with the IT-related aspects of this Policy and complying with the IT-related requirements;
 - b) providing all users with support and training in IT security matters and ensuring that all users are aware of the IT security requirements;
 - c) ensuring that the Company's IT systems and methods are assessed and deemed suitable for compliance with the Company's security requirements;
 - d) receiving and taking appropriate action on reports relating to IT security matters and ensuring that the Data Protection Officer is kept informed [including, in the event that any reports are received from the Data Protection Officer];
 - e) taking proactive measures to establish and implement IT security awareness;
 - f) assisting the Company and its senior management in bringing all IT security within the Company to implement this Policy and ensuring that the Company complies with the requirements of this Policy and other relevant legislation, regulations, and other relevant rules whether in force now or in the future; and

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- g) ensuring that IT Systems at i backups are s backups shou

en of all data stored within the IT <insert interval>> and that such ion [onsite] **AND/OR** [offsite]. All <insert type(s) of encryption>>].

3.4 [The Data Protection <<insert details of the >>] shall be responsible for the

and contact details>>] **AND/OR** [department(s) responsible>>] shall

- a) assisting all U related aspec
- b) providing all U security matte
- c) ensuring that appropriate fo responsibilities
- d) receiving and matters and t event that any Protection Of
- e) taking proacti security proce
- f) assisting [<<i heads">>] **AN** security within implement thi future.

and complying with the non-IT-

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els of access to data that are account their job role, ty requirements;

ning non-IT-related data security in response [including, in the al data, informing the Data

e, to establish and implement awareness; and

e managers" or "department on Officer] in monitoring data g all necessary action to s made to this Policy in the

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4. **Users' Responsibilities**

- 4.1 All Users must comp using the IT Systems
- 4.2 All Users must use t and must not use th likely to contravene a
- 4.3 Users must immedi Officer, <<insert nam individuals and/or de concerns relate to p security concerns rel
- 4.4 Users must immedi problems (including, which may occur on
- 4.5 Any and all delibera handled as appropri

s of this Policy at all times when

only within the bounds of UK law any purpose or activity which is or in the future in force.

ment and/or [the Data Protection **AND/OR** [<<insert details of the >>.] **AND/OR** [(and, where such Protection Officer)] of any and all or data.

partment of any other technical ware failures and software errors)

s of this Policy by Users will be disciplinary procedures.

5. **Software Security Measure**

- 5.1 All software in use o systems, individual s and any and all r

ding, but not limited to, operating (firmware) will be kept up-to-date tes, patches, fixes, and other

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intermediate releases to the IT Department. This policy applies to 'major releases' (e.g. a particular major release of software update is a major release, falling within the scope of this provision).

5.2 Where any security flaw is fixed immediately or as soon as such time as the security flaw affects, is likely to affect, the Data Protection Officer shall be notified.

5.3 No Users may install software supplied on physical media without the approval of the IT Manager. All software must be approved by the IT Manager and may not pose a risk to the IT Systems or breach any agreements to which the Company is a party.

5.4 All software will be installed on an individual User's computer only with written permission from the IT Manager and onto which company data is not stored.

6. Anti-Virus Security Measures

6.1 Most IT Systems (including servers) will be protected with suitable anti-virus, firewalls and internet security software. All such software will be kept up to date with the latest software updates and definitions.

6.2 All IT Systems protected by anti-virus software will be subject to a full system scan at least once a week.

6.3 All physical media (CDs, DVDs or disks of any kind) used by Users for transferring data must be scanned before any files may be transferred. Such scanning will be performed [automatically upon connection / insertion] OR [by the IT Staff / Manager].

6.4 Users shall be permitted to use cloud storage systems only with the approval of the IT Manager. All data downloaded from any cloud storage system must be scanned before the download process.]

6.5 Any files being sent to or received from the Company, whether by email, shared cloud storage) must be scanned for viruses as part of the sending process, as appropriate. [All email attachments must be scanned automatically upon sending.]

