

Bristol Community Land Trust
GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) Policy
Date first adopted: January 2026

Review dates:

Date of review	Amendments/Updates made	Reviewed & accepted	Proposed next review
June 2026			

Policy Statement

BCLT is committed to protecting the privacy and personal data of all individuals we interact with. This policy outlines how we collect, use, store, and safeguard personal data in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Our goal is to ensure transparency, uphold individual rights, and maintain the highest standards of data protection across all our operations.

Data protection principles

BCLT is committed to processing data in accordance with its responsibilities under the GDPR. Article 5 of the GDPR requires that personal data shall be:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals;
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.”

General provisions

- This policy applies to all personal data processed by BCLT.
- The Responsible Person (staff member appointed by the board) shall take responsibility for BCLT’s ongoing compliance with this policy.

- c. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually.
- d. BCLT is exempt from ICO registration as a not-for-profit but adheres to GDPR laws around personal data.

Lawful, fair and transparent processing

- a. To ensure its processing of data is lawful, fair and transparent, BCLT shall maintain a Register of Systems.
- b. The Register of Systems shall be reviewed at least annually.
- c. Individuals have rights under GDPR including access, rectification, erasure, restriction and objection to processing and requests shall be dealt with in a timely manner.

Lawful purposes

- a. All data processed by the BCLT must be done on one of the following lawful bases: consent, contract, legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests ([see ICO guidance for more information](#)).
- b. BCLT shall note the appropriate lawful basis in the Register of Systems.
- c. Where consent is relied upon as a lawful basis for processing data, evidence of opt-in consent shall be kept with the personal data.
- d. Where communications are sent to individuals based on their consent, the option for the individual to revoke their consent should be clearly available and systems should be in place to ensure such revocation is reflected accurately in BCLT's systems.

Data minimisation

- a. BCLT shall ensure that personal data are adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.

Accuracy

- a. BCLT shall take reasonable steps to ensure personal data is accurate.
- b. Where necessary for the lawful basis on which data is processed, steps shall be put in place to ensure that personal data is kept up to date.

Archiving / removal

- a. To ensure that personal data is kept for no longer than necessary, BCLT shall put in place an archiving policy for each area in which personal data is processed and review this process annually.
- b. The archiving policy shall consider what data should/must be retained, for how long, and why.

Security

- a. BCLT shall ensure that personal data is stored securely using modern software that is kept-up-to-date.
- b. Access to personal data shall be limited to personnel who need access and appropriate security should be in place to avoid unauthorised sharing of information.
- c. When personal data is deleted this should be done safely such that the data is irrecoverable.
- d. Appropriate back-up and disaster recovery solutions shall be in place.

Breach

In the event of a breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data, BCLT shall promptly assess

the risk to people's rights and freedoms and if appropriate report this breach to the ICO within 72 hours ([more information on the ICO website](#)).

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed at least annually.

This policy is subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

Equality and diversity

We will apply this policy consistently and fairly and will not discriminate against anyone based on any protected characteristics, including those set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Complaints

Any resident or other stakeholder who is dissatisfied with how we have managed their properties is able to submit a complaint using our Complaints process.

Once our Complaints policy is complete and if they remain dissatisfied, then they can contact the Housing Ombudsman.