



**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

Marine Protected Area process - Stakeholder group (Privacy Statement)

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is the Government Department responsible for housing and water, for physical and spatial planning, for local government, for weather forecasting and for built and natural heritage, including biodiversity and nature conservation.

The Department is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy. This privacy statement explains how the Department, as the Data Controller, will process the personal data provided to it in respect of the Marine Protected Area (MPA) process and its associated stakeholder group, how that information will be used, and what rights you may exercise in relation to your personal data.

The Marine Protected Area process has been established to expand Ireland's network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in line with Government policy and international commitments. Some key steps in this process have been under way since 2019. Further details can be found through the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/e00ec-marine-protected-areas/>. MPAs can be considered to be geographically defined maritime areas that provide levels of protection to achieve conservation objectives.

As part of the MPA process, the Department is developing comprehensive stand-alone legislation to enable the designation and management of MPAs in accordance with Ireland's national and international commitments. A key component is the provision for substantive stakeholder participation and engagement in MPA processes that are intended to be established under the forthcoming Bill.

Categories of personal data

The Department processes the following personal data in respect of the MPA process' stakeholder group:

email addresses, names and business and work addresses

Source of the personal data

Your personal data was provided to the Department by you.

Purposes of the processing

The Department will use the information you provided, in order to contact you and ensure that you are informed of developments in the Marine Protected Area process led by the Department.

The information provided by you may be used internally for audit or other compliance purposes, where the Department has a lawful basis for such processing.

Profiling

The Department will not use any personal data collected from you in respect of the MPA stakeholder group for automated decision-making or for profiling purposes.

Lawfulness of processing

This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6 (1) (a) - the data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes;

Consent can be withdrawn at any time by contacting us at: marine.env@housing.gov.ie

Security of your personal data

The Department implements appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect your information from unauthorised access. However, despite these efforts, no security measures are perfect or impenetrable, and no method of data transmission can be guaranteed against any interception or other type of misuse. In the event that your personal data is compromised as a result of a breach of security, the Department's Breach Management policy and procedures will be implemented.

Recipients of the data

Personal data may be shared with other Government Departments, local authorities, agencies under the aegis of the Department, or other public bodies, in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law.

Cross-border Data Transfers

The Department will not transfer personal data collected in respect of the MPA stakeholder group to any country or international organisation outside the EU/EEA.

How long will your data be kept?

The Department will only retain your personal data for as long as it is necessary for the purposes for which it was collected and processed. In line with legislative and business requirements, the data retention period for your personal data, in this instance, will be until the forthcoming Marine Protected Areas legislation is complete and enacted.

Your rights

The Department's [Data Protection Policy](#), which sets out how we will use your personal data, as well as providing information regarding your rights as a data subject (including details regarding right of access, right to rectification, right to erasure, right to restriction of processing, right to object), is available on our website. The policy is also available in hard copy upon request. If you consider that your rights have been infringed, you have the right to complain to the Irish Data Protection Commission (www.dataprotection.ie), and you have the right to seek a judicial remedy.

Contacting Us

The Department is the Data Controller when processing your personal data for the purposes outlined above. The Department's contact details are available at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/839bc-contact-the-department-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/>

The Department has appointed a Data Protection Officer to support its compliance with data protection law. The contact details for the Department's Data Protection Officer are:

Data Protection Officer

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Newtown Road

Wexford

Email: data.protection@housing.gov.ie

Date: 08/01/2024