PRIVACY NOTICE FOR JOB APPLICANTS

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Peer Group PLC of The Peer Suite, The Hop Exchange, 24 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1TY has implemented this privacy notice to inform you, as prospective employees of our Company, of the types of data we process about you. We also include within this notice the reasons for processing your data, the lawful basis that permits us to process it, how long we keep your data for and your rights regarding your data.

A) DATA PROTECTION PRINCIPLES

Under GDPR, all personal data obtained and held by us must be processed according to a set of core principles. In accordance with these principles, we will ensure that:

a) processing is fair, lawful and transparent
b) data is collected for specific, explicit, and legitimate purposes
c) data collected is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the purposes of processing
d) data is kept accurate and up to date. Data which is found to be inaccurate will be rectified or erased without delay
e) data is not kept for longer than is necessary for its given purpose
f) data is processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of personal data including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing, accidental loss, destruction or damage by using appropriate technical or organisation measures
g) we comply with the relevant GDPR procedures for international transferring of personal data

B) TYPES OF DATA HELD

Personal data is any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include anonymous data which does not identify the individual.

We collect, store and use several categories of personal data on our prospective employees in order to carry out effective and efficient processes. We keep this data in recruitment files relating to each vacancy and we also hold the data within our computer systems, for example, recruitment logs. It is your responsibility to keep us up to date with any changes to your personal details so that we can make sure that your personal data is accurate. If your personal details change, you must notify the person with whom you are dealing at Peer Group PLC and legal@peergroup.co.uk.

Specifically, we collect, store and use the following types of data:

a) personal details such as name, previous names, title, address, phone numbers, email address, date of birth;
b) name and contact details of your next of kin;
c) your photograph;
d) your gender, marital status, information of any disability you have or other medical information;
e) right to work documentation;
f) information on your race and religion for equality monitoring purposes;
g) information gathered via the recruitment process such as that entered into a CV or included in a CV cover letter;
h) references from former employers;
i) details on your education and employment history etc;
j) driving licence;
k) criminal convictions;

C) COLLECTING YOUR DATA

You provide several pieces of data to us directly during the recruitment exercise.

In some cases, we will collect data about you from third parties, such as employment agencies, former employers when gathering references or credit reference agencies.

Should you be successful in your job application, we will gather further information from you, for example, your bank details and next of kin details, once your employment begins.

D) LAWFUL BASIS FOR PROCESSING

The law on data protection allows us to process your data for certain reasons only.

The information below categorises the types of data processing we undertake and the lawful basis we rely on.

Activity requiring your data	Lawful basis
Carrying out checks in relation to your right to work in the UK	Legal obligation
Making reasonable adjustments for disabled employees	Legal obligation
Making recruitment decisions in relation to both initial and subsequent employment e.g. promotion	Our legitimate interests which are to ensure that we recruit, promote, and retain the most qualified and capable individuals to support our business growth.
Making decisions about salary and other benefits	Our legitimate interests which are to maintain fair, market-competitive, and financially sustainable compensation structures for our workforce.
Making decisions about contractual benefits to provide to you	Our legitimate interests which are to design and offer a comprehensive reward package that motivates employees and aligns with organisational goals.
Assessing training needs	Our legitimate interests which are to enhance workforce capabilities, bridge skill gaps, and support employee professional development.
Dealing with legal claims made against us	Our legitimate interests which are to effectively defend our legal position, protect business assets, and seek appropriate legal counsel.
Preventing fraud	Our legitimate interests which are to protect the business against financial loss, maintain operational integrity, and safeguard company resources.

E) SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF DATA

Special categories of data are data relating to your:

a) health
b) sex life
c) sexual orientation
d) race
e) ethnic origin
f) political opinion
g) religion
h) trade union membership
i) genetic and biometric data.

We carry out processing activities using special category data:

a) for the purposes of equal opportunities monitoring
b) to determine reasonable adjustments

Most commonly, we will process special categories of data when the following applies:

a) you have given explicit consent to the processing
b) we must process the data in order to carry out our legal obligations
c) we must process data for reasons of substantial public interest
d) you have already made the data public.

