



Company Name:	Optimum Links Ltd t/a Priority Appointments ("the Company")
Document :	Retention Policy
Date:	May 2023

Records Retention Schedule

This Record Retention Schedule sets out the time periods that different types of records must be retained for business and legal purposes.

The retention periods are based on business needs and legal requirements and should be read in accordance with Optimum Links Ltd t/a Priority Appointments data protection policy. If you maintain any types of records that are not listed in this schedule and it is not clear what retention period should apply, please contact Managing Director, Tracy Welch for guidance.

Any deviance from the retention periods in this schedule must be approved in advance by the Managing Director

The first section of this policy will address employment records, the second section will address work-seeker records.

Work-seeker records

Record	Retention Period	Storage Format	Lawful basis and reference
<p>Work-seeker records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name/address and if under 22, date of birth • Any terms between recruitment business and the work-seeker and any variations • Details of the work-seeker's training, experience, qualifications and any authorisation to undertake particular work • Names of hirers to whom the work-seeker is introduced or supplied • Details of any resulting engagement and date from which it takes effect • Details of any enquiries made under Regulations 19, 20 and 22 about the work-seeker and the position concerned 	Kept for two years after last providing your work-finding service	Paper or electronic	<p>Legal obligation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003 (Reg 29) <p>Legitimate business interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect the business against any legal claims for breach of contract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kept in line with the Limitation Act 1980 (s.5) • To keep records to demonstrate that safeguarding processes are adhered to and followed • To contact the candidate for any further work-finding services • To protect your business against any legal claims
<p>Records relating to/demonstrating compliance with Working Time Regulations 1998:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of work and rest periods • Working time opt-out forms 	Kept for two years from the date on which the record was made	Paper or electronic	<p>Legal obligation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with the Working Time Regulations 1998 (Reg 9)
Copies of identification documents/right to work	Kept for two years from date of termination of employment	Paper or electronic	<p>Legal obligation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with the Immigration (Restrictions on Employment) Order (Art 6(1)(b))

Criminal records information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information forms • DBS check forms • DBS certificates 	Six months (unless safeguarding issues or other similar extenuating circumstances are raised).	Paper or electronic	Legitimate business interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To demonstrate that safeguarding processes were followed
Gender pay gap reporting information	Kept available for a period of at least three years beginning with the date of publication	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2017 (Regulation 15)

1 Payroll and salary records

Record	Retention Period	Storage Format	Lawful basis and reference
Payroll information	Kept for three years after the end of the tax year to which they relate	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) Regulation 2003 (Regulation 97)
Intermediary reporting information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMRC have produced guidance on the different information required 	Kept for three years after the end of the tax year to which they relate	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions Act 2003) (Section 716B) as well as The Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) (Amendment No.2) Regulations 2015
VAT records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep records of sales and purchases • Keep a separate summary of VAT called VAT account • Issue correct VAT invoices 	Kept for six years	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see government guidance

Company accounts	Kept for six years from the end of the last company financial year they relate to (there are circumstances that this would need to be kept shorter/ longer for- please see government guidance for more information)	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see government guidance
CIS records	Kept for at least three years after the end of the tax year that they relate to	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with The Income Tax (Construction Industry Scheme) Regulations 2005 (Regulation 51)
National minimum wage records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records demonstrating compliance with national minimum wage requirements including hours worked 	Kept for three years beginning with the day upon which the pay reference period immediately following that to which they relate ends	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with National Minimum Wage Regulations 2015 (Regulation 59)
Sickness records	Three years	Paper or electronic	Legitimate business interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To demonstrate that statutory sick pay has been paid/demonstrate why it was not paid in the event that HMRC investigate
Statutory Maternity/paternity and adoption pay	Kept for three years after the end of the tax year in which the period of statutory pay ends	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept in line with Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations 1986 (and other corresponding legislation) (Regulation 26)

Pensions auto-enrolment	Kept for a minimum of six years, some records will need to be kept for a longer period	Paper or electronic	Legal obligation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please consider Pensions Regulator guidance)
-------------------------	--	---------------------	---