

8 QUICK FACTS ABOUT GDPR

The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force on 25th May 2018 and will result in marked changes to data protection law.

1 FINES

Fines for a data breach will increase from £500,000 (under the Data Protection Act) to €20 million or 4% of global turnover - whichever is greater. There are also additional fines for non-compliance.

2 NEW ROLES

Companies will need to appoint a Data Protection Officer, who will be responsible for overseeing data protection strategy and ensuring compliance with GDPR. This does not need to be a full-time role, and it can be outsourced.

3 DATA BREACHES

If a company suffers a data breach then they must notify the relevant supervisory authority, and the affected individuals, as soon as possible - within 72 hours of discovery.

4 SECURITY MEASURES

GDPR sets out clear requirements for securing personal data including encryption, monitoring, user access control, auditing.

5 ASSESSMENTS

Data Privacy Impact Assessments (DPIA) are mandatory for organisations where processing is likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals. The obligation to conduct this is on the data controller.

6 RIGHTS FOR INDIVIDUALS

New and increased rights, including the right to data portability and the right to erasure (also known as the right to be forgotten). Companies can also no longer charge individuals who request a copy of their personal data.

7 CONSENT

Consent must be given in the form of a positive opt-in. Assumed consent or negative opt-ins are not enough! Companies must keep records of how and when that individual opted in, and allow them to easily revoke consent at any time.

8 PROCESSORS & CONTROLLERS

GDPR applies to both. It is the responsibility of the controller to make sure their processor abides by data protection law, and the processor has a responsibility to keep records of their processing activity.

