

DATA PRIVACY POLICY

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary's Eaton Socon

St Mary's Eaton Socon (SMES) counts it a privilege and serious responsibility to hold your personal information. We are committed to ensuring your privacy is respected, and that we comply with both the letter and spirit of all applicable laws, as is our Christian duty. We will do all we can to protect your privacy and to ensure that any personal information you share with us is stored securely and is only used in a manner that you have consented to or would expect. We will never sell information about you.

This notice tells you what information we collect, how we use and share the information, what your rights are, and finally, how you can contact us with questions or concerns.

1. Your personal data – what is it?

Personal data relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data. Identification can be by the information alone or in conjunction with any other information in the data controller's possession or likely to come into such possession. The processing of personal data is governed by the General Data Protection Regulation (the "GDPR").

2. Who are we?

The PCC of SMES is the data controller (contact details below). This means it decides how your personal data is processed and for what purposes.

3. How do we process your personal data?

The PCC of SMES comply with their obligations under the "GDPR" by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

We use your personal data for the following purposes:

- To administer member of groups and committees;
- To provide pastoral care to our parishioners and members;
- To manage our employees and volunteers;
- To maintain our own accounts and records (including the processing of gift aid applications);
- To inform you of news, events, activities and services running at SMES and elsewhere that we consider may be of interest to you;
- To operate the SMES website and deliver services that individuals have requested;
- To fundraise and promote the interests of SMES and charitable causes we support;
- To exercise statutory, governmental or other public functions, e.g. the registering of marriages, administering the Electoral Roll;
- To enable us to provide services for the benefit of parishioners and others in the local area.

4. What is the legal basis for processing your personal data?

We may process your personal data according any of the following permissible reasons:

- Where processing is necessary for carrying out our obligations under employment, social security or social protection law, or statutory obligations (e.g. for Gift Aid purposes);
- As a not-for-profit body with a religious aim provided:
 - the processing relates only to members or former members (or those who have regular contact with it in connection with those purposes); and
 - there is no disclosure to a third party without consent.

- We have received your explicit consent so that we can keep you informed about news, events, activities and services, or to be a registered user of our ChurchSuite church family database.
- Where processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the data controller;

5. Sharing your personal data

Your personal data will be treated as strictly confidential and will only be shared with other members of the church in order to carry out a service to other church members or for purposes connected with the church. Unless we receive your consent, your information will never be passed to other organisations except where this is considered necessary for our own operations (e.g. for payroll, data storage, mailings etc.). In such instances there are confidentiality agreements in place that restrict the use of your information to the purpose for which it is provided and ensure it is stored securely and kept no longer than necessary.

6. How long do we keep your personal data?

We keep data in accordance with the guidance set out in the guide '[Keep or Bin: Care of Your Parish Records](#)' which is available from the Church of England website. (Details about retention periods can currently be found in the [Record Management Guides](#) located on the Church of England website.)

Specifically, we retain electoral roll data while it is still current; gift aid declarations and associated paperwork for up to 6 years after the calendar year to which they relate; safeguarding records for up to 75 years; and parish registers (baptisms, marriages, funerals) permanently.

7. Your rights and your personal data

Unless subject to an exemption under the GDPR, you have the following rights with respect to your personal data:

- The right to request a copy of your personal data which the PCC of SMES holds about you;
- The right to request that we correct any personal data if it is found to be inaccurate or out of date;
- The right to request your personal data is erased where it is no longer necessary for us to retain such data;
- The right to withdraw your consent to the processing at any time;
- The right to request that the data controller provide the data subject with his/her personal data and where possible, to transmit that data directly to another data controller (known as the right to data portability), where applicable.
- The right, where there is a dispute in relation to the accuracy or processing of your personal data, to request a restriction is placed on further processing;
- The right to object to the processing of personal data (where applicable).

The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office.

8. Further processing

If we wish to use your personal data for a new purpose, not covered by this Data Protection Notice, then we will provide you with a new notice explaining this new use prior to commencing the processing and setting out the relevant purposes and processing conditions. Where and whenever necessary, we will seek your prior consent to the new processing.

9. Contact Details

To exercise all relevant rights, queries of complaints please in the first instance contact the Data Protection Officer at The Church Office, St Mary's Church, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, St Neots PE19 8EJ.

SMES June 2024