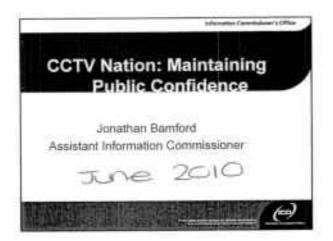
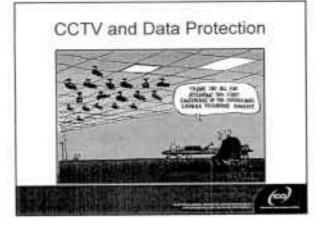
Bon Good - ch 1546alle Sentes - Libets





### CCTV and Data Protection

- Images of individuals are covered by the DPA 1998
- The DPA sets legally enforceable standards (data protection principles)
- A DPA code of practice sets good practice standards to help comply with the law
- ICO research shows that the public broadly support CCTV with caveats

Sporth revent on PAECITE

Sporth revent on PAECITE

of also sur Mu gam

CCT - Police synther than a Julius

on sular and

### The Data Protection Principles

- Fairty and lawfully processed
- Processed for limited purposes
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Accurate
- Not kept for longer than necessary
- Processed in line with individuals' rights
- Kept secure
- Not transferred to countries without adequate protection



CHO CHONA

Some Important DP points

- Is CCTV justified?
- What do individuals expect?
- · What is collected?
- Restrictions on use/disclosure
- Image quality
- Retention
- Security

jugal asioisuel value our de recines continuervale - Ru Not 40) signs whit grave - Shortes NTV 1 creo avent her lang - put - of

- new chilleges - nemerber ned

-CCTV Inend Dye -

#### Further Information

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Witter Lane Witnesson SK9 SAF United Kinadiam

Switchboard, 01625 545 706 Helpfine, 01625 545 745

Email maiffice.ust.pot.ub

www.ico.gov.uk

Public have confidend on opposes it.

sons publicance - whose Hill reserve poli. Misa mhun

some on to entere stis.

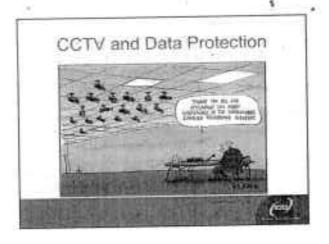
-PTOLIME 11. st

# CCTU Cont Parlimenting Contre 10/6/10 char Not Mayon - And Lea colos Whats -JBata

CCTV Nation:
Maintaining public confidence

Jonathan Bamford
Head of Strategic Liaison
ICO

Police of (CTV - and finds grygging of College of Colle



One constant been on DP laws which set standards to Into hundry - control to proper aparter act - thurst not prompt about a do it and the DIA - to colon and the HUM MIB and was me sport ares region and policinate for the down they are directly formal.

### CCTV and Data Protection

- Images of individuals are covered by the DPA 1998
- The DPA sets legally enforceable standards (data protection principles)
- A DPA code of practice sets good practice standards to help comply with the law
- ICO research shows that the public broadly support CCTV with caveats

- food reserve on Pelus Alfalia,

to CCTU on I lute repossibility

athlete to so show consider clave: 
- Public Support whom soe

totate sat or riles

· brown to like

- Public support when see

benefit to them

- doir like when don's ar

bought - onlaw:

- export set of this - ontown

-5 Snesoula - aregit but

# New Structure, New Powers and New Approach

#### Maureen H Falconer

Sr Guidance & Promotions Manager Information Commissioner's Office

Data Protection – Promoting Openness and Safeguarding Individuals 2nd Annual Conference





# New Structure, new powers & new approach...

#### > Our Mission:

The ICO's mission is to uphold information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals.

#### > Our Vision:

By 2012, we will be recognised by our stakeholders as the authoritative arbiter of information rights, delivering high-quality, relevant and timely outcomes, responsive and outward-looking in our approach, and with committed and high-performing staff – a model of good regulation and a great place to work and develop

### ico.

### MISSION:

Uphold information rights;

Promote openness and data privacy.

#### VISION:

Recognised as an authority;

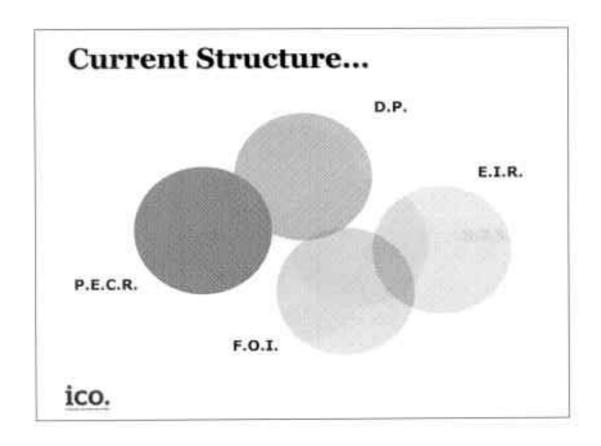
Delivering high-quality, relevant and timely outcomes;

Responsive and outward looking;

Committed, high performing staff;

Model of good regulation;

Great place to work.



