

Higham & Rushden U3A

Data Protection Policy

Scope of the policy

This policy applies to the work of Higham & Rushden (H&R) U3A and sets out the requirements to collect and process information for membership purposes. The policy details how personal information will be collected, stored and managed in line with data protection principles and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This policy is reviewed on an on-going basis by H&R U3A Committee members to ensure that it remains compliant and should be read in tandem with H&R U3A's Privacy Policy.

Why this policy exists

This data protection policy ensures Higham & Rushden U3A:

- Complies with data protection law and follows good practice
- Protects the rights of members
- Is open about how it stores and processes members data
- Protects itself from the risks of a data breach

General guidelines for committee members and group leaders

- The only people able to access data covered by this policy should be those who need to communicate with or provide a service to, H&R U3A members
- H&R U3A will provide (on request), induction training to Committee members and Group Leaders, to help them understand their responsibilities when handling data
- Committee Members and Group Leaders should keep all data secure, by taking sensible precautions and following the guidelines below
 - Strong passwords must be used and should never be shared
 - Data should not be shared outside of the U3A unless with prior consent and/or for specific and agreed reasons. Examples would include Gift Aid information provided to HMRC or information provided to the distribution company for the Trust publications
 - Member information should be refreshed periodically to ensure accuracy, via the membership renewal process or when policy is changed
- Additional support will be available from the Third Age Trust where uncertainties or incidents regarding data protection arise

Data protection principles

The General Data Protection Regulation identifies key data protection principles:

Principle 1 - Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner

Principle 2 - Personal data must be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes

Principle 3 - The collection of personal data must be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed

Principle 4 – Personal data held should be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay

Principle 5 – Personal data must be kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary; it may be stored (archived) for longer periods insofar as such data will be processed solely for purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research or statistical purposes, subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals

Principle 6 - Personal data must be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures

Lawful, fair and transparent data processing

H&R U3A requests personal information from individuals for membership applications and for sending communications regarding members' involvement with the U3A. Members will be informed as to why the information is being requested and what the information will be used for. The lawful basis for obtaining member information is due to the legitimate interest that the U3A has with individual members. Members will also be asked to provide consent for specific processing purposes such as the taking of photographs, and will be informed as to who they need to contact should they wish for their data not to be used for specific purposes. Where these requests are received they will be acted upon promptly and the member will be informed as to when the action has taken place.

Processed for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes

Members will be informed as to how their information will be used and H&R U3A Committee will seek to ensure that member information is not used inappropriately. Appropriate use of information provided by members will include:

- Communicating with members about H&R U3A events and activities
- Group Leaders communicating with group members about specific group activities
- Member information will be provided to the distribution company that sends out the Trust publication – Third Age Matters. Members will have a choice as to whether or not they wish to receive the publication
- Sending members information about Third Age Trust events and activities
- Communicating with members about their membership and/or renewal of their membership
- Communicating with members about specific issues that may have arisen during the course of their membership

H&R U3A will ensure that Group Leaders are made aware of what would be considered appropriate and inappropriate communication. Inappropriate communication would include sending U3A members marketing and/or promotional materials from external service providers.

H&R U3A will ensure that members' information is managed in such a way as to not infringe an individual member's rights which include:

- The right to be informed
- The right of access
- The right to rectification
- The right to erasure
- The right to restrict processing
- The right to data portability
- The right to object

Adequate, relevant and limited data processing

Members of H&R U3A will only be asked to provide information that is relevant for membership purposes, which will include:

- Name
- Postal address
- Email address
- Telephone number

Where additional information may be required (such as that related to health), this will be obtained with the consent of the member who will be informed as to why this information is required and the purpose for which it will be used. Submitting next-of-kin ICE (In Case of Emergency) information is encouraged but voluntary.

