

Your right to object to the collection, use, storage or disclosure of your personal data

Right to object to processing

What if you are unhappy about us collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data?

Where we are collecting, using, storing or disclosing (processing) your personal data because we need it to carry out our official work (including if we are profiling your behaviour online or handling your personal data for archiving, historical research or statistical purposes) you may object at any time.

What we must do

If you object, we must stop collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data unless the law says that we can carry on. For example, where:

- we can show that there are compelling and lawful reasons for us to carry on which we consider outweigh your right to object or
- we need the personal data to establish, exercise or defend a legal claim

Do we have to agree to stop collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data?

Sometimes the law allows us to turn down your request to stop processing. For example, for:

- national security
- defence
- public security
- the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties
- protecting economic or financial interests, monetary, budgetary and taxation matters, public health and social security
- monitoring, inspection or regulatory functions
- protecting you or the rights of others
- the enforcement of civil claims

Where we are collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data for archiving, historical research or statistical purposes, and you object, we may carry on where the processing of your personal data is necessary to allow us to carry out a task for reasons of public interest.

What if your request is turned down?

Where the law allows us to refuse your request to stop processing your personal data, we will tell you and explain why.

How to make a request

If you wish to object to us collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data, you should contact the Data Protection Officer.

9th Floor
The Cabot
25 Cabot Square
London
E14 4QZ

dpo@cma.gov.uk

020 3738 6000

Proof of identity

Before we can deal with your objection to us collecting, using, storing or disclosing your personal data, we may need to ask you for proof of identity. If so, we will ask you for a photocopy of the identity page of a current passport or current photo driving licence and an original, current utility bill (a gas, electricity, water, or telephone bill) or a credit card or bank statement containing your name and address. We will return these to you if you ask us to.

Time for response and cost

We must deal with your request free of charge, without undue delay and certainly within a month of receiving your request.

But if your request is complex, or if you have made several requests, we may extend this time period by a further two months. Where we extend the time period, we must tell you we are going to do this, and why, within one month of receiving your request.

If you make repeated requests, the law allows us to charge you a reasonable fee based on our administrative costs, or to refuse to deal with your requests.

Electronic requests

Where you make your request by email, unless you ask us not to, we will respond in an electronic form.

How to complain

If you are unhappy about how we are handling your objection to processing, you may complain to:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

casework@ico.org.uk

0303 123 1113

You also have the right to ask a Court to consider whether we have dealt properly with your request.