



HM Treasury

Invitation for Views on Northern Growth - Privacy Notice

Introduction

This Privacy Notice should be read alongside HM Treasury's (HMT's) Personal Information Charter. The Charter sets out:

- the standards you can expect from HMT when we use your personal information;
- the contact details for our Data Protection Officer;
- how to exercise your Data Protection Information Rights (including access);
- how to exercise your right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-treasury/about/personal-information-charter>

This Privacy Notice supplements the Personal Information Charter and outlines additional information in relation to Consultation and Calls for Evidence responses from all interested parties and stakeholders.

This Privacy Notice should be read in conjunction with the relevant consultation guidance, as the consultation documentation will provide additional information about how consultation responses will be used. Where this Notice and the consultation documentation differ, the latter will take precedence.

Data Controller

A data controller makes decisions about processing activities. They exercise overall control of the personal data being processed and are ultimately in charge of and responsible for the processing.

The data controller for this processing activity is HMT, unless otherwise stated. We sometimes issue consultations in partnership with other agencies and government departments, which will be apparent in the branding and wording of any joint consultations.

Data Processors

A data processor is an organisation or company that handles personal information on our behalf, following our instructions. Data processors do not use your information for their own purposes; they only process it as directed by us.

The following organisations are directed to process your personal information on our behalf:

Processor Name	Function
SmartSurvey	If you elect to complete the digital form, this will be conducted using SmartSurvey, an industry-leading online survey provider with the highest standards of data security. As with other organisations processing personal data, SmartSurvey is subject to data protection compliance requirements. Although SmartSurvey uses an automated system, the responses you give will not lead to any decisions being made about you and they will not have a direct impact upon you. In this context, SmartSurvey acts solely as a data processor under instruction from HMT and will not use your personal data for any purposes other than to provide the service to HMT. For more information on how SmartSurvey handles respondents data, please refer to their privacy policy here - https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/company/privacy-policy
Microsoft	Provision of enterprise IT services including email, document storage, collaboration tools, and infrastructure support

Who we process personal data about

The table below outlines the categories of individuals whose personal data we will process in this activity, alongside the types of personal data we will use.

Category of Individual	Types of Personal Data
Members of the public	Name Postal address Email address
Representatives of businesses or organisations	Telephone number Job title and employer (where an individual is making representations on behalf of an organisation) Personal opinion

We may also process special category data or data about criminal convictions, if you volunteer such information. Special categories of personal data may include:

- Data about racial or ethnic origin
- Political opinions
- Religious or philosophical beliefs
- Trade union membership

Source of Your Personal Data

Personal data of the individuals listed above will be collected in the following ways:

Directly - from Respondents (you)

Purpose and Lawful Basis

We will process your personal data for the following purposes and using the specified lawful bases:

Purpose	Lawful Basis	Further Information
Obtaining opinions about government policies, proposals, or an issue of public interest.	<p>Article 6(1)(e) of the UK GDPR – Public task</p> <p>Article 9(2)(g) of the UK GDPR – Substantial public interest</p> <p>Schedule 1, Part 2, Paragraph 6(2)(b) of the Data Protection Act – necessary in the exercise of a government department.</p>	To help HMT understand who has responded to this call for evidence and, in some cases, contact respondents to discuss their response.

Who we share your personal data with

We will share your personal data with the following types of recipients:

- HMT staff and Ministers - who have a business need to access the data as part of the consultation process
- Other government departments – who have policy functions relevant to the consultation topic. Sharing in this context will

ordinarily be anonymised unless information about the respondent is necessary to inform policy

A summary report of responses may be published in Autumn 2026 following completion of this invitation for views, however this will not include any personally identifiable information.

International Transfers

Your personal data will not be transferred to an international recipient during this activity.

How long we hold your personal data

We will retain your personal data only for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which it was collected.

For consultations and calls for evidence, personal data will typically be held for the duration of the consultation and review period.

In addition, specific retention periods applicable to your personal data are as follows:

Type of Processing	Retention period
Collection and storage of Smart Survey digital form data	No longer than 1 year from response deadline

Automated Decision-Making and Profiling

This activity does not involve automated decision making or profiling. This means that decisions which may affect you are not made solely by automated means without human involvement, and your data is not subject to analysis intended to evaluate or predict aspects such as your behaviour, preferences, or interests.

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