

Comhairle Chontae na Mí

Teach Buvinda, Bóthar Átha Cliath, An Uaimh,
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**Meath County Council**

Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan,
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Tel: 046 – 9097000/Fax: 046 – 9097001

E-mail: customerservice@meathcoco.ie

Web: www.meath.ie

Registration No.: 00172770

Data Protection Privacy Statement for

CS016 - Register of Electors

Who we are and why do we require your information?

Meath County Council seeks to promote the economic, social and cultural development of County Meath and in doing so contribute significantly to improving the quality of life of the people of County Meath. The delivery of high quality services, tailored to meet the needs of all our customers, remains one of Meath County Council's core objectives and is included in our Corporate Plan. This quality service includes not only the level and quality of service given to our customers, but also the quality of our decision-making processes, the efficiency and effectiveness of our corporate operations, standard of our facilities and our ability to adapt in an ever-changing environment. In order to provide the most effective and targeted range of services to meet the needs of the citizens, communities and businesses of County Meath, we will be required to collect, process and use certain types of information about people and organisations. Depending on the service being offered, the information sought may include 'personal data' as defined by the Data Protection Acts and by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and may relate to current, past and future service users; past; current and prospective employees; suppliers; and members of the public who may engage in communications with our staff. In addition, staff may be required, from time to time, to collect, process and use certain types of personal data to comply with regulatory or legislative requirements.

Why do we have a privacy statement?

Meath County Council has created this privacy statement in order to demonstrate our firm commitment to privacy and to assure you that in all your dealings with Meath County Council, we will ensure the security of the data you provide to us. Meath County Council creates, collects and processes a significant amount of personal data in various multiple formats on a daily basis. Meath County Council's commitment is that the personal data you may be required to supply to us is;

- Obtained lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner
- Obtained for only specified, explicit and legitimate purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for purpose for which it was obtained
- Recorded, stored accurately and securely and where necessary kept up to date
- Kept only for as long as is necessary for the purposes for which it was obtained.
- Kept in a form which permits identification of the data subject
- Processed only in a manner that ensures the appropriate security of the personal data including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing.

Data Protection Policy

Meath County Council has a detailed Data Protection Policy which outlines how we as a public body are committed to ensuring the security of any personal data you provide to us.

What is the activity referred to in this Privacy Statement?

This privacy statement relates to the processing of personal data in fulfilment of the role of Registration Authority when managing the Register of Electors.

What is the basis for making the processing of personal data in this activity lawful?

Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in Meath County Council [Article 6(1)(e) of the General Data Protection Regulations, 2016].

We require your contact details

In order to communicate with you, you will be asked for contact details. You do not have to provide all contact details but providing more, such as email, phone, address, makes it easier to communicate. Please note that to help protect your privacy, we take steps to verify your identity before granting access to personal data. These contact details may also be used to verify your identity.

What items of personal data do we need to undertake this activity?

For the purposes of its duties in relation to the maintenance and updating of the register, Meath County Council require a person—

to provide any information in his or her possession which the registration authority may require,

and to provide in respect of his or her own registration—

- (i) a personal public service number, if a person has one,
- (ii) address and Eircode, in respect of his or her address, and
- (iii) his or her date of birth,

Sensitive data may be collected for the following -

- (i) as a Special voter a medical practitioners' opinion will be processed.
- (ii) a postal voter will involve processing regarding circumstances of occupation.
- (iii) anonymous electors may include processing of sensitive data on family circumstances.

Data may be sourced in relation to the following

1. Section 100 of the Electoral Reform Act 2022 adds Section 21A to the Electoral Act 1992 stating that:

“Where a person, on inspecting the register of electors has on reasonable grounds, formed an opinion that information in the register or an entry in the register relating to details of an elector is or are inaccurate, the person may submit a third-party claim to the registration authority.”

However in such circumstances the registration authority may make such inquiries as it considers necessary to satisfy itself as to the correctness of the information in the third party claim and determine what action, if any, it should take in respect of the claim, and shall inform the claimant and any person who in the opinion of the registration authority may be affected by the proposed action, if any, that it proposes to take as a consequence of the claim.

2. Section 89(2) of the Electoral Reform Act 2022 sets out the authority for the Department of Social Protection (DSP) to assist the Registration Authority regarding maintenance of the register for the purposes of confirming information submitted to or held by the registration authority including, confirmation of a person's identifying particulars used to update, maintain and ensure the accuracy of the register.

This personal data will be used for the following purpose(s):

All the information is necessary to validate each application for entry on the Register of Electors. Contact details are required in the event that information is not clear and needs to be verified.

Is the personal data submitted as part of this activity shared with other organisations?

Meath County Council may, to fulfil statutory or regulatory obligations or in the public interest, from time to time, have to share personal data with other organisations or entities (in Ireland or abroad). Where this is required Meath County Council shall have regard to the security and integrity of the data and will minimise the data shared.

In this activity, the data will be shared with the following recipients:

The Electoral Acts oblige the Registration Authority to provide the Register of Electors which only shows electors name, address, eircode and polling station to:

The County Registrar, Elected Representatives. We are also obliged to make the Register available for inspection by the public online at www.checktheregister.ie, Council Offices, Libraries, Post Offices, Garda Stations.

Copies are also circulated to An Post, Information Communication & Technology section in Houses of the Oireachtas and Information Communication & Technology section in the Court Service.

The register available for inspection contains the name and address of the elector (except in certain elector types where less data is shown i.e. Anonymous electors).

In this activity, if the personal data is to be transferred to a different country, it will be transferred to the following countries (if there are no countries listed, it is not intended to transfer the personal data abroad):

How long is this personal data held by Meath County Council?

Meath County Council has a detailed record retention policy which goes in to more detail of the time period for which your personal data will be retained by Meath County Council and what will happen to it after the required retention period has expired.

The data processed as part of this activity will be retained for the following period(s):

The personal data is retained indefinitely on the Register of Electors database. The Public accessible information contains Name and address only.

What will happen if the requested personal data is not provided?

The elector will not be registered and therefore will be unable to vote.

Your Rights

You have the right to request access to personal data held about you, obtain confirmation as to whether data concerning you exists, be informed of the content and source of data and check its accuracy. In addition, if the data held by us is found to be inaccurate you have the right to change, remove, block, or object to the use of, personal data held by Meath County Council. You also have the right to data portability. In certain circumstances blocking access to data may delay or remove access to a service where the data is required by law or for essential purposes related to delivery of a service to you. To exercise these rights, you should contact Meath County Council (Data Controller) at the following address:

email: dataprotection@meathcoco.ie

Data Protection Officer,
Meath County Council,
Buvinda House,
Dublin Road,
Navan,
Co. Meath

Right of Complaint to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the response you received from Meath County Council in relation to your request, then you are entitled to make a complaint to the Data Protection Commissioner who may investigate the matter for you.

The Data Protection Commissioner's website is www.dataprotection.ie
Contact Data Protection Commissioner at <https://www.dataprotection.ie/en/contact/how-contact-us>
Phone Number: 01 765 0100/1800 437 737
Postal Address:
Data Protection Commissioner
21 Fitzwilliam Square South
Dublin 2
D02 RD28
Ireland