



POLICY REGARDING DATA PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DETAILS (NON-CONTRACTUAL)

Threshires Ltd is committed to a policy of protecting the rights and privacy of individuals, Staff and others, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018.

This policy applies to the processing of personal data in manual and electronic records kept by the Company in connection with its human resources function as described below. It also covers the Company's response to any data breach and other rights under the General Data Protection Regulation and current Data Protection Act.

The new regulatory environment demands higher transparency and accountability in how workplaces manage and use personal data. It also accords new and stronger rights for individuals to understand and control that use. The GDPR contains provisions that the workplace will need to be aware of as data controllers, including provisions intended to enhance the protection of all workforce personal data.

This policy applies to the personal data of job applicants, existing and former employees, apprentices, volunteers, placement students, workers and self-employed contractors. These are referred to in this policy as relevant individuals.

"Personal data" is information that relates to an identifiable person who can be directly or indirectly identified from that information, for example, a person's name, identification number, location, online identifier. It can also include pseudonymised data.

"Special categories of personal data" is data which relates to an individual's health, sex life, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, political opinion, religion, and trade union membership. It also includes genetic and biometric data (where used for ID purposes).

"Criminal offence data" is data which relates to an individual's criminal convictions and offences.

"Data processing" is any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automated means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.

For example, the GDPR requires that:

We must ensure that our workplace privacy notices are written in a clear, plain way that Staff will understand. To comply with various legal obligations, including the obligations imposed on it by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Threshires must ensure that all this information about individuals is collected and used fairly, stored safely and securely, and not disclosed to any third party unlawfully.

Compliance

This policy applies to all staff of Threshires Ltd, any breach of this policy or of the Regulation itself will be considered an offence and procedures will be invoked.

As a matter of best practice, other agencies and individuals working for Threshires and who have access to personal information, will be expected to read and comply with this policy. It is expected that departments who are

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Reference:	PO09	Position:	IT Manager	Issue Date:	January 2022
Category:	Policies	Signature:		Last Reviewed	January 2022
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responsible for dealing with external bodies will take the responsibility for ensuring that such bodies sign a contract which among other things will include an agreement to abide by this policy.

The Company makes a commitment to ensuring that personal data, including special categories of personal data and criminal offence data (where appropriate) is processed in line with GDPR and domestic laws and all its employees conduct themselves in line with this, and other related, policies. Where third parties process data on behalf of the Company, the Company will ensure that the third party takes such measures in order to maintain the Company's commitment to protecting data. In line with current data protection legislation, the Company understands that it will be accountable for the processing, management and regulation, and storage and retention of all personal data held in the form of manual records and on computers.

This policy will be updated as necessary to reflect best practice in data management, security and control and to ensure compliance with any changes or amendments to the GDPR and other relevant legislation.

The Code of Practice on GDPR for Threshires Ltd gives further detailed guidance and Threshires Ltd undertakes to adopt and comply with this Code of Practice.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The GDPR regulates the processing of personal data and protects the rights and privacy of all living individuals, for example by giving all individuals who are the subject of personal data a general right of access to the personal data which relates to them. Individuals can exercise the right to gain access to their information by means of a 'subject access request'. Personal data is information relating to an individual and may be in hard or soft copy (paper/manual files; electronic records; photographs; CCTV images) and may include facts or opinions about a person.

Types of data held

Personal data is kept in personnel files or within the Company's HR systems. The following types of data may be held by the Company, as appropriate, on relevant individuals:

- name, address, phone numbers - for individual and next of kin
- CVs and other information gathered during recruitment
- references from former employers
- National Insurance numbers
- job title, job descriptions and pay grades
- conduct issues such as letters of concern, disciplinary proceedings
- holiday records
- internal performance information
- medical or health information
- sickness absence records
- tax codes
- terms and conditions of employment
- training details.

Relevant individuals should refer to the Company's privacy notice for more information on the reasons for its processing activities, the lawful bases it relies on for the processing and data retention periods.

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Responsibilities under the GDPR

Threshires Ltd will be the 'data controller' under the terms of the legislation – this means it is ultimately responsible for controlling the use and processing of the personal data.

The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for all day-to-day data protection matters and will be responsible for ensuring that all members of staff and relevant individuals abide by this policy.

