



Digital Economy Act 2017

2017 CHAPTER 30

PART 5

DIGITAL GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER 4

FRAUD AGAINST THE PUBLIC SECTOR

57 Further provisions about power in section 56

- (1) Personal information disclosed under section 56 may only be used by the person to whom it is disclosed for the purposes for which it was disclosed, subject to subsection (2).
- (2) Subsection (1) does not prevent the use of information by a person—
 - (a) if the information has already lawfully been made available to the public,
 - (b) if the person to whom the information relates consents to its use for another purpose,
 - (c) for the prevention or detection of crime or the prevention of anti-social behaviour,
 - (d) for the purposes of a criminal investigation,
 - (e) for the purposes of legal proceedings (whether civil or criminal), or
 - (f) for the purposes of—
 - (i) preventing serious physical harm to a person,
 - (ii) preventing loss of human life,
 - (iii) safeguarding vulnerable adults or children,
 - (iv) responding to an emergency, or
 - (v) protecting national security.
- (3) In subsection (2)(c) “anti-social behaviour” means conduct that—
 - (a) is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Digital Economy Act 2017, Section 57. (See end of Document for details)

- (b) is capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises.
- (4) Subsection (2) does not apply to information disclosed to a person under section 56 by the Revenue and Customs; but such information may be used by that person for purposes other than those for which it was disclosed with the consent of the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (which may be general or specific).
- (5) For the purposes of this Chapter information is “personal information” if—
- (a) it relates to and identifies a particular person (including a body corporate), but
 - (b) it is not information about the internal administrative arrangements of a specified person.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (1) information identifies a particular person if the identity of that person—
- (a) is specified in the information,
 - (b) can be deduced from the information, or
 - (c) can be deduced from the information taken together with any other information.
- (7) A disclosure under section 56 does not breach—
- (a) any obligation of confidence owed by the person making the disclosure, or
 - (b) any other restriction on the disclosure of information (however imposed).
- (8) But nothing in section 56 authorises the making of a disclosure which—
- (a) contravenes [^{F1}the data protection legislation], or
 - (b) is prohibited by any of Parts 1 to 7 or Chapter 1 of Part 9 of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016.
- (9) Until the repeal of Part 1 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 by paragraphs 45 and 54 of Schedule 10 to the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 is fully in force, subsection (8)(b) has effect as if it included a reference to that Part.
- (10) Section 56 does not limit the circumstances in which information may be disclosed apart from that section.
- [^{F2}(11) In this section, “the data protection legislation” has the same meaning as in the Data Protection Act 2018 (see section 3 of that Act).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 57(8)(a) substituted (25.5.2018) by [Data Protection Act 2018 \(c. 12\), s. 212\(1\), Sch. 19 para. 220\(2\)](#) (with ss. 117, 209, 210); S.I. 2018/625, reg. 2(1)(g)
- F2** S. 57(11) inserted (25.5.2018) by [Data Protection Act 2018 \(c. 12\), s. 212\(1\), Sch. 19 para. 220\(3\)](#) (with ss. 117, 209, 210); S.I. 2018/625, reg. 2(1)(g)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 57 in force at 1.5.2018 for E.W.S. by [S.I. 2018/382, reg. 3\(u\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Digital Economy Act 2017, Section 57.