

PRIVACY NOTICE FOR THOMAS MASON

Introduction

Please read the following information carefully. The General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) and Data Protection Act 2018 gives you rights in relation to the personal information about yourself that I collect and make use of. That information is called “personal data” under the GDPR. This Privacy Notice describes the information I collect about you, how it is used (which will include storing it in soft or hard copy or transmitting it by email or otherwise), how it is shared, and your rights regarding it.

Clients

Thank you for choosing to instruct me in your case.

References in this Privacy Notice to “clients” are intended as references both to my Instructing Solicitors and to the client(s) who have retained my Instructing Solicitors (also referred to as “lay clients”).

I will need to collect, hold and use clients’ personal information in order to provide such services as I am asked by my Instructing Solicitors to provide.

Others

On occasion, whilst acting for clients, I will need to collect, hold and use personal information provided by people who are not my clients i.e witnesses or potential witnesses, expert witnesses, legal advisors, other people that are involved with or are ancillary to the instructions sent to me, and people with whom I am communicate in the course of carrying out my instructions such as solicitors, other barristers, court staff and judges.

My intention

I will take appropriate measures to protect your personal information and to ensure that I do not infringe your rights or undermine your trust.

Data Controller

I am registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) as a Data Controller for the personal data that I hold and process as a barrister. My registered address is Hailsham Chambers, 4 Paper Buildings, Temple, London, EC4Y 7EX and my registration number is Z3286429.

If you need to contact me about your data or the processing carried out you can use the contact details at the end of this document or on my website profile.

My Lawful Basis for processing your information

The GDPR requires all organisations or individuals that process personal data to have a Lawful Basis for doing so.

I rely on the following as the lawful bases on which I collect and use your personal information:

- I have the consent from my professional and/or lay clients for processing the personal data for the purpose of performing my professional retainer.
- The processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which my professional and/or my lay clients are a party.
- The processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation that I am subject to.
- The processing is necessary for the purposes of my legitimate interests as the data controller. My legitimate interests include:
 - Enabling me to provide legal services as a barrister;
 - Ensuring the fair resolution of any complaints or disputes;
 - Promoting access to my profession;
 - Building and maintaining relationships with clients (usually instructing solicitors or institutional clients);
 - Complying with my legal, regulatory and professional obligations (which include statutory, common law and regulatory obligations).

In the event that I need to process data revealing your: racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life or sexual orientation, the legal basis for my processing shall be because:

- the processing is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims or whenever courts are acting in their judicial capacity; and/or
- you have given me explicit consent to the processing of such information for one or more of the purposes set out below.

The purpose of my processing of your information:

I may need to process your personal data for one or more of the following purposes:

- to provide legal services to my clients, including the provision of legal advice and representation in courts, tribunals, arbitrations and mediations, and communicating in connection with that purpose;
- to assist in training pupils and mini-pupils;
- to keep accounting records and enable me and my clerks to carry out my practice management requirements;
- to investigate or address any concerns raised by my clients or third parties about the provision of my services as a barrister;
- to take or defend or otherwise address legal or regulatory proceedings relating to the provision of my services as a barrister, or to exercise a lien;
- to check for potential conflicts of interest in relation to future potential cases

I do not use automated decision-making in the processing of your personal data.

I collect and process both personal data and special categories of personal data as defined in the GDPR. Typically, this includes (but is not limited to):

- Name;
- Email;
- Phone number;
- Address;

- Payment or bank details;
- Date of birth;
- Location details;
- Financial information;
- Medical Records;
- Criminal Records.

I may share your information with:

If you are my client most of the information you provide will be protected by legal professional privilege unless and until the information becomes public in the course of any proceedings or otherwise. As a barrister I have an obligation to keep my clients' information confidential, except where it otherwise becomes public or is disclosed as part of the case or proceedings.

It may be necessary to share the personal information I collect and use with some or all of the following:

- Lay and professional clients;
- Other parties and their legal representatives, for the purposes of resolving clients' cases;
- Potential witnesses, in particular expert witnesses;
- Courts or other tribunals to whom documents are presented;
- Pupils or mini pupils*;
- The clerks and staff who are employed by Hailsham Chambers to provide practice management and administrative services. As part of this a software management tool is used;
- Practice management and administrative services provided by Hailsham Chambers such as IT support staff, email provider, data transportation, storage and disposal providers;
- In the event of complaints or a dispute or other legal matters, the Head of Chambers, other members of Chambers who deal with complaints, the Bar Standards Boards, the Legal Ombudsman, or my legal advisors;

- Law enforcement officials, government authorities, or other third parties to meet my legal obligations;
- Any other party where I ask you and you consent to the sharing.

*As a barrister and from time to time I may be involved in the training of a pupil barrister or in providing an aspiring barrister with work experience (a 'mini-pupil'), which is important in promoting access to my profession. They are bound by written confidentiality obligations not to disclose any information about my cases that I share with them. You have the right to refuse that your personal data is provided to pupils or mini-pupils. Please tell me if you wish to do so.

Transfers to third countries and international organisations outside the European Economic Area (EEA)

I use Microsoft Office 365 and OneDrive for Business, which means that I store your information in a cloud-based system in the United Kingdom. Pursuant to the Online Services Terms provided by Microsoft, I am satisfied that such information is appropriately protected and safeguarded as required by the GDPR.

I do not transfer any of your personal data to third countries or international organisations outside the EEA.

Data Retention

I retain your personal data for the following purposes:

- The conduct of future legal proceedings;
- Carrying out conflict checks;
- Claims and regulatory purposes;
- Accounting, practice management and tax purposes;
- Marketing

I have a data retention and disposal policy which dictates how long I hold data for and how I dispose of it when it no longer needs to be held.

In general terms, I retain personal data relevant to each instruction I receive for a period that equates to the period within which a claim could be brought against me in respect of that case (as dictated by the Limitation Act 1980).

Data collected by me for marketing purposes will only be stored for as long as it is reasonably believed to be relevant for such purposes.

Your Rights

Under the GDPR you have a number of rights that you can exercise in certain circumstances. For example, you may have the right to:

- (1) obtain from me confirmation as to whether or not information concerning you is being processed;
- (2) to obtain from me, without undue delay, the rectification of inaccurate personal data concerning you;
- (3) obtain from me the erasure of personal data concerning you, without undue delay, in some circumstances;
- (4) restrict the way in which I process your personal data in certain circumstances;
- (5) ask for a copy of the personal information I hold about you;
- (6) to object to my processing your personal data at any time (and you have an absolute right to object to direct marketing);

Please note that there are exemptions to the requirement to comply with such requests. In particular, an important limitation on the above rights is legal professional privilege.

You can find out more information from the ICO's website at www.ico.org.uk and this is the organisation that you can complain to if you are unhappy with how I deal with you.

You may make requests by contacting me at Hailsham Chambers, 4 Paper Buildings, Temple, London EC4Y 7EX, by writing, telephone (02076435000) or email: thomas.mason@hailshamchambers.com.

Changes to this Privacy Notice

I will occasionally update my Privacy Notice. A link to the most up-to-date Privacy Notice will be published on my website profile.

This privacy notice was published on 3 June 2025.