Brexit & Data Protection: What businesses need to know

When the U.K. leaves the E.U., while the specific rules on Data Protection do not change in the U.K. the rules that affect data moving in and out of the U.K. & E.U. become more of a concern for businesses. A summary below is some questions to ask yourself and guidance on what actions you can take as soon as possible.



Where is your data?

Do you know where your Customer/Staff personal data is being stored in the world? If you are sending data outside of the U.K. there are rules around how you can legally get it there (see below).



Do you offer goods and services to E.U. businesses?

If so, it is likely their data is leaving the E.U. to sit on your systems here or elsewhere. For this you will need to ensure SCCs (Standard Contractual Clauses) are in place with your customers.



Do you offer goods and services to E.U. citizens or use data on them?

If so, it is likely their data is leaving the E.U. to sit on your systems here or elsewhere. For this you will need to ensure you have the appropriate terms and conditions in place with those citizens.



Do you use any providers outside of the U.K.?

If they are not seen as a 'safe location' you may well need to ensure you have a Data Processing Agreement (Contract) with them with SCC's. Especially if you are using suppliers in places like the United States, Australia, India (to name but a few).



What happens if I do nothing?

Fines for any regulatory action needed are <u>up to</u> 4% of global turnover for businesses. The Government, your customers and the individuals you have Personal Data on will expect you to look after their data therefore ignorance is no excuse. Act now to avoid regulatory action and any disruption to your business.



Where do I start?

Start with knowing what you have, why you have it and where it is!



Where can I get help?

There are resources and templates to help you on the <u>Chambers Brexit</u> <u>Guidance website</u> as well as from the Information Commissioner at <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>



