

STATEMENT OF DATA PROTECTION POLICY & PRACTICE – NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE JOINT COMMITTEE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee comprises two elected Councillors from each of the following North Wales authorities:-

- Conwy County Borough Council
- Denbighshire County Council
- Flintshire County Council
- Gwynedd County Council
- Isle of Anglesey County Council

1.2 Flintshire County Council is the lead authority and has entered into an inter-authority agreement with the other four authorities which sets out the constitution of the Joint Committee and its decision making powers. In addition to the Data Protection policies in place for each constituent authority it has been decided to have a Data Protection policy for the Joint Committee.

1.3 The Joint Committee is supported by a project team of officers who use a stakeholder management database to track and manage communications and engagements with stakeholders and the public. The Joint Committee also processes personal information in relation to procurement processes whereby the employment details of two members of staff likely to be affected is passed to bidding companies for pricing purposes. These examples of the processing of personal information have led to the need for this Statement of Data Protection Policy & Practice.

1.4 The processing of personal information is regulated by the Data Protection Act 1998 (“The Act”) and the Joint Committee regards the lawful and correct treatment of personal information as very important to its successful operation and in maintaining confidence between it and those with whom it carries out business.

2.0 The Principles of Data Protection

2.1 The Act stipulates that anyone processing personal data must comply with Eight Principles of good practice. These Principles are legally enforceable.

2.2 The Principles require that personal information:

1. Shall be processed fairly and lawfully and in particular, shall not be processed unless specific conditions are met;

2. Shall be obtained only for one or more specified and lawful purposes and shall not be further processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes;
3. Shall be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose or purposes for which it is processed;
4. Shall be accurate and where necessary, kept up to date;
5. Shall not be kept for longer than is necessary for that purpose or those purposes;
6. Shall be processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects under the Act;
7. Shall be kept secure i.e. protected by an appropriate degree of security;
8. Shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Union Area, unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of data protection.

3.0 Processing of Personal Information

- 3.1 The Joint Committee will through the Project Manager and Project Team ensure that personal information is processed in accordance with the Act and the 8 principles in paragraph 2.2.
- 3.2 As the lead authority is Flintshire the Joint Committee is covered by Flintshire's notification to the Information Commissioner's office. The corporate Data Protection procedures applying in Flintshire will also apply to the Joint Committee covering such matters as subject access requests, violent warning markers and Data Protection complains.
- 3.3 The responsibility for ensuring compliance rests with the Project Manager. Where advice is needed on Data Protection matters it can be obtained from the relevant officers in Flintshire's Legal & Democratic Services department. Guidance is available on Flintshire's Infonet as well as on the website of the Information Commissioner's office.