



GLOBAL PRIVACY NEWS  
FROM THE DPO CENTRE



**The DPOA** is an assessment of the impact of the most significant and important-to-know data protection issues from around the globe. It's not the full story, just a quick 3-minute read, collated and condensed to keep you updated with the latest news in our ever-evolving industry.

## Data Use and Access Act 2025: What UK Financial Services need to know

UK Financial Services firms are entering a new phase of regulated data sharing and access. The Data Use and Access Act (DUAA) 2025 introduces changes that affect how organisations participate in Open Finance, adopt digital verification services, and manage data governance in practice.

In this blog, we explore the changes that matter most and their impact on organisations. We outline where firms should focus now to prepare for phased implementation and evolving regulatory expectations.

[Read our blog](#)



### UNITED KINGDOM

## NHS healthcare tech provider confirms data breach

UK-based DXS International, used by around 2,000 GP practices, discovered the breach on 14 December. The company immediately engaged external specialists to investigate the nature and scope of the incident, but it is not yet clear if patient data was compromised. A ransomware group known as DevMan has taken credit for the attack, claiming to have exfiltrated about 300 GB of data.

The breach underscores ongoing security challenges across NHS technology suppliers and the potential damage to patient trust when sensitive data is exposed. Strong data protection practices are critical to maintaining confidence in healthcare services.

[Learn how data protection builds customer trust and loyalty.](#)

## Ofcom publishes guide on AI chatbots and online regulation

The new guidance explains how AI chatbots fall within the UK's Online Safety Act (OSA) and what this means for online service providers. The guidance clarifies that:

- AI chatbots can be treated as part of regulated services when they enable interaction or content sharing between users
- In-scope providers must assess and mitigate potential harms in line with their OSA duties
- The types of services covered by the OSA, and those that are exempt, helping organisations understand where and how online safety responsibilities apply in practice

Crucially, the guidance explains that AI-generated content shared on a user-to-user service is classed as user-generated content and regulated in the same way as human-created content. This means platforms and services hosting such content must apply the same safety and harm-mitigation measures as they would for traditional user posts or uploads.

[Read Ofcom's guide](#)

**Privacy Puzzle**  
GLOBAL WEBINAR SERIES  
22 JAN 2026

**do centre®**

**David Smith**  
**do centre®**

**Charlotte Allfrey**  
**metrohr**  
HR Advice you can trust

**Lisa Adams-Davey**  
**ESEN SOL**  
COACHING & CONSULTING

**22 JAN 2026** ⌚ 09:00 EST | ⌚ 14:00 GMT | ⌚ 15:00 CET **REGISTER NOW**

**EUROPEAN UNION**

## Austrian court ruling reinforces DSAR response obligations

On 18 December 2025, Austria's Supreme Court (OGH) ruled that Meta must disclose all personal data in response to a valid Data Subject Access Request (DSAR), including details of data sources, purposes, and recipients. The court rejected Meta's arguments

that technical complexity, proprietary systems, or reliance on automated access tools could justify restricting DSAR disclosures.

The decision reinforces the strength of access rights under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and sends a clear signal to organisations operating in the EU: DSAR compliance cannot be partial, selective, or shaped around internal convenience. For organisations handling large volumes of personal data, the ruling highlights the need for robust data mapping, transparent processing records, and DSAR processes that work in practice.

[Watch our webinar](#) to learn key strategies for effective DSAR response.

---

## CJEU rules body-worn camera data is collected directly

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) has ruled that personal data captured through body-worn cameras is collected directly from the data subject, resolving ongoing uncertainty over whether such footage falls under Articles 13 or 14 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The Court confirmed that Article 13 GDPR applies, meaning individuals must be informed at the point their data is collected.

The CJEU also confirmed that this obligation can be met through a layered transparency approach, for example, through clear on-site signage supported by easily accessible additional information, such as a full privacy notice.

**Paul Collier, Head of Data Protection at The DPO Centre, said:** *‘The recent CJEU ruling makes it clear: when data is collected directly from individuals using devices such as Body Worn Video (BWV), transparency isn’t optional; it’s non-negotiable. Organisations therefore must provide clear, transparent and accessible privacy information at the point of collection, whether through just-in-time notices, audible alerts that recording is taking place, or innovative solutions like QR codes.’*

[Learn how to write a clear and compliant Privacy Notice](#)

---

## Italy's DPA publishes data subject request forms for SIS

The data protection authority hopes the three forms will help individuals exercise their access, rectification, and deletion rights over data held in the Schengen Information System (SIS) — a large-scale EU information system used by border, immigration, police, and judicial authorities.