F) FAILURE TO PROVIDE DATA

Your failure to provide us with data may mean that we are unable to fulfil our requirements for entering into a contract of employment with you. This could include being unable to offer you employment or administer contractual benefits.

G) CRIMINAL CONVICTION DATA

We will only collect criminal conviction data where it is appropriate given the nature of your role and where the law permits us. This data will usually be collected at the recruitment stage, however, may also be collected during your employment. We use criminal conviction data to determine your suitability, or your continued suitability for the role. We rely on the lawful basis of our legitimate interests to process this data.

H) WHO WE SHARE YOUR DATA WITH

Employees within our company who have responsibility for recruitment will have access to your data which is relevant to their function. All employees with such responsibility have been trained in ensuring data is processed in line with GDPR.

Data is shared with third parties for the following reasons: reference requests. The third parties who will process your personal data for this purpose are your reference.

We may also share your data with third parties as part of a Company sale or restructure, or for other reasons to comply with a legal obligation upon us.

We have a data processing agreement in place with such third parties to ensure data is not compromised. Third parties must implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of your data.

We do not share your data with bodies outside of the European Economic Area.

I) PROTECTING YOUR DATA

We are aware of the requirement to ensure your data is protected against accidental loss or disclosure, destruction and abuse. We have implemented processes to guard against such.

J) RETENTION PERIODS

We only keep your data for as long as we need it for, which, in relation to unsuccessful candidates, is six months to a year.

If your application is not successful and we have not sought consent or you have not provided consent upon our request to keep your data for the purpose of future suitable job vacancies, we will keep your data for six months once the recruitment exercise ends.

If we have sought your consent to keep your data on file for future job vacancies, and you have provided consent, we will keep your data for nine months once the recruitment exercise ends. At the end of this period, we will delete or destroy your data, unless you have already withdrawn your consent to our processing of your data in which case it will be deleted or destroyed upon your withdrawal of consent.

Where you have provided consent to our use of your data, you also have the right to withdraw that consent at any time. This means that we will stop processing your data and there will be no consequences of withdrawing consent.

If your application is successful, your data will be kept and transferred to the systems we administer for employees. We have a separate privacy notice for employees, which will be provided to you.

K) AUTOMATED DECISION MAKING

Automated decision making means making decisions about you using no human involvement e.g. using computerised filtering equipment. No decision will be made about you solely on the basis of automated decision making (where a decision is taken about you using an electronic system without human involvement) which has a significant impact on you.

L) YOUR RIGHTS

You have the following rights in relation to the personal data we hold on you:

a) the right to be informed about the data we hold on you and what we do with it;
b) the right of access to the data we hold on you. We operate a separate Subject Access Request policy and all such requests will be dealt with accordingly;
c) the right for any inaccuracies in the data we hold on you, however they come to light, to be corrected. This is also known as 'rectification';
d) the right to have data deleted in certain circumstances. This is also known as 'erasure';
e) the right to restrict the processing of the data;
f) the right to transfer the data we hold on you to another party. This is also known as 'portability';
g) the right to object to the inclusion of any information;
h) the right to regulate any automated decision-making and profiling of personal data.

In addition to the above rights, you also have the unrestricted right to withdraw consent, that you have previously provided, to our processing of your data at any time. Withdrawing your consent means that we will stop processing the data that you had previously given us consent to use. There will be no consequences for withdrawing your consent. However, in some cases, we may continue to use the data where so permitted by having a legitimate reason for doing so.

If you wish to exercise any of the rights explained above, please contact the Office Manager.

M) MAKING A COMPLAINT

If you consider your data rights have been breached, you can make a complaint to us at any time using any of the following methods:

- Email: legal@peergroup.co.uk
- Post: The Peer Suite, The Hop Exchange, 24 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1TY
- Telephone: 020 7940 8900

More information is available in our separate policy on Data Protection Complaints available at peergroup.co.uk/legal.

You can also raise a complaint with the Information Commissioner (ICO). You can contact the ICO at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or by telephone on 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745.

N) DATA PROTECTION COMPLIANCE

Our Data Protection Officer is:

Michael Breeze
mdb@peergroup.co.uk