



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Privacy Notice Financial Assessments

This notice, in conjunction with Wokingham Borough Councils overarching privacy statement, explains when as a service we collect personal information, what we use your data for, who has access, who we share it with, and what your rights are.

Who are we?

Financial Assessments
Wokingham Borough Council,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
RG40 1BN

What is the lawful basis for processing the information?

The lawful basis for processing your information is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation, as specified by the following legislation:

- The Care Act 2014

How do we collect information from you?

Information is collected from you as the service user via online web forms, hard copy documents, e-mail, by telephone or through face-to-face discussion. This information will be collected from either you directly as the data subject, or from a representative acting on your behalf, e.g. a solicitor.

We may be supplied information from The Department for Works and Pensions or Tell Us Once death notifications, that you had supplied them previously. Information to help us assess your entitlement could come from tenant services, Council Tax, Tenant Support Officers, the valuation office, fraud teams, children services, Housing Needs or Housing Benefit.

With the right permissions in place information may be received from Citizens Advice Bureau, family members and friends. Information may also be received from other councils that you have lived in or are moving to.

What type of information is collected from you?

The service collects and processes a range of information about you. The information is provided to enable the Financial Assessments team to carry out its duty and functions, provide you with a service, and continue to make service improvements.

We are statutorily required to collect and hold Surnames, Forenames, National Insurance numbers, Dates of Births, Address, Postcode, Previous address, Previous postcode, Whether you've previously owned the property you are residing in, Your nationality, Phone number, E-mail, Marital status, Financial details including the name of the company you work/worked for.

Other information that is collected include whether you have a Disability, Landlord's details including if you are related to them. We are also required to know about other people who live in your household, their Genders and Relationships to you, and your partner.

Information about where you live is required this includes your Tenancy start date or Mortgage details, How much rent or mortgage you are charged and the Type of property you live, Proof of your bank details via bank statements.

Documents that are photocopied include Proof of national insurance number, Evidence of capital, savings and investments, Evidence of income, Proof of residency and the Liability to pay rent and evidence of monies paid out. This list is not exhaustive as each claim is looked at, at a case by case basis and we will discuss with you what evidence is required for your case.

You will be informed of any other data we collect, that is not listed above, orally or through email at the time of collection of the data.

How do we use the information you have provided?

All information provided is used by Wokingham Borough Council to calculate your client contribution towards your social care needs. The information may also be used in the detection and prevention of fraud.

Who has access to the information about you?

Your information is managed by staff employed in the Financial Assessment team. Your information may also be shared with officers from other service areas for assistance with these matters. All personal data is stored securely; we have in place security which are intended to ensure, as far as possible, the security and integrity of all personally identifiable information.

Your data is stored securely on our systems and accessed only by authorised officers of Wokingham Borough Council by using their own Username and Password all created in-line with pre-defined user credentials. Personal data is also held in electronic files on the Councils network drives. These are only accessible through personal logon credentials and access privileges to specific drives.

Unfortunately, the transmission of information via the internet is not completely secure. Although we will do our best to protect your personal data, we cannot guarantee the security of your data transmitted to our sites, any transmission is at your own risk. Once we have received your information, we will use strict procedures and security features to try to prevent unauthorised access, and any exchanges of information carried out once we are in receipt of your data will be done securely.

Any personal data held in paper format is held in lockable filing storage, and accessed only by authorised officers, as is data held on audio or CD/DVD media. Data may be stored in paper form and is always secured in lockable cabinets when not in use. Access to Council sites is also secure requiring a person electronic pass (lanyard) to access staff only areas.

Who we may share your information with?

When contacting the Financial Assessments team to gain access to services, your information will be shared with other Council staff to the extent required to provide you with the service you have requested. The Council shares your information with: Central government, government agencies and departments including Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) and Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs (HMRC), Home office, law enforcement agencies, fraud, external auditors, other councils, and with permission: Citizens Advice Bureau, customers families and friends, Courts/tribunals and Care organisations.

Where the Council engages third parties to process personal data on its behalf, they do so on the basis of written instructions, are under a duty of confidentiality, and are obliged to implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of data.

To ensure that information is held continued to be held securely and that accuracy is maintained, there will also be instances where our system suppliers will need to access individuals personal information. This will be on a strict need to know basis and all contracts have confidentiality clauses built in.

The Council will not transfer your information to countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless this is necessary, and only to countries which have sufficient safeguards in place to protect information.

Information will be shared internally if required for better performance and efficiency of Council services and the welfare of individuals.

Wokingham Borough Council may also share personal information with the police and other local authorities under Article 23 of the General Data Protection Regulations in order to prevent or detect crime.

How long do we store your information?

The duration that the Council will hold information, and what happens at the end of that period, are as described within the Councils corporate retention schedule available on our website: www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/information-and-data-protection/privacy-statement

Does the service utilise automated decision-making?

The Financial Assessment service does not utilise automated decision-making in the services that it provides.