Essentially disparate sections dealing with each piece of legislation;

Small crossovers between:

DP & PEC Regs iro marketing

DP & Fol iro personal data

Fol & EIR iro of process

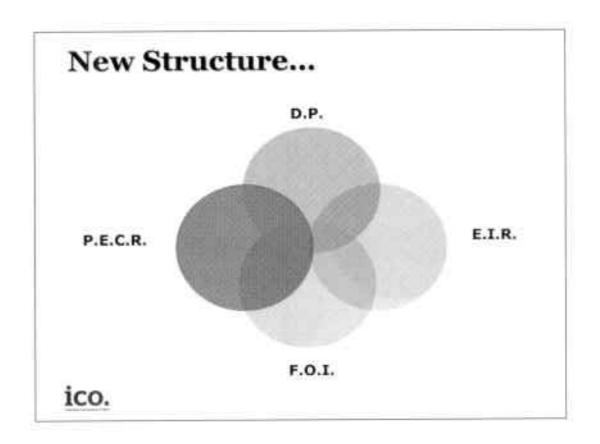
Essentially, silos of activity:

DP Policy Fol Policy

DP Practice Fol Practice

DP Development Fol Development

Audit RAD



Internal structure reflects activity rather than legislation:

Policy Delivery

Strategic Liaison

Good Practice

Enforcement

**Customer Contact** 

Complaints Resolution

### **Current Powers...**

- > Powers:
  - > Information Notices
  - > Enforcement Notices
  - > Undertaking
  - > Entry and inspection
  - > Audit (by invitation or condition of Undertaking)
- > Offences:
  - Processing without notification/failure to notify changes (S21)(1&2)
  - Failure to comply with/making a false statement iro a Notice (S47)(1)
  - > Unlawful obtaining (S55)(1)
  - > Unlawful selling (S55)(5)
  - > Enforced subject access (S56)

### ico.

The ICO has powers to change the behaviour of organisations and individuals that collect, use and keep personal information.

These powers are designed to bring about compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and related laws.

They include criminal prosecution, non-criminal enforcement and audit.

We refer to this as Regulatory action.

The powers include:

### New Powers...

#### Pawers:

 Proactive audit – (Government and its agencies with expectation of public authorities through time)

#### Offences:

- Wilful and reckless breach of the data protection principles
- > Monetary penalty notice for 'serious' breaches

### ico.

#### AUDIT:

- constructive participative process with real benefits
- consensual audit preferred but will pursue a compulsory audit if unwilling to engage
- no unreasonable demands will be made
- refusal without good reason may be taken into account when determining the amount of any monetary penalty

#### WILFUL & RECKLESS BREACH:

- · previously not an offence
- not exercised all due diligence

#### MONETARY PENALTY:

- to deal with serious contraventions
- both a sanction and a deterrent against deliberate or negligent disregard of the law
- · may also serve an enforcement notice for the same contravention
- not if breach is discovered while auditing consensual or compulsory
- · investigating the benefits of accreditation for co-operation

# New Approach - our aim...

The ICO will take a practical down to earth approach – simplifying and making it easier for the majority of organisations who seek to handle personal information well and tougher for the minority who do not.

### ico.

#### Our aim:

to ensure that personal information is properly protected and taking regulatory action where this is at risk and is being deliberately or persistently ignored or examples need to be set or issues need to be clarified.

### Carrot and Stick Approach:

adopting a targeted, risk-driven approach not using our legal powers lightly or routinely taking a tough and purposeful approach when necessary.

### We believe:

Targeted, proportionate and effective regulatory action will also contribute to the promotion of good practice and ensuring we remain an influential office.

# New Approach - when to act...

- Likelihood of 'serious' detriment to small number
- Large number (even if less detriment)
- > Need to clarify a point of law or principle
- > Need to set an example
- > Deliberate, wilful or cavaller attitude
- > Great public interest
- > Risk to credibility of law or ICO

### ico.

We will adopt a selective approach driven by concerns about significant actual or potential detriment.

The initial drivers will usually be:

- issues of general public concern;
- the novel or intrusive nature of particular activities;
- concerns raised with us in complaints that we receive;
- concerns that become apparent through our other activities.

In addition, we will target particular sectors or organisations for attention, including audit

However, not all non-compliance will be referred for regulatory action.

Cases will only be pursued where:

these criteria are satisfied; and

a monetary penalty, a sanction for a criminal breach or formal action is both a proportionate response and reasonably achievable; or an audit could be expected to bring about any necessary improvement in practice.

