

DPO as a service

Why DPO as a service

Many businesses find it hard to appoint a Data Protection Officer (DPO). As well as often being a legal requirement for those in the UK and EU, the appointment of a DPO is key to an organisation's data protection compliance programme and will be central to managing data risk. It's a job which requires technical expertise and a clear head. Not many people have the skills and experience for the role, and it's not easy to guess in advance whether it's likely to be a full time job for your particular organisation. The need for independence can also be hard to achieve in practice. You need someone you trust, who is ready to challenge where necessary.

Shoosmiths' outsourced DPO service solves these problems whether you are based in the UK, the EU or further afield. The service can be sized exactly to your requirements, and scaled up or down, as you need it. We provide experienced DPO advice with full reporting, plus the resources to follow-up where necessary, all at a cost-effective price.

Our Privacy and Data Team has over 20 dedicated advisers and sector specialists, offering global support and technology solutions, all informed by an incredible level of commercial and in-house experience, including with leading privacy regulators. We already act as fully outsourced DPO for many organisations around the world. Work with the team shortlisted for Best Privacy Team of the Year.

Getting just what you need

We offer fully tailored options for our outsourced DPO service, depending on the needs and size of your organisation. Please see a detailed overview of our DPO services, and more, overleaf.

This lets you stay in control of your data protection compliance at the price, and with the flexibility, that works for you.

Whatever option you choose, you get:

- Access to a customised DPO Portal from which you can access all your key documents at the touch of a button, 24/7
- Global privacy law updates and insights
- Invitation to in-depth privacy seminars
- Opportunities to meet other businesses in your sector.

All on top of what you should always expect from us: to meet your expectations, value your feedback, act independently and, above all, look at how we can add value to the work that you do.

“They make labour intensive work seem inconsequential.”

Interested?

Feel free to get in touch about next steps.



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The benefits

EXPERTISE: You're assured the level of expertise the role requires, whenever it is needed

INDEPENDENCE: With Shoosmiths as your external DPO you can demonstrably maintain independence

CREDIBILITY: Our team members have the presence to ensure that messages get delivered and heard

RESOURCES: We can handle any follow up work you may need, backed up by the power of a full service globally linked law firm

COST CONTROL: All your needs are covered without you paying for capacity that you do not need or use

ON-SITE PRESENCE: We can arrange physical presence on-site for part of each week or month

PEACE OF MIND: You have recourse for the advice you receive from us – unlike advice from an internally appointed DPO

SECURITY: All our DPO services are provided from our secure UK offices and systems, each maintained to the highest security standards in line with SRA requirements.

Overview of Shoosmiths' Privacy & Data services

Our DPO services sit at the heart of our broader Privacy & Data offering. We can tailor the service we provide to compliment your existing function's capabilities, avoid overlap, or provide you with the 'full works'.

Build	Outsourced Data Protection Officer					Optimise	Commercialise
	BAU			One-off			
	Governance	Front line	Records	Incidents	Projects		
Audit and gap analysis	Board reporting	Contract support and vendor due diligence	Role analysis	Large scale DSRR management and resolution	Strategic, Group-driven or corporate	Strategic advice (e.g. marketing, data flows, repapering)	Data and API licensing
Data mapping, RoPA creation and platform configuration	Data committee (e.g. Privacy, InfoSec, Commercial)	Helpline for ad-hoc queries	Lawful basis analysis	Breach response, management and notification	Technology-driven (e.g. cookies, AI, Web3, biometric)	Data protection governance and function design/set up advice	Data-centric services (e.g. IoT, analytics, brokerage, adtech)
Paper Shield (policies, notices and registers)	Training and awareness	RoPA updates and updates to data subject-facing materials	Risk assessments (DPIAs, LIAs, TRAs)	Dispute resolution (non-registered DPO equivalent only)	Compliance-driven (e.g. BCRs, repapering, platform terms, certification)	Technology	Database and data appropriation (e.g. scraping, metering, crawling)
	Policy and notice maintenance	External complaints, queries and routine DSRR handling	Certification and sector-specific records management	Regulatory liaison	Commercially-driven	Security and cyber-resilience (e.g. ISO, NIS, DORA, Cyber Essentials, PCIDSS)	Regulated technology/data e.g. AI, IoT, user content and public/open data