

Data Sharing Review

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Consultation paper on the use and sharing of personal information in the public and private sector

List of questions for response

We would welcome responses to the following questions set out in this consultation paper. Please follow the question order as set out in the consultation paper, leaving a blank response box for any questions not answered.

Please email your completed form to contact@datasharingreview.gsi.gov.uk

Alternatively you can send a hard copy response to:

Data Sharing Review Secretariat
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11 Tothill Street
London
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Thank you.

Section 1: Background

Question 1.

Comments: My 'involvement' would appear to be on a non-voluntary basis as a British Subject constantly having my personal data taken and shared between organisations over which I have no control and am often unaware of e.g. my car insurance data being passed to a police national computer without my permission. This is 'Big Brother' snooping of the very worst kind.

Section 2: Scope of personal information sharing, including benefits, barriers and risks of data sharing and data protection

Question 2.

Comments: There are none unless I am suspected of committing some serious legal transgression

Question 3.

Comments: Widespread abuse by those who seem to think they are in authority over us when it is actually their job to look after the generally law-abiding person in a benevolent and unintrusive way. Public bodies work for us, not we for them!

Question 4.

Comments: I reiterate that data sharing is a blight on a free society and should only be undertaken with very good cause under warrant.

Question 5.

Comments: Almost all 'public bodies' seem to be amassing unlimited data bases on the individual, of which the proposed National ID Card and the National Health Service databases can be seen as extreme examples of major abuse.

Question 6.

Comments: It is not possible to hold too little data/information. We have grown up in this country in the belief that we are a free people – name and address should be quite sufficient for most purposes. Every request for information about an individual should be questioned and denied where not pertinent to a particular situation or employment.

Question 7.

Comments: I reiterate this should only take place on an individual basis and then only when circumstances require it – mostly for legal reasons and then on an applied for and authorised basis.

Question 8.

Comments: Too innumerable to mention!

Section 3: The legal framework

Question 9.

Comments: "Personal data shall be obtained only for one or more specified and lawful purposes and shall not be further processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes."

If this is so then the DPA is being abused tens of thousands of times daily! If this was truly the case then we might not have a problem!

Question 10.

Comments: They don't. I refer you to my previous answer.

Question 11.

Comments: Lack of teeth, or the willingness to use them?!

Question 12.

Comments: For once, total draconian powers to enforce data protection and the privacy of the individual; without let or hindrance by Parliament or institutions.

Question 13.

Comments: Almost all EU Directives (sic) 'Laws' intrude upon the individual and, if they must exist at all should be subordinate to UK Law.

Question 14.

Comments: There should be minimum statutory powers for this purpose except to protect the privacy of the individual.

Question 15.

Comments: Too many to mention. Business is totally burdened by bureaucratic red tape and mumbo jumbo and most of it should be swept away.

Section 4: Consent and transparency

Question 16.

Comments: No. Most so called 'consent' is obtained under duress in that, if one refuses consent or supply information it is used against one. E.g. You can no longer open a simple bank account without filling out reams of intrusive information.

Question 17.

Comments: It should provide a barrier. The principle should be '**need to know**'.

Question 18.

Comments: Transparent is a ghastly over used buzz word and should be dropped.
Yes.
Permission.
Justification.

Question 19.

Comments: I am not familiar with the quoted references but by completely minimising the desire for it.

Section 5: Technology

Question 20.

Comments: Made it too easy and an excuse for gathering it needlessly.

Question 21.

Comments: Yes but also, as above, it should be illegal unless absolutely necessary.

Question 22.

Comments: We should not have to enhance privacy – merely protect it at all costs.

Section 6: International comparisons

Question 23.

Comments: No.

Question 24.

Comments: No

Question 25.

Comments: No

Question 26.

Comments: No

Section 7: Additional questions

Question 27.

Comments: I should be kept to the absolute minimum.

Question 28.

Comments: It should be a given that personal information is the property of the individual / organisation and should only be recorded and/or divulged on a serious need to know basis. E.g. kept by an employer or insurance company and only divulged for serious purposes such as suspected law breaking. We should stop this madness before it gets completely out of hand and say no to the database state! This is not naiveté but old fashioned British commonsense.