# New Approach - delivery...

Checking compliance against good practice and audit



Non-criminal action; monetary penalty notices; investigation, assessment & co-ordination of preprosecution work



# New Approach in action...

- > Focus on what will cause detriment
  - · Real likelihood of serious harm
  - Extent of harm level vs volume
- > Prevention better than cure
  - Working in partnership request an audit
  - · Foresee problems and identify solutions

...but we will use our new powers when necessary!!

### ico.

### DETRIMENT

REAL and SERIOUS harm

EXTENT – one person with serious detriment or many with small detriment

#### PREVENTION

PARTNERSHIP with ICO – Engender public trust and confidence; reduction of potential harm

PIA – Identify potential for harm before it happens; benefits of efficiency, effectiveness and economy

BUT.... Will use powers where necessary!!

# Information Commissioner's Office

93-95 Hanover Street Edinburgh EH2 1DJ

0131 301 5071 Scotland@ico.gsi.gov.uk www.ico.gov.uk





## The Data Protection Act 1998 – New Powers and Penalties

Ken Macdonald
Assistant Commissioner (Scotland & NI)

DMA Scotland 11 June 2010



## Contents

The New ICO

Breaches

Powers & Penalties

Getting it wrong

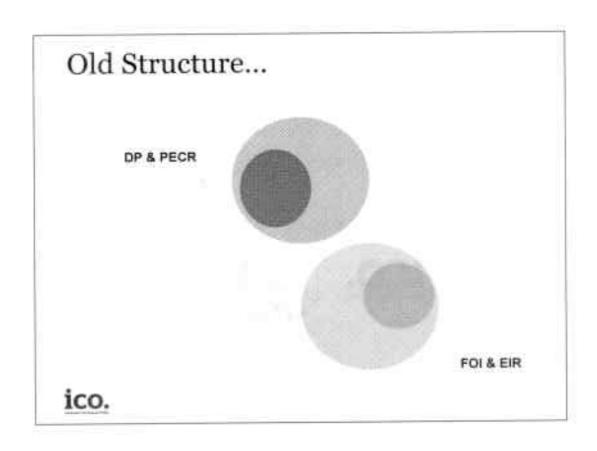


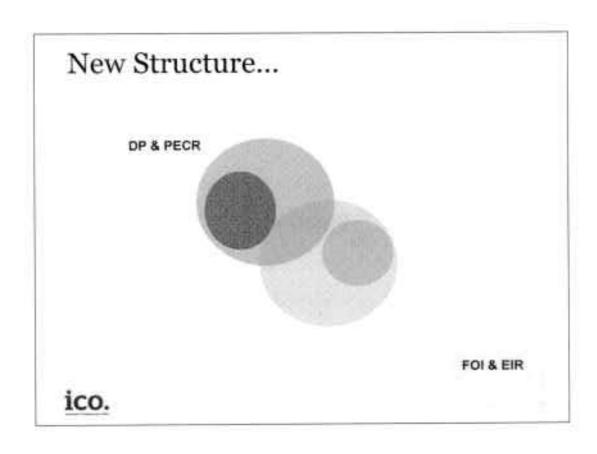
# The King is Dead.....

