

Policy Statement

Data Protection Speaking Engagements

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner ("the Commissioner") welcomes requests to speak to meetings, seminars, educational and religious bodies on Data Protection issues. The following policy has been drawn up to ensure that organizations who request this service will be aware of the criteria adopted by the Commissioner's Office in determining its response.

The Commissioner's own aim in undertaking speaking engagements:

- 1. To convey the Commissioner's thinking and guidance on data protection issues to assist bodies in complying with the legislation.
- 2. To help organizations identify issues they need to consider in relation to data protection.
- 3. To obtain and identify views and concerns from organizations and other interested groups on data protection issues.
- 4. To provide information regarding data protection.
- 5. To maintain and develop data protection network relationships.
- 6. To assist in formulating codes of best practices in relation to data protection.

When considering whether to accept an invitation to speak the following factors will help determine the Commissioner's response:

• Whether some of those attending the event will be persons responsible for developing policy and taking forward data protection issues within their

organization;

• Other significant or related events that may also be taking place during the same

period;

• Whether a 'key-note' speech or similar level of contribution is required;

• Whether the delivery of the talk is the most effective way of

providing/exchanging information or whether use of other media may be more

appropriate;

• Whether the Commissioner's own objectives will also be furthered by

participation.

When considering a request for a guest speaker the Commissioner's office would require

the following information to be provided by the organization making the request:

• The number and responsibilities of the people who will be attending the

presentation;

• The expected duration of the presentation;

• Details of any other persons who may be making a presentation at the same

engagement;

• The nature of the processing undertaken by organizations that may be present.

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