RANSKILL PARISH COUNCIL

Subject Access Procedure

Document Control

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Ranskill Parish Council Subject Access Request Procedure

This procedure is to be followed when an individual contacts Ranskill Parish Council to request access to their personal information held by the Council. Requests must be completed within 1 month, so it should be actioned as soon as it is received. SAR's should be provided free of charge, however, a 'reasonable fee' can be charged when a request is manifestly unfounded or excessive, particularly if it is repetitive.

The steps below should be followed to action the request:

1. **Is it a valid subject access request?**

    a) The request must be in writing (letter, email, social media or fax).
    b) Has the person requesting the information provided sufficient information to allow us to search for the information? (If not request more information from the person if the request is too broad.)

2. **Verify the identity of the requestor.**

    a) Check that the person requesting the information is the person the information relates to by confirming via documentation including photographic evidence such as a driving licence or passport their name and address.

3. **Determine where the personal information will be found**

    a) Establish where the data is held via the data audit table. (Personal data is data which relates to a living individual who can be identified from the data (name, address, email address, database information) and can include expressions of opinion about the individual.)
    b) If there is no personal data, inform the requestor. Otherwise continue to the next step.

4. **Screen the information**

    a) Some of the information retrieved may not be disclosable due to exemptions, however legal advice should be sought before applying exemptions.
    Examples of exemptions are:
        - References you have given
        - Publicly available information
        - Crime and taxation
        - Management information (restructuring/redundancies)
        - Negotiations with the requestor
        - Regulatory activities (planning enforcement, noise nuisance)
        - Legal advice and proceedings
        - Personal data of third parties

5. **Establish if all the information can be disclosed.**

a) In some cases, emails and documents may contain the personal information of other individuals who have not given their consent to share their personal information with others. If this is the case, the other individual's personal data must be redacted before the SAR is sent out.

6. **Prepare the SAR response** (using the sample letters at the end of this document) including as a minimum the following information:

   a) the purposes of the processing.
   b) the categories of personal data concerned.
   c) the recipients or categories of recipients to whom personal data has been or will be disclosed, in particular in third countries or international organisations, including any appropriate safeguards for transfer of data.
   d) where possible, the envisaged period for which personal data will be stored, or, if not possible, the criteria used to determine that period.
   e) the existence of the right to request rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing of personal data concerning the data subject or to object to such processing.
   f) the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office ("ICO");
   g) if the data has not been collected from the data subject: the source of such data.
   h) the existence of any automated decision-making, including profiling and any meaningful information about the logic involved, as well as the significance and the envisaged consequences of such processing for the data subject.

   Ensure that a copy of the personal data undergoing processing is provided.

All SAR's should be logged to include the date of receipt, identity of the data subject, summary of the request, indication of if the Parish Council can comply, date information is sent to the data subject.

APPENDIX A

Sample letters:

1. **Replying to a subject access request providing the requested personal data**

   Dear [Name of data subject]

   Data Protection subject access request

   Thank you for your letter of [date] making a data subject access request for [subject]. We are pleased to enclose the personal data you requested.

   Include 6(a) to (h) above.

   Copyright in the personal data you have been given belongs to the council or to another party. Copyright material must not be copied, distributed, modified, reproduced, transmitted, published or otherwise made available in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the copyright holder.

2. **Release of part of the personal data, when the remainder is covered by an exemption**

   Dear [Name of data subject]

   Data Protection subject access request

   Thank you for your letter of [date] making a data subject access request for [subject]. To answer your request we asked the following areas to search their records for personal data relating to you:

- *[List the areas]*

   I am pleased to enclose [some/most] of the personal data you requested. [If any personal data has been removed] We have removed any obvious duplicate personal data that we noticed as we processed your request, as well as any personal data that is not about you. You will notice that [if there are gaps in the document] parts of the document(s) have been blacked out. [OR if there are fewer documents enclose] I have not enclosed all of the personal data you requested. This is because [explain why it is exempt].

   Include 6(a) to (h) above.

   Copyright in the personal data you have been given belongs to the council or to another party. Copyright material must not be copied, distributed, modified, reproduced, transmitted, published, or otherwise made available in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the copyright holder.

3. **Replying to a subject access request explaining why you cannot provide any of the requested personal data**

   Dear [Name of data subject]

   Data Protection subject access request

   Thank you for your letter of [date] making a data subject access request for [subject].

I regret that we cannot provide the personal data you requested. This is because [explanation where appropriate].

[Examples include where one of the exemptions under the data protection legislation applies. For example the personal data might include personal data is 'legally privileged' because it is contained within legal advice provided to the council or relevant to on-going or preparation for litigation. Other exemptions include where the personal data identifies another living individual or relates to negotiations with the data subject. Your data protection officer will be able to advise if a relevant exemption applies and if the council is going to rely on the exemption to withhold or redact the data disclosed to the individual, then in this section of the letter the council should set out the reason why some of the data has been excluded.]