



Data Protection Act 2018

2018 CHAPTER 12

PART 6

ENFORCEMENT

The special purposes

178 Review of processing of personal data for the purposes of journalism

- (1) The Commissioner must—
- (a) review the extent to which, during each review period, the processing of personal data for the purposes of journalism complied with—
 - (i) the data protection legislation, and
 - (ii) good practice in the processing of personal data for the purposes of journalism,
 - (b) prepare a report of the review, and
 - (c) submit the report to the Secretary of State.
- (2) In this section—
- “good practice in the processing of personal data for the purposes of journalism” has the same meaning as in section 124;
- “review period” means—
- (a) the period of 4 years beginning with the day on which Chapter 2 of Part 2 of this Act comes into force, and
 - (b) each subsequent period of 5 years beginning with the day after the day on which the previous review period ended.
- (3) The Commissioner must start a review under this section, in respect of a review period, within the period of 6 months beginning when the review period ends.
- (4) The Commissioner must submit the report of a review under this section to the Secretary of State—

Changes to legislation: Data Protection Act 2018, Section 178 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 July 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (a) in the case of the first review, before the end of the period of 18 months beginning when the Commissioner started the review, and
 - (b) in the case of each subsequent review, before the end of the period of 12 months beginning when the Commissioner started the review.
- (5) The report must include consideration of the extent of compliance (as described in subsection (1)(a)) in each part of the United Kingdom.
- (6) The Secretary of State must—
- (a) lay the report before Parliament, and
 - (b) send a copy of the report to—
 - (i) the Scottish Ministers,
 - (ii) the Welsh Ministers, and
 - (iii) the Executive Office in Northern Ireland.
- (7) Schedule 17 makes further provision for the purposes of a review under this section.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 13A inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 31\(4\)](#)
- s. 204(1)(l) inserted by [S.I. 2024/374 Sch. 5 para. 7](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 8(1)(y) added by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 78\(3\)](#)