6.6 Where any virus is detected on a User's computer or device, the IT Department (or the User where the anti-virus software has failed) shall promptly take any necessary action to remove the virus and all necessary action to prevent the virus from spreading. In limited circumstances this may involve the temporary removal of the affected computer or device. Wherever possible a replacement computer or device will be provided to the User to limit disruption to the User.

the sole discretion of the IT Department. This policy applies to 'major releases' (e.g. a particular major release of software update is a major release, falling within the scope of this provision).

software that flaw will be either immediately remedied. [If the security flaw affects any personal data, the Data Protection Officer shall be notified.]

own, whether that software is downloaded, without the approval of the IT Manager. All Users must be approved by the IT Manager and may not pose a risk to the IT Systems or breach any licence agreements to which the Company is a party.

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must be reported immediately to the IT Department (or the User where the anti-virus software has failed) shall promptly take any necessary action to remove the virus and all necessary action to prevent the virus from spreading. In limited circumstances this may involve the temporary removal of the affected computer or device. Wherever possible a replacement computer or device will be provided to the User to limit disruption to the User.

- 6.7 [If any virus or other malware is suspected to affect, or is suspected to affect any personal data above, the issue must be reported immediately to the Data Protection Officer.
- 6.8 Where any User delivers malicious software or virus to the IT Systems this will be a breach of the Computer Misuse Act 1990 and will be dealt with under the Company's disciplinary procedures.

7. Hardware Security Measures

- 7.1 Wherever practical, IT Systems shall be securely locked when not in use or not (with appropriate access by means of a key, smart card, door code, etc.) access to such locations is restricted, Users must not allow unauthorised access to such locations for any reason.
- 7.2 All IT Systems not in use, to, servers, network infrastructure) shall be located, wherever possible, in secured, climate-controlled rooms and/or in locked cabinets accessed only by designated members of the IT Department.
- 7.3 No Users shall have access to IT Systems (including servers and network infrastructure) without the express permission of the IT Manager. In the event of a problem with such IT Systems, that problem must be reported to the IT Department. In the event of a User attempt to rectify any such problem without express permission (and, in most cases, instruction and approval) of the IT Manager.
- 7.4 All non-mobile devices (including desktop computers, workstations, and servers) shall be physically secured in locked cabinets or locked rooms. Where the design of the hardware does not allow for locking, the devices shall be locked to prevent tampering with or the removal of the device.
- 7.5 All mobile devices (including laptops, tablets, and smartphones) provided by the Company should always be transported in locked cases where such mobile devices are to be left unattended. When not in use, mobile devices should be stored inside a lockable case or other suitable container. Users should make reasonable efforts to avoid such devices being left at any location [other than their private homes or Company vehicles] where such mobile device is to be left in unattended. Where possible, in a locked compartment.
- 7.6 The IT Department shall maintain an asset register of all IT Systems. All IT Systems shall be recorded in the asset register. Corresponding data shall be kept on the asset register.

8. Organisational Security

- 8.1 All Users handling data (including personal data) personal data will be appropriately trained.
- 8.2 All Users handling data (including personal data) will be appropriately trained.

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supervised.

- 8.3 All Users handling data (including personal data) shall be required and encouraged to exercise discretion when discussing work-related matters that may involve personal data, either in the workplace or otherwise.
- 8.4 Methods of collecting, storing, processing data (and in particular, personal data) shall be regularly reviewed.
- 8.5 All personal [and non-personal] data held by the Company shall be reviewed periodically, as set out in the Company's Retention Policy.
- 8.6 The performance of data handling of personal data shall be regularly evaluated and reviewed.
- 8.7 All Users handling personal data shall be required to do so in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the applicable Company Policies by contract.
- 8.8 No data, personal or otherwise, shall be shared informally and if a User requires access to a system or data which they otherwise, that they do not already have access to, such access shall be formally requested from <<insert name(s) and/or position(s)>>.
- 8.9 No data, personal or otherwise, shall be transferred to any unauthorised User without the authorisation of <<insert name(s) and/or position(s) and contact details>>.
- 8.10 All data must be handled securely at all times and should not be left unattended or on view for other parties at any time.