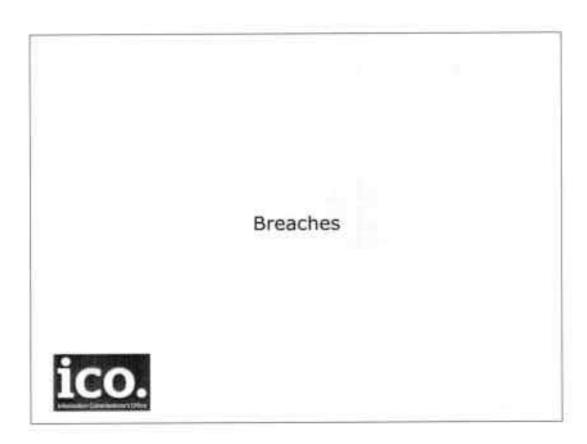


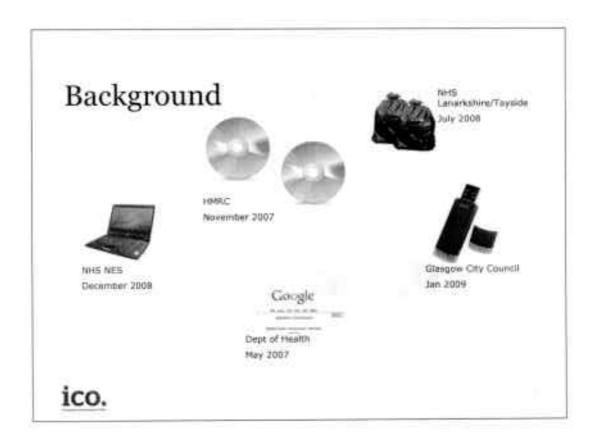
R@misdGFabaras

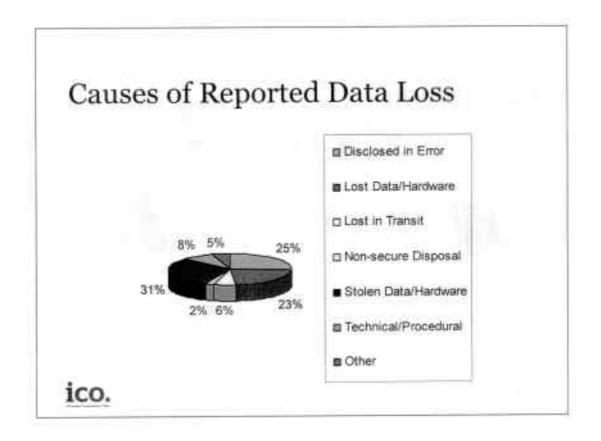














# ICO Regulatory Action Policy

...is to take a practical down-to-earth approach – simplifying and making it easier for the majority of organisations who seek to handle personal information well and tougher for the minority who do not.

# Drivers of Regulatory Action

Significant actual or potential detriment

Public concern

Degree of intrusion

Level of complaints

Issues identified by the ICO

# **Undertaking Regulatory Action**

Purposeful action will be taken when:

Obligations are deliberately or persistently ignored

Examples need to be set

Issues need to be clarified

Powers & Penalties

## Security Breaches - Powers & Penalties

### Breach of Principles

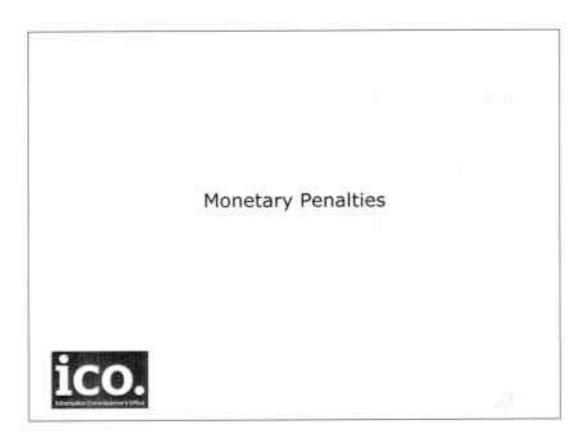
Formal Undertakings Enforcement Notices Audits (with consent) Monetary Penalties Information Notices Assessment Notices Search Warrants

# Security Breaches - Powers & Penalties

### Offences

Sec 55 offence Failure to Notify Failure to Follow Notice

Max £5k in Sheriff Court Unlimited fine in High Court



Most serious situations only

Sector, size and resources of the DC

Not intention to impose serious financial hardship

The Commissioner has to be satisfied that:

There has been a serious contravention of section 4(4) of the Act by the data controller,

- The contravention was of a kind likely to cause substantial damage or substantial distress and either,
- c) The contravention was deliberate or,
- d) The data controller knew or ought to have known that there was a risk that the contravention would occur, and that such a contravention would be of a kind likely to cause substantial damage or substantial distress, but failed to take reasonable steps to prevent the contravention.

Seriousness of contravention

The contravention is or was particularly serious because of the nature of the personal data concerned;

The duration and extent of the contravention;

The number of individuals actually or potentially affected by the contravention;

The fact that it related to an issue of public importance, for example, unauthorised access to NHS Emergency Care Summaries

The contravention was due to either deliberate or negligent behaviour on the part of the data controller

Likelihood of substantial damage or substantial distress

The contravention was of a kind more likely than not to cause substantial damage or substantial distress to one or more individual.

#### Deliberate contravention

The contravention by the data controller was deliberate or premeditated;

The data controller was aware of and did not follow specific advice published by the Commissioner or others and relevant to the contravention; or

The contravention followed a series of similar contraventions by the data controller.

Reckless contravention

The likelihood of the contravention should have been apparent to a reasonably diligent data controller;

The data controller had adopted a cavalier approach to compliance and failed to take reasonable steps to prevent the contravention, for example, not putting basic security provisions in place;

The data controller had failed to carry out any sort of risk assessment and there is no evidence, whether verbally or in writing, that the data controller had recognised the risks of handling personal data and taken reasonable steps to address them;

Reckless contravention (con't)

The data controller did not have good corporate governance and/or audit arrangements in place to establish clear lines of responsibility for preventing contraventions of this type;

The data controller had no specific procedures or processes in place which may have prevented the contravention (eg, a robust compliance regime or other monitoring mechanisms)

Guidance or codes of practice published by the ICO or others and relevant to the contravention were available to the data controller and ignored or not given appropriate weight.

ICO.

