

**Autumn 2018**

**Architects Plus (UK) Limited**

**Privacy Notice for Contractors, Consultants and Suppliers**

## What is the purpose of this document?

Architects Plus (UK) Limited is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information.

This privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about you during and after your relationship with us, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Architects Plus (UK) Limited is a "data controller". This means that we are responsible for deciding how we hold and use personal information about you. We are required under data protection legislation to notify you of the information contained in this privacy notice.

This notice does not form part of any contract with you. We may update this notice at any time but if we do so, we will provide you with an updated copy of this notice as soon as reasonably practical.

It is important that you read this notice, together with any other privacy notice we may provide on specific occasions when we are collecting or processing personal information about you, so that you are aware of how and why we are using such information and what your rights are under the data protection legislation.

### Data protection principles

We will comply with data protection law. This says that the personal information we hold about you must be:

1. Used lawfully, fairly and in a transparent way.
2. Collected only for valid purposes that we have clearly explained to you and not used in any way that is incompatible with those purposes.
3. Relevant to the purposes we have told you about and limited only to those purposes.
4. Accurate and kept up to date.
5. Kept only as long as necessary for the purposes we have told you about.
6. Kept securely.

### The kind of information we hold about you

Personal data, or personal information, means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

There are certain types of more sensitive personal data which require a higher level of protection, such as information about a person's health or sexual orientation. Information about criminal convictions also warrants this higher level of protection.

We may collect, store and use of personal information about you including the following categories:

- Personal contact details such as name, title, addresses, telephone numbers, and personal email addresses and, where applicable, company/organisation name and your role within the organisation.
- Bank account details where required for payment purposes.
- Payment/transaction details.

- Any applicable credit checks.
- Details of the services/goods supplied.
- Assessment of performance.
- Identity documents required to comply with any legal/professional obligations applicable to us.

### **How is your personal information collected?**

We collect personal information about you directly from you and on occasion also from previous advisers (e.g. architects and consultant engineers) and or clients with who you have worked.

We may collect additional personal information in the course of our relationship with you.

### **How we will use information about you**

We will only use your personal information when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we will use your personal information in the following circumstances:

1. Where we need to perform the contract we have entered into with you or the organisation for which you work.
2. Where we need to comply with a legal obligation.
3. Where it is necessary for legitimate interests pursued by us or a third party and your interests and fundamental rights do not override those interests.

We may also use your personal information in the following situations, which are likely to be rare:

1. Where we need to protect your interests (or someone else's interests).
2. Where it is needed in the public interest or for official purposes.

### **Situations in which we will use your personal information**

We need all the categories of information in the list above primarily to allow us to perform our contract with you (or made on your behalf) and to enable us to comply with legal obligations. In some cases we may use your personal information to pursue legitimate interests, provided your interests and fundamental rights do not override those interests. The situations in which we will process your personal information include the following:

- Making a decision about using your services/goods.
- To assess the quality of your services/goods.
- To comply with the law regarding data sharing and safeguarding.
- To take/make/process/administer payment.
- To obtain the services/goods that we seek from you.
- Administering the contract we have entered with you.
- Business management and planning, including accounting and auditing and reporting obligations.

- Complying with any legal/professional obligations to which we are subject.
- Where appropriate, for marketing our services to you and keeping you informed about the services we offer and events and developments within the organisation.
- Dealing with any legal disputes involving you.
- To prevent fraud.

Some of the above grounds for processing will overlap and there may be several grounds which justify our use of your personal information.

### **If you fail to provide personal information**

If you fail to provide certain information when requested, we may not be able to perform the contract we have entered into with you or we may be prevented from complying with our legal obligations.

### **Change of purpose**

We will only use your personal information for the purposes for which we collected it, unless we reasonably consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the original purpose. If we need to use your personal information for an unrelated purpose, we will notify you and we will explain the legal basis which allows us to do so.

Please note that we may process your personal information without your knowledge or consent, in compliance with the above rules, where this is required or permitted by law.

### **How we use particularly sensitive personal information**

"Special categories" of particularly sensitive personal information, such as information about your health, require higher levels of protection. We need to have further justification for collecting, storing and using this type of personal information. We have in place an appropriate policy document and safeguards which we are required by law to maintain when processing such data. We may process special categories of personal information in the following circumstances:

1. In limited circumstances, with your explicit written consent.
2. Where we need to carry out our legal obligations.
3. Where it is needed in the public interest, such as for equal opportunities monitoring or for your care.

Less commonly, we may process this type of information where it is needed in relation to legal claims or where it is needed to protect your interests (or someone else's interests) and you are not capable of giving your consent, or where you have already made the information public.

### **Situations in which we will use your sensitive personal information**

#### **Automated decision-making**

Automated decision-making takes place when an electronic system uses personal information to make a decision without human intervention.

You will not be subject to decisions that will have a significant impact on you based solely on automated decision-making, unless we have a lawful basis for doing so and we have notified you.

