PRIVACY POLICY OF:

Name: Melanie Williamson

Business address: 55 Temple Row, Birmingham B2 5LS

ICO registration number: ZA386433

29th October 2026

Policy became operational on: 24th October 2026

Next review date: 24th October 2028

Barristers Privacy Policy

Introduction

In order to provide legal advice and representation, I need to collect and hold personal information. This may be your personal data or information relating to other parties involved in the matter. I will take all possible steps to protect personal information. I will ensure that I do not do anything that may infringe your rights or undermine your trust. This privacy notice describes the information I collect about you, how it is used and shared, and your rights regarding it.

I will occasionally update my privacy notice. When I make significant changes, I will notify you of these through mail or email. I will also publish the updated notice on chambers' website profile.

Who am I and what do I do as Data Controller?

I, Melanie Williamson, am a member of St Philips Chambers. I am registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) as a Data Controller for the personal data that I hold and process as a barrister. When I do this, I am the "controller" of the information for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA).

My registered address is St Philips Chambers, 55 Temple Row, Birmingham B2 5LS and my ICO registration number is ZA386433. If you need to contact me about your data or this privacy notice, you can reach me at employment&pi@st-philips.com.

What do I do with your personal data?

Most of the information that I hold about you is provided to, or gathered by, me in the course of your case and/or proceedings. Your solicitor and/or I will tell you why we need the information and how we will use it. In addition to the information, you may provide to me or your solicitor, I also obtain information from other sources as follows:

- Information that is available publicly in registers, searches or in the media
- Other legal professionals including solicitors and barristers and their associates, trainees and staff
- Chambers staff
- Expert witnesses
- Prosecution bodies
- Regulatory, public or administrative bodies
- Court staff & officials
- Clients
- References

What data do I process about you?

Depending on the type of work, I collect and process both personal data and special categories of personal data as defined in the UK GDPR. This may include:

- Name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Address
- Payment or bank details
- Date of birth
- Next of kin details
- Details pertaining to education and employment
- Information on your background and current circumstances
- Financial information

Where relevant, I may also need to process special category personal data that reveals your:

- Racial or ethnic group
- Political opinions
- Religious and philosophical beliefs
- Trade union membership
- Genetic data
- Biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person
- Data concerning health
- Sex life and sexual orientation

On occasion, I may also process personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences.

My lawful basis for processing your personal information

In order that I can provide legal services and representation for you; I must process your personal data. The UK General Data Protection Regulation (the UK GDPR) requires that where I process personal data, I must have a lawful basis for doing so.

The lawful bases identified in the UK GDPR that I seek to rely upon are as follows:

- Consent of the data subject
    - where this is required, I will ensure that I have your specific consent for processing your data for the specified purposes. You will also have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. Where you do so, this will not affect the legality of data processing which had taken place prior to your withdrawal of consent.
- Performance of a contract with the data subject, or to take steps to enter into a contract.
- Compliance with a legal obligation

- to comply with various regulatory and professional obligations, e.g. filing tax returns with HMRC.
- The legitimate interests of my business or a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests, rights or freedoms of the data subject.

Examples of legitimate interests include but are not limited to:

- Provision of legal services and advice
- For purposes of practice management, accounting and debt recovery
- For completion of professional regulatory requirements.
- Processing for direct marketing purposes, or to prevent fraud
- Reporting threats to public security.
- Such other purposes as set out below.

When I process special category data

The UK GDPR specifies that where I process special category data, I must rely upon certain exemptions to do so lawfully.

The following exemptions are applicable in my practice:

- I have your explicit consent to do so; or
- It is necessary for the exercise or defence of legal claims or judicial acts.

Criminal data processing

On occasion, I process data relating to criminal offences where it is necessary for:

- The purpose of, or in connection with, any legal proceedings
- The purpose of obtaining legal advice
- The purposes of establishing, exercising or defending legal rights
- Where I have your explicit consent to do so.

What do I do with your personal data and who do I share your personal information with?