25

# Assessment Notices

## Assessment Notices

Power of audit in the absence of consent

Government Departments – but could be extended to other public bodies and private sector

Statutory Code of Practice to follow

## Assessment Notices

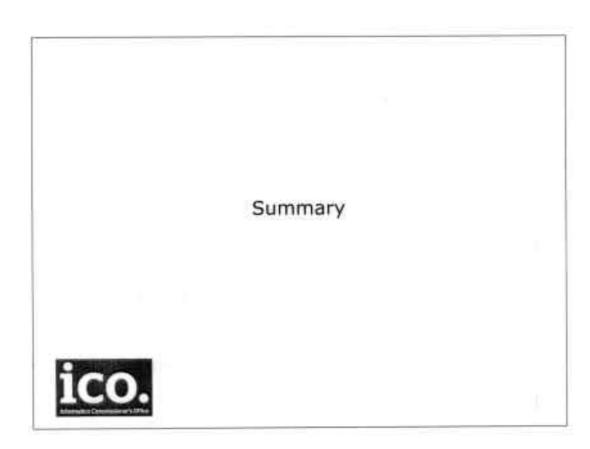
ICO will aim for co-operation

Recommendations aimed at helping

Developing capability - staff and audit practice

Question of publication to be addressed

Spot Checks involve publication – but only after a department's response to our recommendations



# The ICO approach

Focus on what will cause detriment

- Real likelihood of serious harm
- · Extent of harm level vs volume

#### Prevention better than cure

- Working in partnership
- · Foresee problems and identify solutions

...but we will use our new powers when necessary

ico.

#### DETRIMENT

REAL and SERIOUS harm

EXTENT – one person with serious detriment or many with small detriment

#### PREVENTION

PARTNERSHIP with ICO - Engender public trust and confidence; reduction of potential harm

PIA – Identify potential for harm before it happens; benefits of efficiency, effectiveness and economy.





# ICO: Alternative Access Regimes and their use for the solicitor – Overview of FOIA/DPA/EIRs

Catherine Vint Senior Investigator ICO NI.



11th June 2010

# Content

FOI/DPA/EIR- uses for the solicitor
Information Access regimes
FOIA/EIR and the DPA overview
DPA, legal structure, definitions, coverage, scope
DP Principles, first principle
Rights under the DPA
Subject access requests
Exemptions
Contact details.

## Uses for the solicitor

- Access Regimes potential alternative mechanisms to discovery (e.g. Belfast Telegraph report of the Northern Trust's release of physician and toxicologist report under FOIA to family in Coroner's Inquiry into the death of Janet Brown)
- -Can be a useful alternative to litigation
- -Saves client expense and stress of litigation
- Can be utilised where litigation not in contemplation (e.g. employee taking a grievance)
- -Client vindication.

# Information Access

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Data Protection Act 1998

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Privacy Electronic Communications Regulations 2003

#### FOI/EIR – Types of Information Released

- -Top legal aid earners in NI.
- -Legal Advice on Derry/Londonderry name change
- -DARD release of a KPMG Economic Appraisal Re: NI Racecourses.
- -Financial model of Cancer Centre Belfast City Hospital
- -Marker identities for QUB IPLS institute exam.
- -Surgeon mortality rates
- -Stolen/ Lost items from the Ulster Museum
- -EU subsidies paid to farmers

# Freedom of Information Act 2000

Royal Assent 30 November 2000
Extends to NI – but Northern Ireland Act 1998
Phased Introduction – Publication Schemes
Full Implementation 1st January 2005
Creates new rights for individuals
Imposes obligations on Public Sector
Wide Coverage
Private Sector increasingly aware

# Making a Request under FOIA

- -Request in writing (section 8)
- -Section 11 (Form and Format)
- -Duty to comply promptly (within 20 working days)
- -Act is motive blind
- -Duty to confirm or deny/communicate information
- -Refusal Notice (section 17 FOIA)
- -Fees notice (if applicable)
- -Do not have to comply where costs of dealing with request exceed the 'appropriate limit'
- -Advice and Assistance. (section 16)
- -section 14 is the request vexatious (see NI decision in case involving DRD, Ref: FS50154484)

# The Right to Know – FOIA 2000

Section 1 – A Request in writing from any 'person'
To any public body covered by the Act
Information "held"

Twin Dutles :-

Duty to confirm or deny if information is held .

Duty to communicate the information .....

....subject to 7 absolute and 16 qualified exemptions

# Exemptions under FOIA

Absolute Exemptions – No Public Interest test to be applied Information supplied to/by security bodies- s.23 Court Records -s.32 Statutory Bar – section 44 Qualified exemptions – public interest test Commercial Interest – section 43 Legal Professional Privilege – section 42 Health and Safety – section 38 Interface Exemptions Personal data section s40 Environmental information -s39

# Public Interest Test

#### S2 (2) FOIA

- "[Duty] does not apply if or to the extent that....in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information"
- Relevant and non relevant factors identified by the Information Tribunal (see Guardian & Brooke v Information Commissioner &BBC EA/2006/0013)
- Public not private interest
   Ms Elizabeth Jagger v John Darling & Others [2005] EWCA 683

