

# Nantwich Singers' Data Protection policy



## Overview

### Key details

- Policy prepared by: Nantwich Singers Chair and Deputy Chair
- Approved by Committee on: 2nd January 2026
- Next review date: 2nd January 2028

### Introduction

In order to operate, Nantwich Singers needs to gather, store and use certain forms of information about individuals. These can include choir members, Friends, employees, contractors, suppliers, volunteers, audiences and potential audiences, business contacts and other people the group has a relationship with or regularly needs to contact. This policy explains how this data should be collected, stored, and used in order to meet Nantwich Singers data protection standards and comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR).

### Why is this policy important?

This policy ensures that Nantwich Singers:

- Protects the rights of our choir members, Friends, volunteers and supporters.
- Complies with data protection law and follows good practice.
- Protects the group from the risks of a data breach.

### Roles and Responsibilities

#### Who and what does this policy apply to?

This applies to all those handling data on behalf of Nantwich Singers e.g.:

- Committee members
- Choir members
- Employees and volunteers
- Friends of Nantwich Singers and audience members
- Contractors/3rd-party suppliers

It applies to all data that Nantwich Singers holds relating to individuals, including:

- Names
- Email addresses
- Postal addresses
- Phone numbers
- Financial data
- Photos/video/audio footage

Nantwich Singers is the Data Controller and will determine what data is collected and how it is used.

Nantwich Singers' Committee are responsible for the secure, fair, and transparent collection and use of data by Nantwich Singers. Any questions relating to the collection or use of data should be directed to [info@thenantwicksingers.org](mailto:info@thenantwicksingers.org)

Everyone who has access to data as part of Nantwich Singers has a responsibility to ensure that they adhere to this policy.

## **Data Protection Principles**

### **a) We fairly and lawfully process personal data in a transparent way.**

Nantwich Singers will only collect data where lawful and where it is necessary for the legitimate purposes of the group.

i. A member's name and contact details will be collected when they first join the choir and will be used to contact the member regarding group membership administration and activities. Other data may also be collected subsequently in relation to their membership. Where possible, Nantwich Singers will anonymise this data.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Contract (the collection and use of data is fair and reasonable in relation to Nantwich Singers completing tasks expected as part of the individual's membership).

ii. A member's email address and mobile phone number may be shared between choir members and choir associates\*. This data will only be shared where there is a legitimate reason to do so and when consent has been given.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Consent (see 'How we get consent').

\*Choir associates include musicians and volunteers who work with Nantwich Singers (e.g., accompanists, orchestral players, concert venue staff, front of house volunteers, stewards).

iii. Nantwich Singers may request that choir members and/or accompanists be photographed, filmed or recorded. This data may be used to promote the choir's activities online and on the choir's website.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Consent (see 'How we get consent').

iv. The name and contact details of volunteers, employees and contractors will be collected when they take up a position and will be used to contact them regarding group administration related to their role. Further information, including personal financial information and criminal records information may also be collected in specific circumstances where lawful and necessary (for example - in order to process payment to the person or in order to carry out a DBS check).

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Contract (the collection and use of data is fair and reasonable in relation to Nantwich Singers completing tasks expected as part of working with the individuals).

v. An individual's name and contact details will be collected when they make a booking for an event. This will be used to contact them about their booking and to allow them entry to the event.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Contract (the collection and use of data is fair and reasonable in relation to Nantwich Singers completing tasks expected as part of the booking).

vi. An individual's name and contact details will be collected when they become a Friend of Nantwich Singers. This data will be used to contact them about the choir's activities.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Consent (see 'How we get consent').

vii. An individual's name, contact details and other details may be collected at any time (including when booking tickets or at an event), with their consent, in order for Nantwich Singers to communicate with them about and promote group activities.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Consent (see 'How we get consent').



viii. Pseudonymous or anonymous data (including behavioural, technological and geographical/regional) on an individual may be collected via tracking ‘cookies’ when they access our website or interact with our emails, in order for us to monitor and improve our effectiveness on these channels. See ‘Cookies on Nantwich Singers’ website’ below.