9. Access Security

- 9.1 Access privileges for all Users shall be determined on the basis of Users' levels of authority and the requirements of their job roles. Users shall not be granted access to any IT Systems or data which are not reasonably required for the performance of their job roles.
- 9.2 All IT Systems (and devices including, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, and mobile phones) shall be protected with a secure password or passcode, or such other security measure as the IT Department may deem appropriate. All forms of biometric log-in are considered secure. Only security measures approved by the IT Department may be used.
- 9.3 All passwords must, when used on a computer, or device allows:
- a) be at least <<insert number>> characters long;
 - b) contain a combination of upper case letters / numbers / lower case letters / numbers / spaces / symbols;
 - c) be changed at an interval of <<insert number>> days;
 - d) be different from previous passwords;
 - e) not be obvious (e.g. names, birthdays or other memorable dates, memorable places etc.); and
 - f) be created by the User.
- 9.4 Passwords should be kept confidential and should not be shared with anyone, including the IT Manager.

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ely asked for their password by should be refused. If a User has s obtained their password, they and report the suspected breach personal data could be accessed ction Officer]].

- be reported to the IT Department. Steps to restore the User's access (issuing of a temporary password) must be set up by the User and the IT Systems.
- It is possible to remember them. If a password could be stored securely (e.g. in a safe) and under no circumstances should be seen (e.g. by attaching a note to the device).
- For mobile devices (e.g. mouse, keyboard, etc.) where possible, with a password after <<insert time period>> of inactivity. Users may not disable the screensaver will not interrupt or damage data on the computer (e.g. data loss).
- For desktop devices, limited to, laptops, tablets, and mobile devices will be set to lock, sleep, or similar, requiring a password, passcode, or PIN. Users may not alter this time period.
- Users may not allow outside parties to access Company data without the approval of the IT Manager. Any such access must be approved by the User for the performance of their duties and must be cleared by the IT Manager [and, if necessary, accessible by the outside party, the IT Manager].
- For mobile devices, including, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, and mobile devices, specific network name(s), if any, must be subject to the approval of the IT Manager. Requirements provided by the IT Manager must be followed on devices when connected to the Company network at all times. Users' use of their own devices must comply with all relevant Company Policies when those devices are connected to the Company network or part of the IT Systems. The IT Manager must ensure the immediate disconnection of

Particular personal data, should be
 Part type(s) of encryption>>] data

- Particular personal data, should be
 Part type(s) of encryption>>] data

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10.2 All data stored in hard copy form, on removable physical media, and in particular on portable electronic devices, shall be stored securely in a locked box, drawer, cabinet or cupboard.

electronically on removable physical media, shall be stored securely in a locked box, drawer, cabinet or cupboard.

10.3 No personal data shall be stored on portable electronic devices, limited to, laptops, tablets, smartphones, etc., whether such device belongs to the Company or otherwise, without the prior written approval of the Data Protection Officer and in accordance with all instructions and for no longer than is necessary.

mobile device (including, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, smartphones, etc.), whether such device belongs to the Company or otherwise, without the prior written approval of the Data Protection Officer and in accordance with all instructions and for no longer than is necessary.

10.4 No data, and in particular no personal data, shall be stored on a computer or device provided to the Company by a contractor or supplier unless the User has agreed to do so in writing and the Data Protection Officer has approved the arrangement.

should be transferred to any other person or device unless the User unless the User in question has agreed to do so in writing on behalf of the Company and that the arrangement complies with the company's Data Protection Policy.

11. Data Protection

11.1 All personal data collected, held, and processed by the Company shall be in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Legislation and the Company's Data Protection Policy.

processed by the Company will be in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Legislation and the Company's Data Protection Policy.