# Refusing a Request

- s.17 FOIA must give a refusal notice
- Must state the exemption and why it applies and also public interest reasoning
- Applicant needs as much information as possible so as to decide whether to seek a review
- Failure to give an adequate refusal notice is a breach of FOIA
- Do not need a s.17 notice if you do not hold the information

# FOI/EIRs

- -Exemption at section 39 FOIA
- -Environmental Information Regulations 2004
- -Derived from European Directive 2003/4/EC
- -Regulations drafted for UK by DEFRA
- Came into force Jan 01 2005, retrospective
- Give access to all environmental information held by the organisation as detailed in Regulation 2 (1) -
- -'Environmental information' has the same meaning as Article 2 (1) of the Directive

# What is covered under EIRs

Regulation 2 says:

Interpretation

2. - (1) In these Regulations 
"environmental information" has the same meaning as in Article 2(1) of the Directive,

"environmental information in written, visual, eural, electronic or any other material form on 
(a) the state of the elements of the environment, such as air and atmosphere, water, suil, land,
landscape and natural sites including welfands, coastal and marine areas, biological diversity

and its components, including genetically modified organisms, and the interaction among

these elements;

these elements; (b) factors, such as substances, energy, noise, radiation or waste, including radioactive waste, emissions, discharges and other releases into the environment, affecting or likely to affect the elements of the environment referred to in (a); (c) measures (including administrative measures), such as policies, jegislation, plans, programmes, environmental agreements, and activities affecting or likely to affect the elements and factors referred to in (a) and (b) as well as measures or activities designed to represent those elements.

ciements and factors referred to in (a) and (b) as well as measures or activities designed to protect those elements;

(d) reports on the impliementation of environmental legislation;

(e) cost benefit and other economic analyses and assumptions used within the framework of the measures and activities referred to in (c); and (f) the utate of human health and safety, including the contamination of the food chain, where relevant, conditions of human life, cultural sites and built structures instruct as they are or may be affected by the state of the elements of the elements of the elements of the elements, by any of the matters referred to in (b) and (c).

## Who is covered

Detailed in Regulation 2 (2)

If you are covered by FOI you are covered by EIR!

Other bodies who are not covered by FOI are covered by EIR if:

they carry out functions of public administration;
or they are under control of a body covered by FOI and:
have public responsibilities relating to the environment,
exercises functions of a public nature and provide public
services relating to the environment

# Public Authority Obligations

- Generally same as FOIA but duty to make information proactively available.
- -Verbal Requests valid What that means in practice
- -Duty to advise and assist
- -Answer within 20 working days
- -Extension to 40 days if complex or voluminous
- -No extension for considering the public interest test
- -Refusal notice as FOI
- -EIR Code of practice (Regulation 16 equivalent to s45 code)
- -No records management code follow s 46
- -Charging for requested information see Markinson v Kings Lynn Borough Council EA/2005/0014 (28 March 2006)

# Exceptions available under EIRs

# Reg (12) Exceptions – if disclosure would adversely affect:

- -International relations
- -Defence
- -National security
- -Public safety
- -The course of justice
- -Intellectual property rights
- -Confidentially of proceedings of the authority or any other PA where confidentially is provided by law
- -Confidentially of commercial or industrial information where provided
- -Exception for Personal Data falls back into the DPA.
- All Qualified.

# FOIA and the Data Protection Act

- -Relevant exemption is section 40 FOIA
- -No exemption for Article 8 of the ECHR
- -Section 40 (1) Information of which the requester is the subject- divert to s.7 DPA 1998
- -Section 40 (2) Third Party Information Information is exempt if it would breach the DPA.

# Data Protection Act 1998

An Act to regulate the processing of information about individuals European Directive 95/46/EC

- No restriction on personal data flow in EEA
- Right to privacy.
- Member states supposed to implement this by 24<sup>th</sup>
   October 1998
- Finally implemented in the UK on the 1st March 2000
- It is a RESERVED matter in Northern Ireland

# Structure of the DPA

- -Definitions Part 1 and sections 68-71
- -Accessible Records- schedules 11 and 12
- -Principles Schedules 1-4
- -Rights Part II
- -Exemptions Part 1V and Sch 7.
- -Notification Part III
- -Enforcement Parts V and Sch 9

# Definitions within the DPA

Data
Personal Data
Relevant filing system
Accessible record
Sensitive personal data.

Processing Data Controller Data processor Data subject

## Definition of Data

- -Processed by electronic equipment or with intention that it will be processed by such equipment(s.1(1) DPA)
- Accessible records -health, education, housing, social services records (s.68 DPA)
- -Relevant Filing System (s 1(1) DPA 98)
- -FOI amendment other data held by public authority (section 68 FOIA 2000) – category 'e' data

# Personal Data

#### Personal data -

" data which relate to a living individual who can be identified from the data or from that and other information in the possession of or likely to come into the possession of the data controller (s.1(1) DPA)"

#### S.2(2) Sensitive Personal Data

### Scope of the DPA

"Processing" is now a very wide & inclusive definition . No
longer is it confined to processing 'by reference to the
individual'.

