



Excellence through ethics

PLEASE NOTE:

We will be using a new provider (called Sendinblue) to build and send our newsletters from next month - you will continue to receive your subscription as normal. **Remember you can unsubscribe at anytime.**

Data protection law requires all controllers (including us) to assess the impact of new or proposed processing. We have done that by conducting all necessary due diligence from an information security and data protection perspective.

You can [read more about this legal requirement here.](#)

Thank you for subscribing to our monthly newsletter – in this issue:

- [Message from the Commissioner](#)
- [Blog: Rise of the machines: good intentions, unintended outcomes?](#)
- [Event: Data Protection in the Workplace](#)
- [Event: How to respond to Subject Access Requests](#)
- [Beyond our shores](#)
- [Free support and advice, and public engagement](#)
- [Suggested reading: 'Privacy' Edited by Steven M. Cohn and Carissa Veliz](#)

[Message from the Commissioner](#)

There has been a lot going on in the data protection world recently. Here in the Bailiwick, one of the highlights of recent months for our office was [the results of the school's competition](#) which we ran with the Youth Commission, kindly supported by Resolution IT. It is not always easy to engage people in data protection issues and that challenge is greater in school age children.



Too often conversations are framed entirely around online safety. While important, there is a much bigger picture. Data, used well, can be transformative in our lives, both as individuals and societies.

We need to ensure children are educated about the opportunities as well as the risks. That is why we created [Project Bijou Seeds](#), an offshoot of our wider social initiative [Project Bijou](#) which is aimed at engaging the Bailiwick's young generations. It forms part of our strategic plan, and statutory obligation to raise children's awareness of their rights and responsibilities to others.

What an absolute joy it was to receive the competition entries from the children, to witness how positive and kind they are (and be reminded that we need to be a bit more like that ourselves!).

Looking further afield, anyone interested in data protection will have likely seen the UK Government recently publish its [reform proposals](#) earlier this month. The current data protection regime in the UK reflects the EU legislation (GDPR) and it seems clear that it was always going to be in the sights of Brexit-related conversations. We continue to follow developments with interest.

Our local legislation also reflects the EU regime and there was a very clear path taken by the Bailiwick back in 2018 to ensure that our legislative framework would continue to do the job of protecting data flows.

With data so intrinsic to all sectors, these data flows have always been a key pillar for our economy. But economics were not the only reason that the legislation was put in place. The protection of our personal data is a key pillar of our democracy.

It is essential to ensure individuals are treated fairly and whilst it is not something front of mind for most people, anyone for whom data has been misused or otherwise mishandled will know too well how much of an impact it can have. So we have a two-fold incentive to get this right.

It is unsurprising that data and the way it is regulated has become so politically charged. Data has become so fundamental to almost everything we do, and everything we are.

It is intrinsically linked to innovation in the way that it is deep-rooted in nearly all other aspects of our lives. And whilst regulation is sometimes considered a burden or bureaucratic red tape, it is important for those of us working in the field to be clear about why that need not be the case.

Effective regulation (note the word 'effective') should be an enabler of innovation. What it does is ensure that innovation is safe and has the consent of our community.

We do not tolerate innovation at all costs in any other area of our lives i.e. planes are not built to go as fast as technically possible, they are built to go as fast as possible whilst ensuring that passengers and crew are safe. There is a big difference. We have lost sight of that to a degree in discussions around data.

We have allowed the technology to race ahead without thinking about the safety of the passengers and crew.

It does the economy no favours and it does its citizens a disservice to exist in the regulatory equivalent of the Wild West. So we approach our role as an independent regulator clear-eyed and focussed on our responsibilities.

An economy that embeds high quality data governance standards is not only looking after its financial interests, it is also safeguarding its citizens' interests.

Emma Martins
Bailiwick of Guernsey Data Protection Commissioner

BLOG: Rise of the machines: good intentions, unintended outcomes?



March Blog:

In her [latest blog](#), Bailiwick Data Protection Commissioner Emma Martins reflects on the critical importance of foresight in technological development.

Event: Data Protection in the Workplace

In this lunchtime lecture on **30 March at 12pm**, our Deputy Commissioner Rachel Masterton will explore the 'coalface' of data protection, and what you need to do from a practical perspective to



**Data Protection
in the workplace**

achieve and demonstrate compliance. We will do this via a worked case study of a hypothetical organisation. We will also touch on breach reporting. This is aimed at staff with little or no specialist data protection knowledge. [Book your place](#)



[Event: How to respond to 'data subject access requests'](#)

[Book your place](#) for this lunchtime lecture on **27**

April at 12pm, where our Deputy Commissioner Rachel Masterton will outline the 'right of access' that all citizens have (whereby they can ask you to provide a copy of all the personal data you have on them) and how your organisation can respond when you receive such a request.

We will talk through whose role it is to respond to the request, what you should include in your response and the practicalities of how you can gather the personal data.



Every month we publish a round-up of data related developments from around the world. [March highlights include:](#)

- The UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) publishes updated guidance on AI and data protection: [Guidance on AI and data protection | ICO](#)
- Top ten takeaways from the draft UK GDPR reform: [Top ten takeaways from the draft UK GDPR reform \(iapp.org\)](#).
- The CEO of OpenAI, the company that developed the controversial consumer-facing artificial intelligence application ChatGPT, warns that the technology comes with real dangers as it reshapes society: ["We are a little bit scared"](#)

[READ: Beyond our shores \(full March 2023 summary\)](#)

[Free support and advice, and public engagement](#)

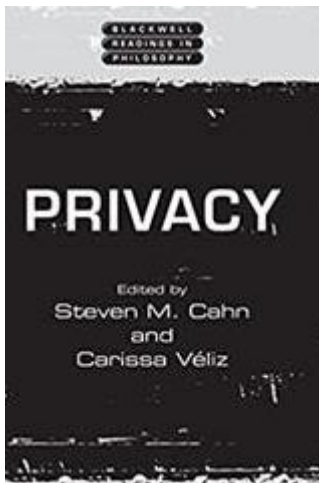
We know the data protection landscape can seem difficult to navigate sometimes, and we are here to help. We regularly publish guidance and resources to support all organisations in their own approach to compliance with our local data protection law. You can access our broad range of online resources and guidance via the links below:

Support and Advice:

- [Fortnightly drop-ins](#)
- [Study Visits](#)
- [Events](#) (view [recordings of past events here](#))
- [Podcasts](#)
- [Information Hub](#)
- [Beginner's Area](#) (includes '[The Feel-Good Guide to Data Protection](#)')
- Bi-monthly [breach statistics](#)
- [Newsletters](#)

Public engagement:

- [Children and young people](#)
- [Project Bijou](#)



[Suggested reading: 'Privacy' Edited by Steven M. Cahn and Carissa Veliz](#)

have long said that data protection is not privacy (and vice versa), but these things, however defined, are inextricably linked. This book contains a wonderfully curated selection of written pieces on the philosophy of privacy, edited by Stephen M Cahn, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the City University of New York Graduate Center, and Carissa Veliz, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy and the Institute for Ethics in AI at the University of Oxford.

[Read our Commissioner's latest book review](#) in full and discover her other recommended reads.



The Office of the Data Protection Authority

[St Martin's House, Le Bordage, St. Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 1BR](#)

+44 1481 742074

enquiries@odpa.gg

[Data Processing Notice](#)

[View previous issues](#)