



**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil**
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government

Public Consultation on the Modernisation of the Electoral Registration Process (Privacy Statement)

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government 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 respect of submissions made as part of the public consultation on the Modernisation of the Electoral Registration Process; how that information will be used, and what rights you may exercise in relation to your personal data.

Why we are processing your data

The Department will use your submission in order to inform the development of an implementation proposal for the modernisation of the electoral registration process.

The Department collects your data in the form of any contact details we receive from you in order to ensure clarity on the submissions received as part of this public consultation. In this regard, the Department may contact you with follow up questions in relation to your submission. Submissions received during the public consultation process may be published on the Department website, www.housing.gov.ie. Submissions may also be released under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Personal data, such as contact details, will be redacted before publication. The Department will include your name, or the name of the organisation you represent, in any published submission. If you wish for your name not to appear on the Department's website, please indicate

as such in your submission. All submissions 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 in respect of this public consultation on the modernisation of the electoral registration process for the purpose of automated decision making or profiling.

Lawfulness of processing

This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6 (1) (e) of the GDPR Regulation which provides that *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*, in this case the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in its capacity as the body responsible for electoral policy and legislation.

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. While the content or substance of submissions may be shared, personal data such as contact information will not be shared with any other body for the purposes of this consultation. Where an organisation has made a submission, the name of the organisation may be shared.

Cross-border Data Transfers

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

How long will we keep your data?

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. The modernisation project is expected to take some 2-3 years to complete and all records, including the website where submissions to this public consultation will be published, will be maintained for that period. After that, the data retention period for your personal data will be in line with legislative and business unit requirements related to this project 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), 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, Planning and Local Government,

Newtown Road,

Wexford

Email: data.protection@housing.gov.ie

Telephone: 053 9117450