### Definitions continued

Data Controller: "Person who (either alone or jointly or in common with other persons) determines the purposes for which and the manner in which any personal data are, or are to be processed"

Data Processor: "In relation to personal data, means any person (other than an employee of the data controller) who processes the data on behalf of the data controller;

Data Subject " means an Individual who is the subject of personal data"

S.4 (4) of the DPA: ultimate responsibility for adhering to the Act lies with the 'Data Controller'.

### 8 Data Protection Principles

### Personal Data Shall be:

- 1. Processed fairly and lawfully
- Obtained only for specified and lawful purposes and further processed only in a compatible manner
- 3. Adequate, relevant and not excessive
- 4. Accurate and up to date
- 5. Kept for no longer then is necessary
- 6. Processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects (Part II)
- Kept secure
- 8. Transferred outside the EEA only if there is adequate protection.

(Principles of good information handling- Legally enforceable quality standards.)

New Powers for Commissioner to fine up to £500,000.



### First DP Principle – key to information sharing.

Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully and in accordance with certain conditions (Sch 2 and 3) defined in the Act depending whether it is ;

'Non sensitive personal data' (only need a Schedule 2 condition)

'Sensitive personal data' (e.g. information about an individual's health). Need a Schedule 2 and 3 condition to process fairly

### Conditions for processing

Sch 2 conditions

Consent
Contract
Legal obligation
Vital interests
Administration of justice
Legitimate interests of data controller
Sch 3 conditions
Explicit consent
Employment
Vital interests
Not for profit Trade Unions/religious/political/philosophical groups
Already in public domain by data subject
Legal proceedings/advice
Administration of Justice
Medical purposes
Equal Ops monitoring
Substantial public interest (SI2000/417)



### Exemptions

- -Subject access and non-disclosure provisions
- -Some of the principals fall away.
- -Facilitates information sharing
- -Exemptions for crime and taxation/legal requirements

### Exemptions continued

### Section 35

- "(1) Personal data are exempt from the non-disclosure provisions where the disclosure is required by or under any enactment, by any rule of law or by order of a court
- (2) Personal data are exempt from the non-disclosure provisions where the disclosure is necessary-
  - (a) for the purpose of, or in connection with, any legal proceedings (including prospective legal proceedings), or
  - (b) for the purpose of obtaining legal advice
- Or is otherwise necessary for the purposes of establishing, exercising or defending legal rights."

### Exemptions continued

Legal professional privilege

Schedule 7 (10)

"Personal data are exempt from the subject information provisions if the data consist of information in respect to which a claim to legal professional privilege or, in Scotland, to confidentiality as between client and professional legal adviser, can be maintained in legal proceedings"

See Oubai Aluminium Co Ltd v Sayed Reyadh Abdulla S Nasser Al Alwani and Others (reported in the Times 06 January 1999 and mentioned at p.19 of the Commissioner's 15th Annual Report)

### Rights in the DPA

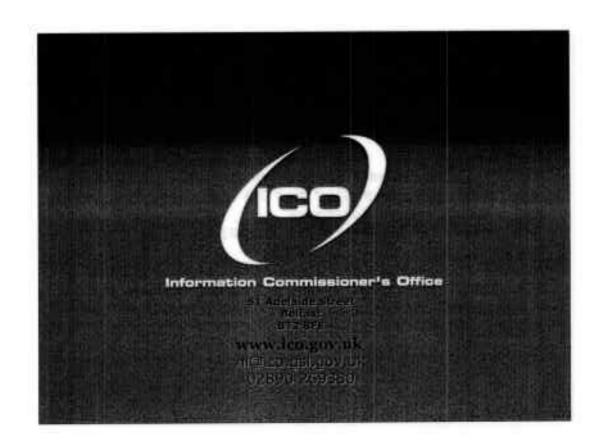
- -Right of access to own personal data, known as subject Access (section 7)(e.g. client wanting their own file) (see s.27 (5) DPA 1998)
- -Right to prevent processing likely to cause substantial damage or distress (section 10)
- -Right to prevent processing for purposes of direct marketing (section 11)
- -Rights in relation to automated decision-making (section 12)
- Right to seek compensation for breaches of the Act. (section
   13)
- -Right to seek rectification, blocking, erasure or destruction of inaccurate personal data (section 14) (Ensure client details are accurate)

### Section 7 – Subject Access

- A request in writing Can charge a fee (Max £10/£50)
- Data controller has 40 calendar days to respond
- Data subject has right to be informed if his/her personal data being processed by the Data controller
- A description of the Data
- The Personal data in an intelligible permanent form
- Purpose for which the data is being processed
- Source of the Personal data
- Who it is being shared with
- Logic involved in automated decision making process
- Unless (s.8(2)) Disproportionate effort
- Effect of section 27 (5) DPA -SAR very strong right in law.