We do not envisage that any decisions will be taken about you using automated means, however we will notify you in writing if this position changes.

## **Data sharing**

We may have to share your data with third parties, including third-party service providers.

We require third parties to respect the security of your data and to treat it in accordance with the law.

We will NOT transfer your personal information outside the EU.

### **Why might you share my personal information with third parties?**

We will share your personal information with third parties where required by law, where it is necessary to administer the contract with you or where we have another legitimate interest in doing so.

### **Which third-party service providers process your personal information?**

"Third parties" includes third-party service providers (including contractors and designated agents such as contractors, consultant engineers and/or other individuals/organisations that are involved in carrying out the required work) and with our client. We may also share data with the local authority or other authorities dealing with planning/listing/building regulations or other bodies who are relevant to the services that we are providing. We may also share data to satisfy other legal obligations.

### **How secure is your information with third-party service providers?**

Any third-party service providers are required to take appropriate security measures to protect your personal information in line with our policies. We do not allow any third-party service providers to use your personal data for their own purposes. We only permit them to process your personal data for specified purposes and in accordance with our instructions.

### **What about other third parties?**

We may share your personal information with other third parties. For example we may also share data with the local authority or other authorities dealing with planning/listing/building regulations or other bodies who are relevant to the services that we are providing. We may also share data to satisfy other legal obligations. We will store a back-up of your data off-site and this may include a remote "cloud" back-up.

We may also need to share your personal information with a regulator or other professional body (including for quality assurance purposes) or to otherwise comply with the law.

## **Data security**

We have put in place measures to protect the security of your information. Details of these measures are available upon request but include use of appropriate virus protection software, firewalls, password protection, limited access to areas of our IT system, appropriate measures to back-up data, specialist off-site storage of data, locked filing cabinets, an IT and Communications System Policy governing the use of our systems, appropriate IT monitoring, updates and training.

Third parties will only process your personal information on our instructions and where they have agreed to treat the information confidentially and to keep it secure.

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal information from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed. In addition, we limit access to your personal information to those employees, agents, contractors and other third parties who have a business need to know or where there is a legal obligation to disclose the

relevant information. They will only process your personal information on our instructions and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality.

We have put in place procedures to deal with any suspected data security breach and will notify you and any applicable regulator of a suspected breach where we are legally required to do so.

We will only retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements. Details of retention periods for different aspects of your personal information are available in our Data Retention Policy which is available upon request.

To determine the appropriate retention period for personal data, we consider the amount, nature, and sensitivity of the personal data, the potential risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure of your personal data, the purposes for which we process your personal data and whether we can achieve those purposes through other means, and the applicable legal requirements.

In some circumstances we may anonymise your personal information so that it can no longer be associated with you, in which case we may use such information without further notice to you. We will retain and securely destroy your personal information in accordance with our Data Retention Policy.

## **Rights of access, correction, erasure, and restriction**

### **Your duty to inform us of changes**

It is important that the personal information we hold about you is accurate and current. Please keep us informed if your personal information changes during your relationship with us.

### **Your rights in connection with personal information**

Under certain circumstances, by law you have the right to:

- **Request access** to your personal information (commonly known as a "data subject access request"). This enables you to receive a copy of the personal information we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.
- **Request correction** of the personal information that we hold about you. This enables you to have any incomplete or inaccurate information we hold about you corrected.
- **Request erasure** of your personal information. This enables you to ask us to delete or remove personal information where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal information where you have exercised your right to object to processing (see below).
- **Object to processing** of your personal information where we are relying on a legitimate interest (or those of a third party) and there is something about your particular situation which makes you want to object to processing on this ground. You also have the right to object where we are processing your personal information for direct marketing purposes.
- **Request the restriction of processing** of your personal information. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of personal information about you, for example if you want us to establish its accuracy or the reason for processing it.
- **Request the transfer** of your personal information to another party.

If you want to review, verify, correct or request erasure of your personal information, object to the processing of your personal data, or request that we transfer a copy of your personal information to another party, please contact us in writing.

### **No fee usually required**

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal information (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request for access is clearly unfounded or excessive. Alternatively, we may refuse to comply with the request in such circumstances.

### **What we may need from you**

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access the information (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is another appropriate security measure to ensure that personal information is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it.

### **Right to withdraw consent**

In the limited circumstances where you may have provided your consent to the collection, processing and transfer of your personal information for a specific purpose, you have the right to withdraw your consent for that specific processing at any time. To withdraw your consent, please contact us in writing. Once we have received notification that you have withdrawn your consent, we will no longer process your information for the purpose or purposes you originally agreed to, unless we have another legitimate basis for doing so in law.

### **Changes to this privacy notice**

We reserve the right to update this privacy notice at any time, and we will provide you with a new privacy notice when we make any substantial updates. We may also notify you in other ways from time to time about the processing of your personal information.