

## **General Data Protection Regulation**

### **Adisham Parish Council Statement**

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will take effect in the UK from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

It replaces the existing law on data protection (The Data Protection Act 1998) and gives individuals more rights and protection regarding how their personal data is used. Local Councils and parish meetings must comply with its requirements, just like any other organisation.

The underlying principles of GDPR are that personal data:

- Must be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently.
- Is only used for the specific processing purpose that the data subject has been made aware of and no other, without further consent.
- Requested data should be adequate, relevant and limited.
- Must be accurate and kept up to date.
- Storage should be safe and secure and storage should not be longer than necessary.
- Should be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security and protection.

In a statement issued by the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) state “GDPR is a journey rather than a destination. The commissioner will be looking to councils to demonstrate that they are committed to making progress towards embedding the right to processes and procedures. The commissioner wants to reassure councils that if they have a positive attitude to finding practical solutions to some of the challenges or implementation, they will find a pragmatic, fair and proportionate regulator”.

Adisham Parish Council have taken heed of advice from KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils), NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and the ICO to make steps to ensure compliance with the regulation.

Data Protection Officer (DPO). In April 2018 an amendment was made to the Data Protection Bill to exempt all Parish and Town councils and Parish meetings from the requirement to appoint a DPO under GDPR. This amendment was accepted by MP's in May 2018. Appointing a DPO is discretionary and may be regarded as good practice. All other GDPR requirements would still apply.

Adisham Parish Council decided not to appoint a DPO but they are committed to meeting all other GDPR requirements.