### DPA and Deceased Persons records

- -DPA does not apply
- -Access to deceased persons records under FOIA.
- -Consideration of section 41 of the FOIA 2000.
- -Common Law Duty of Confidence
- -Access To Health Records (NI) Order 1993
- -Article 8 Human Rights Act 1998
- -Confidentiality subsists after death ( National Archives case Ref: FS50101391 contrasted with "Bluck v Information Commissioner and Epsom and St. Helier University NHS Trust EA/2006/0090")



## with requests Basic Survival Skills: Interfaces and dealing

Dawn Monaghan Senior Manager, ICO

> r T

200



# Access Regime Interfaces

- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Environmental Information regulations (Revised 2005)
- Human rights
- Enterprise Act
- Local Government Act
- Etc, etc.



# Basic Survival: Documentation

- Freedom of information Act 2000 (FOI) Data Protection Act 1998 (DP)
- Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR)
- Codes of Practice (s45 and s46, Reg 16)
- Fees Regulations (s9)
- ICO Guidance
- **Decisions Notices**
- Tribunal Decisions
- Others guidance and experience



## Code of Practice

FOI section 45/EIR regulation 16

Advice and assistance

Handling requests

Transferring requests

Consulting with 3<sup>rd</sup> parties

Contracts

Refusing requests

Complaints procedures



## Code of Practice

## FOI section 46

- Functional responsibility
- Policy
- Human resources
- Active records management
- Disposal arrangements
- Management of electronic records
- Review and transfer of records
- Standards



# Fees Regulations - FOI

## FOI section 9

- Not a charging regime, but facilitate withholding information
- Fees Limit £600 Any Government Department
- Fees limit £450 Any other public body
- All public authorities use same hourly rate £25/person/hour (regardless of costs)



# Fees Regulations - FOI

What can be calculated:

- Determining if the 'information' is held
- Locating the information
- Retrieving the information
- Time of persons spent on those activities



# Fees Regulations - FOI

What cannot be calculated:

Time taken to check a request meets requirements of the Act

Consideration of the requests

Advice and assistance

Extraction of the information

Considering whether a request is vexatious

Obtaining authorisation

Time to taken to calculate charge



# Charging Regime - EIR

Regulation 8 – A charging regime

Any authority may charge for making information available unless

It's in a public register or on an environmental list Access is by view only

- The charges must be 'reasonable'
- Advance payment can be required
- working days The applicant must be made aware of the charges within 20
- Before the charge is paid or after 60 working days an authority is not obliged to provide the information
- An authority must make available a schedule of charges



### FOI/DP

- Confusion over SAR versus requests for official information
- Official information requests which include personal data of the applicant
- Official information requests which include 3rd party data



### FOI/DP

- Section 40 Exemption Absolute
- If applicants data, exempt from FOI deal as SAR under DP
- If 3rd party data involved, s40 applied to that data following usual DP principles
- How do you deal with Hybrids?





### FOI/EIR

- Debates regarding 'what is environmental information'?
- regime is used? Does it matter to the applicant which
- Similarities and differences



### FOI/EIR

- Section 39 Exemption Qualified
- If Environmental information exempt under FOI dealt with under the regulations
- How do you deal with Hybrids?
- What if personal data involved?
- Section 40 FOI or Regulation 13 EIR

# Similarities and differences FOI/EIR

- Language of the legislation
- Bodies covered
- Exemptions/Exceptions and the PIT
- Written/Verbal requests
- Proactive dissemination
- Time to reply
- Codes of practice
- Charging



## FOI/Other statutes

FOI section 44 statutory bars

- No direct equivalent in EIR
- Providing information outside of FOI/EIR

# Surviving Requests

- Organisational awareness
- Normal course of business
- Policies, processes and PRACTICE
- Strong records management
- Proactive dissemination
- Talk to the applicant!
- When legitimate USE exemptions



# Surviving Requests

# The importance of refusal notices:

- Respond within 20 working days whatever the outcome
- Clarify what was requested
- Explain which information has been withheld, the exemption/s used and why
- Explain the appeals process



# Surviving Requests

# The importance of internal reviews:

Dissatisfied applicant

Review of the handling procedure and or the decision/s

 Code – More senior person – key, someone One or more? qualified

Timescales

Document the outcome



# Appeals to the ICC

- Section 50 complaints
- Timescales
- Triage
- Required information
- Informal resolution
- Formal resolution

### Notices

- Information Notice
- Decision Notice
- Enforcement Notice
- Practice Recommendation
- Contempt of court



# Appeals to the Tribunal

- Within 28 days
- Paper only hearings
- Full hearing
- Uphold, overturn, amend
- Appeal to high court only on a point of
- Judicial review

# Subscribe to our e-newsletter at www.ico.gov.uk

at www.twitter.com/iconews Follow us on Twitter

<u>i</u>