

PRIVACY NOTICE

Data Controller: THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE, OFFICE OF AI & DIGITAL

Address: GD.46, STORMONT CASTLE,
STORMONT, BELFAST,
BT4 3TT

Telephone: [02890520005](tel:02890520005)

Email: ost@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Data Protection Officer: DAVID MOORE

Address: Room E3.08,
CASTLE BUILDINGS,
STORMONT,
BELFAST,

BT4 3SR
Telephone: 028 9052 6123

Email: DPO@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Introduction

The role of TEO is to contribute to and oversee the co-ordination of Northern Ireland Executive policies and programmes to deliver a peaceful, fair, equal, and prosperous society. Key objectives include driving investment and sustainable development, tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity, and the effective operations of the institutions of government in the delivery of a Programme for Government.

The Executive Office (TEO) is committed to protecting your privacy. This privacy notice explains how TEO uses information about you and the ways in which we will safeguard your data. It is designed to meet the requirements of the United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018), in terms of your individual right to be kept informed about how and why we collect, and use information, about you.

This Privacy Notice will be regularly reviewed and may be subject to revision. Any significant changes will be clearly indicated.

Who we are?

The Executive Office (TEO), Office of AI & Digital (OAID) Directorate is committed to protecting your privacy. This Privacy Notice (PN) explains how we gather and use your personal information during our consultation on Northern Ireland's Draft Artificial Intelligence Strategy, and the ways in which we will safeguard that information. It is important that you read this Privacy Notice, so that you are aware of how and why we are using personal data.

A key policy area is Northern Ireland's Draft Artificial Intelligence Strategy.

The Office of AI and Digital (OAID) was launched on 11 June 2025 by the First Minister and deputy First Minister at the AI Collaboration Centre in Belfast. It sits within the Office of Science and Technology (OST) and reports to the Chief Scientific and Technical Adviser (CSTA).

OAID was established as a key commitment in the Programme for Government, with the primary objective of providing leadership, technical insights, and cross-sector coordination in areas such as governance, infrastructure, data use, and skills.

The Office of Science & Technology (OST) was established within The Executive office to act as a central hub for science, technology, and innovation policy. Its purpose is to embed evidence-based decision-making across government, foster collaboration between industry, academia, and public sector, and drive digital transformation initiatives.

The OAID & OST is responsible for developing Northern Ireland's Artificial Intelligence Strategy to guide the ethical and transformative adoption of AI across the public sector. It also set up an external AI Advisory Panel and an internal Government AI Network to support this work.

The strategy was developed through extensive engagement with Executive departments, industry, and academic partners.

Feedback from all stakeholders was gathered and incorporated into successive drafts before being submitted to Ministers for approval and public consultation.

Purpose - Why are you processing my personal information?

The Executive Office is carrying out a public consultation on the draft Northern Ireland Artificial Intelligence Strategy. Any personal information provided as part of your consultation response will be processed for the purpose of administering and managing the consultation, analysing and considering the views received, and informing the development of the final Strategy. Where necessary, we may also use your contact details to seek clarification on the points raised in your response. Information gathered through the consultation will help The Executive Office understand the views of stakeholders and the public and will contribute to policy development and decision-making relating to the future use of Artificial Intelligence in Northern Ireland.

As a government department and as part of its Public Task, TEO may process personal data as necessary, for the effective performance of a task carried out in the public interest, i.e. a public consultation. Consent is not being relied on for processing the data supplied by consultees. Responses are being sought as part of the policy development process.

Type - What categories of personal information are you processing?

To carry out this public consultation, respondents will be asked:

- their full name
- email address
- whether they are responding as an individual, or on behalf of an organisation.

Members of the public be asked to select:

- their gender
- their age group;
- their sector of work – if ‘other’ selected, it’s asked to state the sector in the text box.

Respondents answering on behalf of an organisation will be asked:

- to provide the name of the organisation they are answering on behalf of.

