

NICHOLAS BARNES

Who am I

I am a self-employed barrister at 2 King's Bench Walk. I accept instructions from firms of solicitors, government bodies, and individuals under Direct Access.

The clerking team of 2 King's Bench Walk will handle all instructions in my name for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

If you have any questions about how your personal data is handled, please do not hesitate to contact me through the clerks.

How the law protects you

Your privacy is protected by law. This policy document is intended to set out how this works. The law says that I can use your personal information only if I have a proper reason to do so. On occasion, this will include sharing it with other barristers inside and outside of Chambers. In order to do so, I must have one or more of the following reasons:

- i. To fulfil a contract I have with you
- ii. When it is my legal duty to
- iii. When it is in my legitimate interest
- iv. When you consent to it

In the course of any business with me, it is likely that I will receive what is known as 'special data' on you. This includes information on racial/ethnic background, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, health data and criminal records (convictions and allegations).

By instructing me, it is necessary that you consent to me processing the personal data you give me.

How I use your personal information

As a barrister, I will use personal data provided to represent you in the case I have been instructed in. This can include the preparation of a case, drafting of an advice, and representing you at a trial.

What sort of data will I handle?

My practice is in civil and family disputes, predominantly over money and property, but it sometimes concerns children.

The sort of material I will frequently receive includes:

- witness statements
- documents (for example: exhibits, bank statements, insurance documents, pensions, income proof, photographs, reports, surveys, etc.)
- details of the previous convictions of individuals
- disks of CCTV, interviews, phone downloads, documents (as above), etc.

Who your information will be shared with

If instructed, my clerks are my data processors. They will take receipt of most material I am sent and store it securely. I will be able to access this data. Physical data (for example, papers or disks) will also be received by the clerks and will be locked in Chambers. On occasion, I will have to take this home to work on, but the material will remain locked away. I will scan physical data at the earliest opportunity and return it to Chambers.

There may be occasions where data (as part of a case I am instructed in) will have to be shared with other members of 2 King's Bench Walk or other Chambers if I am unable to cover a particular hearing. This will only be done with the consent of the instructing body.

If you choose not to give personal information

You can choose not to give me personal information. This may prevent me from fulfilling my contract with you or doing what I am professionally obliged to do. It may mean that I have to withdraw from representing you.

You can withdraw your consent to me handling your personal data anytime. The best way to do this is through contacting my clerks.

How to get a copy of your personal data

You can get a copy of all the personal information I hold on you by contacting my clerks.

Document Retention

At the conclusion of a case, I will return papers I have been provided by instructing bodies to those who have instructed me. I retain encrypted digital copies of documents I receive and generate in the course of a case for a minimum of seven years. I do not retain physical data other than that Chambers is required to keep. Physical data will be securely shredded if I am asked not to return it to the instructing body or if Chambers is required to keep it. Electronic data will be securely erased.

This privacy statement is updated regularly.

It was last updated on 19 October 2023.