➤ Lawful basis for processing this data: Consent (see ‘How we get consent’).

**b) We only collect and use personal data for specific, explicit, and legitimate purposes and will only use the data for those specified purposes.**

When collecting data, Nantwich Singers will always provide a clear and specific statement explaining to the subject why the data is required and what it will be used for specifically.

**c) We ensure any data collected is relevant and not excessive.**

Nantwich Singers will not collect or store more data than the minimum information required for its intended purpose. (e.g., we need to collect telephone numbers from members in order to be able to contact them about group administration, but data on their marital status or sexuality will not be collected, since it is unnecessary and excessive for the purposes of group administration).

**d) We ensure data is accurate and up to date.**

Nantwich Singers will ask members, volunteers, and staff to check and update their data on an annual basis, in January. Any individual will be able to update their data at any point by contacting the DPO (contact email above).

**e) We ensure data is not kept longer than necessary.**

Nantwich Singers will keep records for no longer than is necessary to meet the intended use for which it was gathered (unless there is a legal requirement to keep records). The storage and intended use of data will be reviewed in line with Nantwich Singer’s data retention policy (see below). When the intended use is no longer applicable (e.g., contact details for a member who has left the group), the data will be deleted within a reasonable period. Nantwich Singers may retain some choir members’ data until such time as all property belonging to Nantwich Singers has been returned and any outstanding payments such as subscription fees have been paid.

**f) We keep personal data secure.**

Nantwich Singers will ensure that data held by us is kept secure.

- Electronically held data will be stored within a password-protected and secure environment.
- Passwords for electronic data files will be re-set each time an individual with data access leaves their role/position.
- Physically held data (e.g., membership forms or email sign-up sheets) will be stored securely.
- Access to data will only be given to relevant persons where it is clearly necessary for the running of the group.

**g) Transfer to countries outside the EEA.**

Nantwich Singers will not transfer data to countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA), unless the country has adequate protection for the individual’s data privacy rights.

## Individual Rights

When Nantwich Singers collects, holds, and uses an individual's personal data, that individual has the following rights over that data. Nantwich Singers will ensure its data processes comply with those rights and will make all reasonable efforts to fulfil requests from an individual in relation to those rights.

### Individual's rights:

- Right to be **informed**: whenever Nantwich Singers collects data it will provide a clear and specific statement explaining why it is being collected and how it will be used.
- Right of **access**: individuals can request to see the data Nantwich Singers holds on them and confirmation of how it is being used. Requests should be made in writing to [DPO@thenantwichsingers.org](mailto:DPO@thenantwichsingers.org) and will be complied with free of charge and within one month. Where requests are complex or numerous this may be extended to two months.
- Right to **rectification**: individuals can request that their data be updated where it is inaccurate or incomplete. Nantwich Singers will request that members, staff and contractors check and update their data on an annual basis. Any requests for data to be updated will be processed within one month.
- Right to **object**: individuals can object to their data being used for a particular purpose. Nantwich Singers will always provide a way for an individual to withdraw consent in all marketing communications. Where we receive a request to stop using data we will comply unless we have a lawful reason to use the data for legitimate interests or contractual obligation.
- Right to **erasure**: individuals can request for all data held on them to be deleted. Nantwich Singers' data retention policy will ensure data is not held for longer than is reasonably necessary in relation to the purpose it was originally collected. If a request for deletion is made, we will comply with the request unless:
  - a) There is a lawful reason to keep and use the data for legitimate interests or contractual obligation.
  - b) There is a legal requirement to keep the data.
- Right to **restrict processing**: individuals can request that their personal data be 'restricted' – that is, retained and stored but not processed further (e.g., if they have contested the accuracy of any of their data, Nantwich Singers will restrict the data while it is verified). Though unlikely to apply to the data processed by Nantwich Singers, we will also ensure that rights related to portability and automated decision making (including profiling) are complied with where appropriate.

## Member-to-member

We only share members' data with other members with the subject's prior consent. As a membership organisation, Nantwich Singers encourages communication between members.

