



## **Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) act 1992 (Privacy Statement)**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is the Government Department responsible for housing and water, for physical and spatial planning, for local government and for weather forecasting.

The Department is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy. This privacy statement explains how the Department, as the Data Controller, will process the personal data provided to it in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1992, how that information will be used, and what rights you may exercise in relation to your personal data.

### **Purposes of the Processing**

Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1992 allows the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to grant Approved Housing Body status to an organisation and to withdraw such approval upon application. Data submitted by organisations, will inform the application/rescinding process.

The Department will use the data provided, in order to update the current AHB register, by ensuring that those AHBs actively trading in the provision or management of social housing are present on the register.

Data received during this process may be cross checked with data held by the Department and relevant Local Authorities and other relevant agencies under the aegis of the Department, or other public bodies, in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law. The Department may also contact you in respect of any information provided.



The Department will include only the name and address of the organisation/AHB that you represent, on the published register. Records may be released under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and all information received will be subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act and Data Protection legislation. The Department will not process your personal data for any purpose other than that for which it was collected.

### **Profiling**

The Department will not use any personal data collected from you as part of this process for the purposes of automated decision-making, or for profiling purposes.

### **Lawfulness of Processing**

This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6 (1) (c) and 6 (1) (e) of the General Data Protection Regulation.

### **Security of your personal data**

The Department implements appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect your information from unauthorised access. However, despite these efforts, no security measures are perfect or impenetrable, and no method of data transmission can be guaranteed against any interception or other type of misuse. In the event that your personal data is compromised as a result of a breach of security, the Department's Breach Management policy and procedures will be implemented.

### **Recipients of the data**

Personal data may be exchanged with other Government Departments, local authorities, agencies under the aegis of the Department, or other public bodies, in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law.



The Housing (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies) Act 2019 (the Act) was signed in to law on 23 December 2019. The Act provides for the establishment of a statutory Regulator to oversee the effective governance, financial management and performance of voluntary and co-operative housing bodies. It is anticipated that the Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority will be established in January 2021.

In due course, AHBs that are on the Department's Register, at the time the relevant provisions of the Act are commenced, will be deemed to be automatically registered with the statutory Regulator. Section 34 (2) on the Act allows for all such information in the possession of the Minister for the purposes of Section 6 of the Act of 1992, relating to a deemed AHB to pass to the Regulator when requested.

### **Cross – border data transfers**

The Department will not transfer personal data collected in respect of this process to any country or international organisation outside the EU/EEA.

### **How long will your data be kept?**

The Department will only retain your personal data for as long as it is necessary for the purposes for which it was collected and processed. In line with legislative and business requirements, the data retention period for your personal data, in this instance, will be in line with legislative and business unit requirements and the National Archives Act 1986 (as amended).

### **Your rights**

The Department's [Data Protection Policy](#), which sets out how we will use your personal data, as well as providing information regarding your rights as a data subject (including details regarding right of access, right to rectification, right to



erasure, right to restriction of processing, right to object), is available on our website. The policy is also available in hard copy upon request.

If you consider that your rights have been infringed, you have the right to complain to the Irish Data Protection Commissioner ([www.dataprotection.ie](http://www.dataprotection.ie)), and you have the right to seek a judicial remedy.

### **Contacting Us**

If you require further information, or wish to access your personal data, please contact the Department's **Data Protection Officer**, details below:

**Data Protection Officer,  
Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage,  
Newtown Road,  
Wexford.**

**Email: [data.protection@housing.gov.ie](mailto:data.protection@housing.gov.ie)**

**Telephone: 053 91 17450**