The Senior Leadership Team is also responsible for ensuring that Threshires Ltd notification is kept accurate.

Compliance with the legislation is the personal responsibility of all members of Threshires Ltd who process personal information. Individuals who provide personal data to Threshires Ltd are responsible for ensuring that the information is accurate and current.

Data Protection Principles

The legislation places a responsibility on every data controller to process any personal data in accordance with the eight principles. More detailed guidance on how to comply with these principles can be found on (www.ico.gov.uk) In order to comply with its obligations, Threshires Ltd undertakes to adhere to the principles below:

- be processed fairly, lawfully and in a transparent manner
- be collected for specific, explicit, and legitimate purposes
- be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the purposes of processing
- be kept accurate and up to date. Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that inaccurate data is rectified or erased without delay
- not be kept for longer than is necessary for its given purpose
- be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of personal data including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing, accidental loss, destruction or damage by using appropriate technical or organisation measures
- comply with the relevant data protection procedures for international transferring of personal data.

In addition, personal data will be processed in recognition of an individuals' data protection rights, as follows:

- the right to be informed
- the right of access
- the right for any inaccuracies to be corrected (rectification)
- the right to have information deleted (erasure)
- the right to restrict the processing of the data
- the right to portability
- the right to object to the inclusion of any information
- the right to regulate any automated decision-making and profiling of personal data.

1) Process personal data fairly and lawfully.

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Threshires Ltd will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that individuals who are the focus of the personal data (data subjects) are informed of the identity of the data controller, the purposes of the processing, any disclosures to third parties that are envisaged; given an indication of the period for which the data will be kept, and any other information which may be relevant.

2) Process the data for the specific and lawful purpose for which it collected that data and not further process the data in a manner incompatible with this purpose.

Threshires Ltd will ensure that the reason for which it collected the data originally is the only reason for which it processes those data, unless the individual is informed of any additional processing before it takes place.

3) Ensure that the data is adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose for which it is processed.

Threshires Ltd will not seek to collect any personal data which is not strictly necessary for the purpose for which it was obtained. Forms for collecting data will always be drafted with this mind. If any irrelevant data is given by individuals, these will be destroyed immediately.

4) Keep personal data accurate and, where necessary, up to date.

Threshires Ltd will review and update all data on a regular basis. It is the responsibility of the individuals giving their personal data to ensure that this is accurate, and each individual should notify the management if, for example, a change in circumstances means that the data needs to be updated. It is the responsibility of Threshires Ltd to ensure that any notification regarding the change is noted and acted upon.

5) Only keep personal data for as long as is necessary.

Threshires Ltd undertakes not to retain personal data for longer than is necessary to ensure compliance with the legislation, and any other statutory requirements. This means Threshires Ltd will undertake a regular review of the information held and implement a review process. Threshires Ltd will dispose of any personal data in a way that protects the rights and privacy of the individual concerned (e.g., secure electronic deletion, shredding and disposal of hard copy files as confidential waste). A log will be kept of the records destroyed.

6) Process personal data in accordance with the rights of the data subject under the legislation.

Individuals have various rights under the legislation including a right to:

- Be told the nature of the information that Threshires Ltd holds and any parties to whom this may be disclosed.
- Prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress.
- Prevent processing for purposes of direct marketing.
- Be informed about the mechanics of any automated decision process that will significantly affect them.
- Not have significant decisions that will affect them taken solely by automated process.
- Sue for compensation if they suffer damage by any contravention of the legislation.
- Take action to rectify, block, erase or destroy inaccurate data.
- Request that the Office of the Information Commissioner assess whether any provision of the Act has been contravened.

Threshires Ltd will only process personal data in accordance with individuals' rights.

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7) Put appropriate technical and organisational measures in place against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data, and against accidental loss or destruction of data.

All members of Staff are responsible for ensuring that any personal data which they hold is kept securely and not disclosed to any unauthorised third parties. Threshires Ltd will ensure that all personal data is accessible only to those who have a valid reason for using it.