11.2 All Users handling data shall be subject to, and must comply with, the Company's Data Protection Policy at all times. In particular:

the Company shall be subject to, and must comply with, the Company's Data Protection Policy at all times. In particular:

a) All emails containing personal data must be handled in accordance with the Company's Data Protection Policy.

and/or other data covered by this Policy must be handled in accordance with the Company's Data Protection Policy.

b) All emails containing personal data must be handled in accordance with the Company's Data Protection Policy.

and/or other data covered by this Policy must be handled in accordance with the Company's Data Protection Policy.

c) Personal data shall not be transmitted over unsecured networks or email unless it is encrypted.

covered by this Policy may be transmitted over unsecured networks or email unless it is encrypted.

d) Personal data shall not be transmitted over unsecured networks or email unless it is encrypted.

covered by this Policy may not be transmitted over unsecured networks or email unless there is a wired alternative that is available.

e) Personal data contained in the body of an email received by the Company should be deleted from the body of the email and stored securely. The email itself should be deleted [unless it is necessary to retain it for legal reasons].

covered by this Policy contained in the body of an email received, should be copied directly into a secure storage system and stored securely. The email itself should be deleted [unless it is necessary to retain it for legal reasons].

f) All personal data shall be transferred to a secure storage system marked "confidential".

covered by this Policy to be transferred to a secure storage system marked "confidential".

g) Where any personal data is being viewed on a computer or device, the user must lock the computer and/or device when they leave the desk.

er data covered by this Policy is being viewed on a computer or device, the user must lock the computer and/or device when they leave the desk.

11.3 Any questions relating to the Data Protection Policy should be referred to [the Data Protection Officer.] <[details]>.

should be referred to [the Data Protection Officer.] <[details]>.

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12. Deletion and Disposal of Data

- 12.1 When any data, and any copies of it, is to be erased or otherwise disposed of for any reason (e.g. no longer needed), it shall be securely deleted and/or disposed of using <<insert method(s)>>.
- 12.2 For further information on the disposal of personal data, please refer to the Company's Data Protection Policy.

13. Internet and Email Use

- 13.1 All Users shall be subject to, and comply with, the provisions of the Company's Communications and Internet Policy when using the IT Systems.
- 13.2 Where provisions in the Policy require additional steps to be taken to ensure security when using email or email over and above the Company's Communications, Email and Internet Policy, Users must take such steps.

14. Reporting Security Breaches

- 14.1 Subject to paragraph 14.3, any questions, suspected breaches, or known breaches that are reported to <<insert specific name of individual(s) and/or department(s)>> [a member of the IT Department] OR [the IT Manager] OR [the Data Protection Officer] shall be referred immediately to the Data Protection Officer.
- 14.2 Subject to paragraph 14.3, any questions, suspected breaches, or known breaches that are reported to <<insert specific name of individual(s) and/or department(s)>> [a member of the IT Department] OR [the Data Protection Officer] AND/OR [the Data Protection Officer] shall be referred immediately to the Data Protection Officer.
- 14.3 All concerns, questions, or known breaches that involve personal data shall be referred immediately to the [The Data Protection Officer] OR [the Data Protection Officer] who shall be responsible for the Data Protection Policy.
- 14.4 Upon receiving a report of a breach, the individual or department responsible for the breach shall, within the <<insert time period>>, assess the issue and the risk associated therewith, and shall take any and all such steps as may be necessary to respond to the issue.
- 14.5 Under no circumstances shall any individual or department attempt to resolve a security breach on their own without first consulting the Data Protection Officer. Only the Data Protection Officer may attempt to resolve a security breach without the express permission of, or in consultation with, the individual(s) and/or department(s) responsible, as appropriate.
- 14.6 All security breaches shall be fully documented.

15. Policy Review

The Company shall review this Policy <<insert interval>> and otherwise as required in order to ensure it remains up-to-date and fit for purpose. All

questions, concerns, and
communicated to the <<in
responsible>>, as appropri
and contact details>>].

ng to this Policy should be
individual(s) and/or department(s)
Protection Officer, <<insert name

16. **Implementation of Policy**

This Policy shall be deemed
shall have retroactive effect
this date.

rt date>>. No part of this Policy
y to matters occurring on or after

This Policy has been approv

Name: <<insert f

Position: <<insert p

Date: <<insert d

Due for Review <<insert d
by:

Signature:

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