To facilitate this:

- Nantwich Singers will request that members' email addresses and mobile phone numbers be shared with other members. Data will only be shared if consent is given via a consent form, sent to [info@thenantwichsingers.org](mailto:info@thenantwichsingers.org). Data will only be shared where it is necessary to do so to facilitate the running of the choir i.e. for the purposes of contacting the subject (e.g. an email address, not financial data) and the subject has consented to their data being shared with other members in this way.

## How we get consent

Nantwich Singers will request consent from its members to store and/or share personal data. A clear and specific explanation of what the data will be used for will be given (e.g., 'Tick this box if you give permission for Nantwich Singers to share photographs/film/audio footage with members of the choir and deputies).

Nantwich Singers will collect data from Friends, website visitors, event bookers and consenting supporters for marketing purposes. This includes contacting them to promote performances, updating them about group news, fundraising and other choir activities.

Any time data is collected for this purpose, we will provide:

- A method for users to show their positive and active consent to receive these communications ( e.g., a 'tick box').
- A clear and specific explanation of what the data will be used for (e.g., 'Tick this box if you would like Nantwich Singers to send you email updates with details about our forthcoming events, fundraising activities and opportunities to get involved').

Data collected will only ever be used in the way described and consented to (e.g., we will not use email data in order to market 3rd-party products unless this has been explicitly consented to).

Every marketing communication will contain a method through which a recipient can withdraw their consent (e.g., an 'unsubscribe' link in an email). Opt-out requests such as this will be processed within 14 days.

## Data Breaches

Nantwich Singers takes any breach of data seriously.

A data breach could be the deliberate or accidental:

- Loss of data – e.g., not knowing where physical or digital data is stored or how to access it, including devices being lost or stolen.
- Destruction of data – both physical and digital.
- Corruption of data – e.g., changing data without permission or good reason or changing it with permission or good reason but incorrectly, either by Nantwich Singers staff, volunteers or third parties.
- Unauthorised use of data e.g., sending an email that requires consent where consent has not been given.
- Unauthorised access to data – e.g., an (unauthorised) third party gains access to data stored by Nantwich Singers.
- Unauthorised disclosure of data – e.g., Nantwich Singers passing data to a third party where we do not have a lawful basis to do so.

Nantwich Singers has the following safeguards to ensure against possible data breaches:

- Data is stored on secure systems with access controlled by passwords.
- Automatic, and manual, processes ensure passwords are updated on a regular basis, including as soon as an individual's role within, or relationship to, Nantwich Singers changes.
- Automatic, and manual, processes ensure mass communications are only sent in line with mailing preferences.

If anyone associated with Nantwich Singers thinks a data breach has occurred, then it should be reported to [info@thenantwicksingers.org](mailto:info@thenantwicksingers.org). The response plan would include the following steps:

- Establish if a breach has occurred.
- Investigate if any measures can be taken to contain or minimise the breach.
- Establish the full extent and nature of that breach – including what the breach was, how many data subjects are affected and who they are.
- Establish if the data breach has, or is likely to, pose a significant risk to the data subjects rights and freedoms.
- If the breach does pose a significant risk to the data subjects rights and freedoms, we will:
  1. Ensure all members are informed.
  2. Report the breach to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). This will be done in-line with their guidelines and as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after the breach occurred.
  3. Report the breach to any other relevant regulators, including the Charity Commission and OSCR (Scottish Charity Regulator).
  4. Report the breach to the data subjects affected, informing them of what has happened, possible and likely impacts it might have on them and what we are doing to manage the breach and reduce risk of future occurrences.
- If the breach does not pose a significant risk to the data subjects rights and freedoms, we will:
  1. Document details of the breach and the decision-making process involved in assessing the severity and risk of the breach.
  2. Ensure the breach is reported to Nantwich Singers Committee at the next planned full committee meeting.
  3. Conduct an internal investigation into how the breach happened and what measures need to be taken to minimise the risk of similar breaches occurring in the future.

## **Cookies on Nantwich Singers website**

A cookie is a small text file that is downloaded onto “terminal equipment” (e.g., a computer or smartphone) when the user accesses a website. It allows the website to recognise that user’s device and store some information about the user’s preferences or past actions.