I use your personal information for the following purposes:

- Provide legal advice and representation
- Assist in training pupils and mini pupils
- Investigate and address your concerns
- Communicate with you about news, updates and events
- Investigate or address legal proceedings relating to your use of my services, or as otherwise allowed by applicable law
- Make statutory returns as required by HM Revenue and Customs, the Bar Standards Board, or other applicable regulatory authorities
- Assist in any tendering or panel membership applications

- Assist in any other applications for the purpose of professional development or career progression
- Communicate legal updates and judgments to other legal professionals
- For marketing purposes
- For the management and administration of my practice
- To recover debt
- To manage complaints with regulators
- Communications with regulators
- Where relevant to conduct anti money laundering, terrorist financing or conflict of interest checks
- To comply with legal, regulatory and professional obligations
- To maintain records, undertake audits and manage risks associated with my practice
- To liaise with courts, tribunals, regulators, experts, witness and other professional advisers where necessary
- To protect against fraud, money laundering and other unlawful activities
- To administer, review and improve the services I provide.

While processing your information to provide legal services to you, I may share your personal data with:

- Instructing solicitors or other lawyers involved in your case
- A pupil or mini pupil, under my training
- Opposing counsel, for the purposes of resolving the case
- Court Officials, including the Judiciary
- Opposing lay clients
- My chambers' management and staff who provide administrative services for my practice
- Expert witnesses and other witnesses
- My regulator or legal advisors in the event of a dispute, complaint or other legal matter
- Head of Chambers or complaints committee within my chambers, in the event of a complaint
- Law enforcement officials, government authorities, or other third parties, to meet any legal obligations
- Legal directories, for the purpose of professional development
- Any relevant panel or tendering committee, for the purpose of professional development
- Accountants and banking officials
- Regulators or arbitrators, where complaints or disputes arise
- Any other party where I ask you for consent, and you consent, to the sharing
- Data processors, such as my Chambers staff, IT support staff, email providers, data storage providers
- Current, past or perspective employers
- Education and examining bodies
- In the event of complaints, the Head of Chambers, other members of Chambers who deal with complaints, the Bar Standards Board, and the Legal Ombudsman

I may be required to provide your information to regulators, such as the Bar Standards Board, the Financial Conduct Authority or the Information Commissioner's Office. In the case of the Information Commissioner's Office, there is a risk that your information may lawfully be disclosed by them for the purpose of any other civil or criminal proceedings, without Chambers' consent or your consent, which includes privileged information.

I may also be required to disclose your information to the police or intelligence services, where required or permitted by law.

Transfers to third countries and international organisations

I do not transfer any personal data to third countries or international organisations.

If I decide to publish a judgment or other decision of a Court or Tribunal containing your information then this may be published to the world.

I will not otherwise transfer personal information outside the EEA except as necessary for the conduct of any legal proceedings. If you would like any further information please use the contact details at the end of this document.

How long do I store your personal information for?

I retain your personal data while you remain a client, unless you ask me to delete it. My Retention and Disposal Policy (copy available on request) details how long I hold data for and how I dispose of it when it no longer needs to be held.

I will delete or anonymise your information at your request unless:

- There is an unresolved issue, such as a claim or dispute
- I am legally required to
- There are overriding legitimate business interests to do so

Where various pleadings and documents have been drafted, they may be retained for learning purposes and legal research. Where this is the case, I will anonymise the personal information/redact information which may identify an individual/risk assess the continued retention of the documents.

Your rights

The UK GDPR gives you specific rights in terms of your personal data. For example, you have the right of access to the information I hold and what I use it for.

You can ask for a copy of the personal information I hold about you.

You can ask me to correct any inaccuracies with the personal data I hold, and you can ask me to stop sending you direct mail or emails or, in some circumstances, ask me to stop processing your details. Finally, if I do something irregular or improper with your personal data, you can complain to the ICO if you are unhappy with how I have processed your information or dealt with your query. You may also seek compensation for any distress you are caused or loss you have incurred.

You can find out more information from the ICO's website:
http://ico.org.uk/for_the_public/personal_information

Accessing and correcting your information

You may request access to, correction of, or a copy of your information by contacting me at employment&pi@st-philips.com. I do not intend to process your personal information except for the reasons stated within this privacy notice. If this changes, this privacy notice will be amended and placed on the chambers' website. If you have any questions about this privacy notice or the information I hold about you, please contact our Compliance Officer, Narinder Kudhail, by email, post or telephone. Alternatively, you may contact me on the details as above.

Marketing opt-outs

You may opt out of receiving emails and other messages from my practice by following the instructions in those messages.