Data Protection Privacy Statement - Applications to modify the definitive map of public rights of way. Part of the Council's duty under Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

In order to deliver services to the citizens and communities in Bedford Borough, it is necessary for the Council to collect, gather and process personal data about residents, staff and other individuals. Bedford Borough Council is committed to protecting your personal data when you use its services and/or correspond with it.

The Council has registered as a Data Controller with the Information Commissioner's Office. This registration can be viewed on the ICO website (opens in a new window) Registration Number Z5916725.

As a Data Controller, the Council sets out the purposes and methods for processing information and ensures safeguards over any personal and special category information it processes.

The sections below explain the arrangements we have in place to protect the information entrusted to the Council.

In relation to Applications to modify the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way, as part of Council's duty under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Bedford Borough Council will process your personal data for the following processing purposes:

Personal details to be included on the Register of Applications As part of Duty the Register must be publicly available. Personal details are used to identify those people involved in the case. Such as: The Applicant, Affected Landowners and Members of the public presenting evidence of their personal use of the alleged right of way.

It is processing this personal data by virtue of the following Lawful Basis: **Compliance with a legal obligation**

Personal data provided for Applications to modify the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way. Part of Council's duty under Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 may be shared with, or obtained from the following organisations (in addition to any other disclosure required by a Court of Law or in response to a valid request by, normally, a law enforcement agency):

Personal details may be shared with other parties(e.g. Affected Landowners) as part of the process of examining evidence of use of alleged rights of way. Personal details maybe shared with the Planning Inspectorate Office if cases must be determined by the Secretary of State.(Submissions to the Secretary of State are part of the duty, there is no discretion not to submit.)

The processing of your personal data will be restricted in time to:

The data needs to be retained whilst the case is ongoing. This could be a period of several years if the case is complicated and goes through stages of appeals and opposed orders. (There may be more than one Public Inquiry to determine an opposed order.) Subsequent to that, the data will be retained for a further two years before disposal.

Your personal data will be held by/for the Council within the UK or the EU:

The information you have provided is a statutory or contractual requirement: this is something we have to do. Please see details below, including any consequences if we do not receive the information:

Applications to modify the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way cannot be made anonymously.

We have a range of measures to protect the personal data you provide. These include: cyber security; physical security of the Council's buildings and training on Data Protection for staff.

Bedford Borough Council is the Data Controller processing your information, who can be contacted as follows:

Information Governance
Bedford Borough Council
Borough Hall
Cauldwell Street
Bedford MK42 9AP
Email: dpo@bedford.gov.uk
Telephone: 01234 267422

If you wish to enquire about your rights as a data subject, whether you wish to request a copy of your own information that Bedford Borough Council holds, request for data portability; rectification or erasure of your data for any reason or objection to any processing, please contact the Council's GDPR Data Protection Officer email: dpo@bedford.gov.uk or send to the above address.

Alternatively, in the event that you remain dissatisfied with the way Bedford Borough Council has handled the processing of your information (i.e. after liaising with the Council to find a satisfactory solution), you have the right to contact the UK's Statutory Authority: The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who can be contacted by using the details displayed at the bottom of the page entitled Personal information and your rights | Bedford Borough Council on our website under the "Challenging the response" heading.

Changes to this Notice:

We keep this Privacy Notice under regular review; this Notice was last updated in August 2025.