Nantwich Singers may use cookies on our website in order to monitor and record users’ activity. This allows us to improve users’ experience of our website by, for example, allowing for a ‘logged in’ state, and by giving us useful insight into how users as a whole are engaging with the website.

We will implement a pop-up box on our website that will activate each new time a user visits. This will allow them to click consent (or not) to continuing with cookies enabled, or to ignore the message and continue browsing (i.e., give their implied consent).

# Data retention policy

## Overview

### Introduction

This policy sets out how Nantwich Singers will approach data retention and establishes processes to ensure we do not hold data for longer than is necessary. It forms part of Nantwich Singers Data Protection Policy.

### Roles and responsibilities

Nantwich Singers is the Data Controller and will determine what data is collected, retained and how it is used. The committee is responsible for the secure and fair retention and use of data by Nantwich Singers. Any questions relating to data retention or use of data should be directed to [info@thenantwicksingers.org](mailto:info@thenantwicksingers.org)

### Regular Data Review

A regular review of all data will take place every two years in January, to establish if Nantwich Singers still has good reason to keep and use the data held at the time of the review. The latest review took place on 26th January 2026.

#### Data to be reviewed:

- Nantwich Singers stores data on digital documents (e.g., spreadsheets) stored on personal devices held by committee members.
- Data stored on third party online services e.g., Eventbrite, Ticketsource
- Physical data stored at the homes of committee members.

#### Who the review will be conducted by?

The review will be conducted by committee members at the time of the review.

#### How data will be deleted?

- Physical data will be destroyed safely and securely, such as by shredding.
- All reasonable and practical efforts will be made to remove data stored digitally.
  - o Priority will be given to any instances where data is stored in active lists (e.g., where it could be used) and to sensitive data.
  - o Where deleting the data would mean deleting other data that we have a valid lawful reason to keep (e.g., on old emails) then the data may be retained safely and securely but not used.

## Criteria

The following criteria will be used to decide what data will be kept and what will be deleted:

Question	Action	
	Yes	No
Is the data stored securely?	No action necessary	Update storage protocol in line with Data Protection policy
Does the original reason for having the data still apply?	Continue to use	Delete or remove data
Is the data being used for its original intention?	Continue to use	Either delete/remove or record lawful basis for use and get consent if necessary
Is there a statutory requirement to keep the data?	Keep the data at least until the statutory minimum no longer applies	Delete or remove the data unless we have reason to keep the data under other criteria.
Is the data accurate?	Continue to use	Ask the subject to confirm/update details
Where appropriate do we have consent to use the data? This consent could be implied by previous use and engagement by the individual	Continue to use	Get consent
Can the data be anonymised?	Anonymise data	Continue to use

## Statutory Requirements

Data stored by Nantwich Singers may be retained based on statutory requirements for storing data other than data protection regulations. This might include but is not limited to:

- Gift Aid declarations records.
- Details of payments made and received (e.g., in bank statements and accounting records).
- Committee meeting minutes.
- Contracts and agreements with suppliers/customers.
- Insurance details.
- Tax and employment records.

## Other data retention procedures

### Member data

- When a member leaves Nantwich Singers and all administrative tasks relating to their membership have been completed, any potentially sensitive data held on them will be deleted – this might include bank details.
- Unless consent has been given, data will be removed from all email mailing lists.
- All other data will be stored safely and securely and reviewed as part of the next two-year review.

## **Mailing list data**

- If an individual opts out of a mailing list their data will be removed as soon as is practically possible.
- All other data will be stored safely and securely and reviewed as part of the next two-year review.

## **Volunteer and freelancer data**

- When a volunteer or freelancer stops working with Nantwich Singers and all administrative tasks relating to their work have been completed any potentially sensitive data held on them will be deleted – this might include bank details or medical data.
- Unless consent has been given data will be removed from all email mailing lists.
- All other data will be stored safely and securely and reviewed as part of the next two-year review.

## **Other data**

- All other data will be included in a regular two-year review in January.