Threshires Ltd will have in place appropriate security measures e.g. ensuring that hard copy personal data is kept in lockable filing cabinets/cupboards with controlled access (with the keys then held securely in a key cabinet with controlled access):

- keeping all personal data in a lockable cabinet with key-controlled access.
- password protecting personal data held electronically.
- archiving personal data which are then kept securely (lockable cabinet).
- placing any PCs or terminals, CCTV camera screens etc. that show personal data so that they are not visible except to authorised staff.
- ensuring that PC screens are not left unattended without a password protected screen-saver being used.

In addition, Threshires Ltd will put in place appropriate measures for the deletion of personal data - manual records will be shredded or disposed of as 'confidential waste' and appropriate contract terms will be put in place with any third parties undertaking this work. Hard drives of redundant PCs will be wiped clean before disposal or if that is not possible, destroyed physically. A log will be kept of the records destroyed.

This policy also applies to Staff who process personal data 'off-site', e.g. when working at home, and/or working at a Third Party Location/site, and in all circumstances, additional care must be taken regarding the security of the data.

8) Threshires Ltd recognises the precedence of the legislation governed by the UK-GDPR (United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation - revision the Data Protection Act 2018) over European Union Law, although acknowledges its equivalence to allow free flow for a period ending June 2025.

Threshires Ltd will ensure that no personal data is transferred to a country or a territory outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless that country or territory ensures adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of personal data.

Threshires Ltd will not transfer data to such territories without the explicit consent of the individual. This also applies to publishing information on the Internet - because transfer of data can include placing data on a website that can be accessed from outside the EEA - Threshires Ltd will always seek the consent of individuals before placing any personal data (including photographs) on its website. Consent as a basis for processing, although it is not always necessary to gain consent from individuals before processing their data, it is often the best way to ensure that data is collected and processed in an open and transparent manner. Consent is especially important when Threshires is processing any sensitive data, as defined by the legislation.

Threshires Ltd understands consent to mean that the individual has been fully informed of their intended processing and has signified their agreement whilst being of a sound mind and without having any undue influence exerted upon them. Consent obtained on the basis of misleading information will not be a valid basis for processing. Consent cannot be inferred from the non-response to a communication.

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Personal Details

For the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

You consent to Threeshires Ltd holding and processing personal data including sensitive personal data of which you are the subject, details of which are specified in Threeshires data protection policy.

Procedures

The Company has taken the following steps to protect the personal data of relevant individuals, which it holds or to which it has access:

- it appoints or employs employees with specific responsibilities for:
 - a. the processing and controlling of data
 - b. the comprehensive reviewing and auditing of its data protection systems and procedures
 - c. overseeing the effectiveness and integrity of all the data that must be protected.

There are clear lines of responsibility and accountability for these different roles.

- it provides information to its employees on their data protection rights, how it uses their personal data, and how it protects it. The information includes the actions relevant individuals can take if they think that their data has been compromised in any way
- it provides its employees with information and training to make them aware of the importance of protecting personal data, to teach them how to do this, and to understand how to treat information confidentially
- it can account for all personal data it holds, where it comes from, who it is shared with and also who it might be shared with
- it carries out risk assessments as part of its reviewing activities to identify any vulnerabilities in its personal data handling and processing, and to take measures to reduce the risks of mishandling and potential breaches of data security. The procedure includes an assessment of the impact of both use and potential misuse of personal data in and by the Company
- it recognises the importance of seeking individuals' consent for obtaining, recording, using, sharing, storing and retaining their personal data, and regularly reviews its procedures for doing so, including the audit trails that are needed and are followed for all consent decisions. The Company understands that consent must be freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous. The Company will seek consent on a specific and individual basis where appropriate. Full information will be given regarding the activities about which consent is sought. Relevant individuals have the absolute and unimpeded right to withdraw that consent at any time
- it has the appropriate mechanisms for detecting, reporting and investigating suspected or actual personal data breaches, including security breaches. It is aware of its duty to report significant breaches that cause significant harm to the affected individuals to the Information Commissioner, and is aware of the possible consequences
- it is aware of the implications international transfer of personal data internationally.

