May Blog

Welcome to the May blog and I thought I would talk to you about the General Data Protection Regulations [GDPR]. You are probably very aware that there are changes around what companies and other organisations do with data; you will no doubt be receiving e-mails from your bank or companies you use who are saying “ let’s keep in touch”, asking you to let them know if you are OK with them keeping your personal data so that they can continue to contact you. I thought it might be helpful to give you a bit of background to GDPR and what Fair Deal is doing to get ready.

The GDPR come into force on the 25th of May 2018 replacing the Data Protection Act 1998. The new regulations introduce much tougher rules for organisations such as Fair Deal in terms of how we process and manage personal data. As an employer we will be reviewing how we collect, hold and process personal data. We also need to confirm how we communicate with our employees about the personal data we hold in relation to them.

There are areas that we are reviewing such as our data protection policy and we are conducting a data audit across the organisation to establish a clear picture of all personal data held. We are asking ourselves the following questions:

* Why is this personal data held?
* Where is this personal data stored? E.g. electronically, hard copy or both?
* Where did the data come from?
* What are the grounds for processing personal data?
* Who would this data be shared with?
* How is the data to be securely disposed of?
* Does the organisation have permission for holding the data?

We will prepare information briefings on

* Contents of an employee file
* Individual rights
* Retention of records

More information can be found on the Information Commissioner’s Office [ICO] <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform>

Please e-mail me if you would like to talk about GDPR and find out more about what we are doing to ensure compliance with the new regulations.

Ann Marie Docherty

CEO

May 11th 2018[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. Fair Deal blog May 2018 GDPR [↑](#footnote-ref-1)