The move highlights the importance of clear, accessible mechanisms for exercising data subject rights, particularly where processing involves sensitive or security-related data. While SIS data is subject to specific legal regimes and safeguards, the publication of standardised request forms reinforces expectations around transparency and accountability.

[Access the forms](#)

---

WE'RE **ATTENDING**

MARCUS EVANS EVOLUTION SUMMIT



evolution  
summit

a **marcusevans** event

20-21 JAN 26  
WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA

CANADA & UNITED STATES

## Ontario's IPC issues first administrative monetary penalty under PHIPA

In a decision relating to a health information breach, the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC) imposed fines of \$5,000 on an individual physician and \$7,500 on a private clinic for unauthorised access and misuse of patients' personal health information. It marks the first time AMPs have been applied under the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) since these powers came into force in 2020.

The penalties reflect growing regulatory scrutiny of privacy governance in healthcare. The decision underscores the need for clear access controls, documented privacy practices, and demonstrable compliance, particularly where sensitive health data is involved.

[Read the IPC decision](#)

## Texas AG files lawsuit over smart TV data collection

The Texas Attorney General has filed legal action against Sony, Samsung, LG, Hisense, and TCL, alleging they unlawfully collected and monetised consumers' viewing data through Automated Content Recognition (ACR) technology. According to the Attorney General, ACR software embedded in smart TVs:

- Captured screenshots of on-screen content at frequent intervals
- Monitored viewing activity in real time
- Transmitted information back to manufacturers without users' knowledge or meaningful consent

The data was then allegedly sold to support targeted advertising across platforms. The Attorney General has since secured a temporary restraining order against Hisense, preventing the company from collecting, using, selling, sharing, or transferring ACR data

about Texans while the case proceeds.

The action highlights growing regulatory scrutiny of 'always-on' consumer technologies and reinforces the need for clear transparency, valid consent, and robust governance where behavioural data is collected at scale.

[Find out more](#)

## INTERNATIONAL

### Hong Kong PCPD publishes toolkit on AI-generated deepfakes

On 17 December 2025, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) published *Abuse of AI Deepfakes*, a toolkit designed to help schools and parents understand and manage the privacy risks associated with AI-generated synthetic media.

The guide:

- Provides practical insights into how personal data may be processed in the context of generative AI
- Identifies key risk areas, such as consent, transparency, and accuracy
- Sets out risk mitigation strategies for compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO)

The guidance signals increasing regulatory attention on the governance of synthetic media. Organisations using or encountering AI-generated content are expected to take a proactive approach to oversight, ensuring privacy considerations are embedded into decision-making, controls, and organisational accountability.

[Read the toolkit](#)

**Best Workplaces™**  
for Wellbeing  
Great Place To Work. UK 2025

**Best Workplaces™**  
for Development  
Great Place To Work. UK 2025

**LOOKING FOR A GREAT PLACE TO WORK?**

**Great Place To Work®**  
Certified  
MAY 2025-MAY 2026  
UK

dpo centre®

### We are recruiting!

To support our ongoing requirement to continuously grow our remarkable and extraordinary **#ONETEAM**, we are seeking candidates for the following positions:



- **Data Protection Officers (United Kingdom)**
- **Data Protection Officers (The Netherlands)**
- **Data Protection Officers (EU)**
- **Data Protection Officers - Life Sciences (United Kingdom)**
- **Data Protection Coordinator - Life Sciences (Poland)**
- **Chief Revenue Officer (United Kingdom)**

If you are looking for a new and exciting challenge, and the opportunity to work for a **Great Place to Work-Certified™** company, **ranked in the top 50 of the UK's Best Workplaces™** for medium-sized businesses, [apply today!](#)



---

FOLLOW US ON **LinkedIn**

---

Copyright © 2025 The DPO Centre, All rights reserved.

You have been sent this newsletter under legitimate interest, for more information please read our [Privacy Notice](#)  
The DPO Centre is a limited company registered in England and Wales (Company Number: 10874595)

The DPO Centre Group | London | Amsterdam | New York | Toronto | Dublin

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage Preferences](#)