Access to data

Relevant individuals have a right to be informed whether the Company processes personal data relating to them and to access the data that the Company holds about them. Requests for access to this data will be dealt with under the following summary guidelines:

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- a form on which to make a subject access request is available from Threshires Ltd HR Manager. The request should be made to Threshires Ltd HR Manager.
- the Company will not charge for the supply of data unless the request is manifestly unfounded, excessive or repetitive, or unless a request is made for duplicate copies to be provided to parties other than the employee making the request
- the Company will respond to a request without delay. Access to data will be provided, subject to legally permitted exemptions, within one month as a maximum. This may be extended by a further two months where requests are complex or numerous.

Relevant individuals must inform the Company immediately if they believe that the data is inaccurate, either as a result of a subject access request or otherwise. The Company will take immediate steps to rectify the information.

For further information on making a subject access request, employees should refer to our subject access request policy, available from Threshires Ltd HR Manager.

Data disclosures

The Company may be required to disclose certain data/information to any person/organisation. The circumstances leading to such disclosures may include:

- Any employee benefits operated by third parties
- Individuals' health data - to comply with health and safety or occupational health obligations. for Statutory Payments.
- HR management and administration.
- The smooth operation of any employee insurance policies or pension plans.
- Legal Requirements, in example, Court Orders and Acts of Parliament

These kinds of disclosures will only be made when strictly necessary and public interest justification for breaching confidentiality, such as serious crime.

Data security

The Company adopts procedures designed to maintain the security of data when it is stored and transported. More information can be found in the data transfer security policy, available from Threshires Ltd HR Manager.

In addition, employees must:

- ensure that all files or written information of a confidential nature are stored in a secure manner and are only accessed by people who have a need and a right to access them
- ensure that all files or written information of a confidential nature are not left where they can be read by unauthorised people
- refrain from sending emails containing sensitive work related information to their personal email address
- check regularly on the accuracy of data being entered into computers
- always use the passwords provided to access the computer system and not abuse them by passing them on to people who should not have them

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- use computer screen blanking to ensure that personal data is not left on screen when not in use.

Personal data relating to employees should not be kept or transported on laptops, USB sticks, or similar devices, unless authorised by Threshires Ltd HR Manager and/or Threshires Ltd Directors. Where personal data is recorded on any such device it should be protected by:

- ensuring that data is recorded on such devices only where absolutely necessary
- using an encrypted system — a folder should be created to store the files that need extra protection and all files created or moved to this folder should be automatically encrypted
- ensuring that laptops or USB drives are not left lying around where they can be stolen.
- use computer screen blanking to ensure that personal data is not left on screen when not in use.

Failure to follow the Company’s rules on data security may be dealt with via the Company’s disciplinary procedure. Appropriate sanctions include dismissal with or without notice dependent on the severity of the failure.

International data transfers

The Company does not knowingly transfer personal data to any recipients outside of the EEA.

Breach notification

Where a data breach is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals, it will be reported to the Information Commissioner within 72 hours of the Company becoming aware of it and may be reported in more than one instalment.

Individuals will be informed directly in the event that the breach is likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of that individual.

If the breach is sufficient to warrant notification to the public, the Company will do so without undue delay.

Training

New employees must read and understand the policies on data protection as part of their induction.

All employees receive training covering basic information about confidentiality, data protection and the actions to take upon identifying a potential data breach.

The nominated data controller/auditors/protection officers for the Company are trained appropriately in their roles under data protection legislation.

All employees who need to use the computer system are trained to protect individuals’ private data, to ensure data security, and to understand the consequences to them as individuals and the Company of any potential lapses and breaches of the Company’s policies and procedures.

Records

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The Company keeps records of its processing activities including the purpose for the processing and retention periods in its HR data record. These records will be kept up to date so that they reflect current processing activities.

Data Protection Officer

The Company's Data Protection Officer is Threshires Ltd HR Manager. The HR Manager can be contacted at Threshires Ltd Head Office.

Data protection compliance

The Threshires Ltd Compliance Manager is the Company's appointed officer in respect of its data, compliance and protection activities Threshires Ltd Compliance Manager can be contacted at Threshires Ltd Head Office.

Procedure for review

This policy will be updated as necessary to reflect best practice or future amendments made to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018 and Data Protection Act 1998.

Signature: 

Date:.....23.01.2022.....

Name: Mr James Lloyd

Position: Managing Director

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