Photographs

Photographs are classified as personal data. Where group photographs are being taken members will be asked to step out of shot if they don't wish to be in the photograph. Otherwise consent will be obtained from members in order for photographs to be taken and members will be informed as to where photographs will be displayed. Members wishing at any time to remove their consent and to have their photograph removed, should contact the Membership Secretary in the first instance to advise that they no longer want their photograph to be displayed.

Accuracy of data and keeping data up-to-date

H&R U3A has a responsibility to ensure members' information is kept up to date. Members will inform the Membership Secretary if any of their personal information changes. In addition, on an annual basis, the membership renewal process will provide an opportunity for members to inform H&R U3A as to any changes in their personal information.

Accountability and governance

H&R U3A Committee are responsible for ensuring that the U3A remains compliant with data protection requirements and can evidence that it has. Where consent is required for specific purposes then evidence of this consent (either electronic or paper) will be obtained and retained securely. Members joining the Committee will receive an induction into the requirements of GDPR and the implications for their role. H&R U3A will also ensure that Group Leaders are made aware of their responsibilities in relation to the data they hold and process. Committee Members will stay up to date with guidance and practice within the U3A movement and will seek advice from the Third Age Trust National Office should any uncertainties arise. The Committee will review data protection requirements on an on-going basis as well as reviewing who has access to such data and how it is stored and deleted. When Committee Members and Group Leaders relinquish their roles, they will be asked to either pass on data to those who need it and/or delete it.

Secure Processing

H&R Committee Members have a responsibility to ensure that data is both securely held and processed and will include:

- Using strong passwords
- Not sharing passwords
- Restricting access to member information to those on the Committee who need to communicate with members on a regular basis
- Using password protection on laptops and PCs that contain personal information
- Using password protection, a membership database or secure cloud systems when sharing data between Committee members and/or Group Leaders

Membership cards

H&R U3A now issues membership cards which can be read electronically and which facilitate the recording of members attending monthly meetings. The cards themselves contain no personal information, simply a unique number which can be read by the software on the computer to which the card scanner is attached. There is space on the reverse for members to record their own names and details of whom to contact in case of emergency, but anything written here is not recorded by H&R U3A.

Subject Access Request

U3A members are entitled to request access to the information that is held by H&R U3A. The request needs to be received in the form of a written request to the Membership Secretary. On receipt of the request, it will be formally acknowledged and dealt with expediently (the legislation requires that information should generally be provided within one month), unless there are exceptional circumstances as to why the request cannot be granted. H&R U3A will provide a written response detailing all information held on the member. A record shall be kept of the date of the request and the date of the response.

Data Breach Notification

Were a data breach to occur, action will be taken to minimise the harm. This will include ensuring that all H&R U3A Committee Members are made aware that a breach has taken place and how it occurred. The Committee shall then seek to rectify the cause of the breach as soon as possible to prevent any further breaches. The Chair of H&R U3A will contact National Office as soon as possible to notify them of the breach. A discussion will take place between the Chair and National Office as to the seriousness of the breach, action to be taken and, where necessary, the Information Commissioner's Office would be notified. The Committee shall also contact the relevant U3A members to inform them of the data breach and actions taken to resolve the breach.

Where a U3A member feels that there has been a breach by the U3A, a Committee member will ask the member to provide an outline of the breach. If the initial contact is by telephone, the Committee member will ask the U3A member to follow this up with an email or a letter detailing his or her concern. The alleged breach will then be investigated by members of the Committee who are not in any way implicated in the breach. Where the committee needs support or if the breach is serious, they should notify National Office. The U3A member should also be informed that he or she can report any concerns to National Office if unsatisfied with the response from H&R U3A. Breach matters will be subject to a full investigation, records will be kept and all those involved notified of the outcome.

This policy was adopted on: 17th February 2020

Policy review date: 17th January 2021

General Data Protection Regulations are followed by the Higham & Rushden U3A within their Data Protection Policy which can be accessed [HERE](#). Briefly, it ensures H&R U3A:

- Complies with data protection law and follows good practice
- Protects the rights of members
- Is open about how it stores and processes members data
- Protects itself from the risks of a data breach