The data provided will be used when analysing the respondents’ views on Northern Ireland’s Draft Artificial Intelligence Strategy.

The Citizen Space website collects the IP address of respondents to monitor and identify cases of multiple responses arising from a single IP address. The IP address will not be used as a basis for processing responses.

The personal data received will not be shared with any external parties. The data will be processed alongside the responses to the consultation that the user has submitted and only for that reason. Data received will be processed by the relevant person/s within TEO.

Legal – What is your lawful basis for collecting personal information?

In order to comply with UK data protection legislation, we must have a lawful basis for processing any personal information. In regard to this Consultation on Northern Ireland’s Artificial Intelligence Strategy TEO relies on Article 6 (1) (e):

“processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest”

In the instance that Special category data may be collected, the lawful basis is Article 9 (2) (g)

“processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest, on the basis of domestic law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject”

Source - Where do you get my personal information from?

The personal data will originate from the individual, or organisation, responding to the consultation on Northern Ireland’s Draft Artificial Intelligence Strategy. This is normally in the form of an electronic questionnaire submitted through the Citizen Space website but is not restricted or limited to that means. And may include hard copy or email responses

The Citizen Space website collects the IP address of respondents to monitor and identify cases of multiple responses arising from a single IP address.

At the end of the survey, respondents will be asked if they wish to receive a receipt of their responses when they submit their completed form. They will be asked to submit their email address for this to be carried out. This is normally in the form of an electronic questionnaire submitted through the Citizen Space website but is not restricted or limited to that means.

Recipients - Do you share my personal information with anyone else?

- Access to any personal information processed will be restricted to those TEO staff who are involved in the ‘Consultation on Northern Ireland’s Draft Artificial Intelligence Strategy’. All staff are up to date with current Data Protection legislation.
- None of the personal information processed will be transferred to any other countries or international organisations.

Personal data will not be shared with any other organisations or individuals.

Security and Retention - How we keep your personal information.

The information you provide will be held in the Department's official, accredited records management systems, and will be protected from unauthorised or unlawful processing, and against accidental loss, destruction, or damage.

- Only those staff within TEO and those directly involved in the consultation will have access to this information.

It will be retained only for as long as is necessary; specifically, for seven years in accordance with TEO's retention and disposal schedule.

What rights do I have?

- You have the right to be informed, and you can also obtain confirmation that your personal information is being processed; more detail is provided [here](#).
- You have the right to access your personal information; more detail is provided [here](#).
- You are entitled to have personal information rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete. You can find out more [here](#).
- You have the right to restrict processing of personal information in specific circumstances. You can find out more [here](#).
- You have the right to data portability in specific circumstances. You can find out more [here](#).
- You have the right to object to the processing of personal information in specific circumstances. You can find out more [here](#).
- You have rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling. You can find out more [here](#) but please be advised that **no** personal information supplied by you will be used for the purpose of automated decision making and profiling.
- Any request for personal information to be erased will be recorded by TEO, however it should be noted there is no obligation to erase personal information.

If you have any queries about your individual rights, please visit the Information Commissioner's Office website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Alternative formats / General enquiries

If you have any queries about this Privacy Notice, need a copy in an alternative format or language, or wish to exercise any of your rights as a data subject please contact us at –

The Executive Office

Office of AI & Digital,

STORMONT CASTLE, GD.46,

STORMONT,

BELFAST,

BT4 3TT

ost@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Tel. [02890520005](tel:02890520005)

Complaints

In the event that you are unhappy with how your personal data is processed you can raise your concerns to the Department's Data Protection Officer (see the contact details at the beginning of this Privacy Notice).

If you are still not happy, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO):

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House, Water Lane

Wilmslow, Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Changes to this Privacy Notice

We keep this Privacy Notice under regular review, and we will place any updates on the department's website.

This Privacy Notice was last updated on 02 July 2026.