

Policy Statement

Speaking Engagements

This policy statement applies to both the Office of the Information Commissioner in Jersey and the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner in Guernsey.

To show differences between the two jurisdictions the page will be split as shown below.

Jersey

Commissioner = Information
Commissioner

Office = Office of the
Information Commissioner

Guernsey

Commissioner = Data Protection
Commissioner

Office = Office of the Data
Protection Commissioner

The Office receives many requests to provide speakers to meetings, seminars and similar on Data Protection and Freedom of Information issues. The following policy has been drawn up to ensure that organisations who request a speaker will be aware of the criteria adopted by the Office in determining its response.

Please note that the Commissioner's primary function is that of a regulator and therefore does not provide training sessions. Should your organisation require bespoke data protection or freedom of information

training, you will need to contact a suitable training organisation. The Commissioner's own aim in undertaking speaking engagements is:

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

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

- Whether those attending the event will be responsible for developing policy and taking forward data protection or freedom of information issues within their organisation;
- The most effective way to disseminate information will be to address representative or umbrella bodies and organisations; such audiences will therefore be given priority over those consisting of representatives of a single organisation;
- 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;
- Travel and other expenses plus costs in terms of staff time: when expenses can be met by the other party, this will be taken into consideration: the effective use of staff resource will however, remain a determining factor. The Office is currently dealing with a high volume of requests for advice. The Commissioner will therefore have to balance the need to progress the work of developing policy and guidance against requests to provide information that may already be available by other means.

When considering a request for a guest speaker the Office would require the following information to be provided in writing by the organisation making the request:

- The number and responsibilities of the people who will be attending the presentation;
- The expected duration of the presentation (a short presentation to a small group of people may not be an appropriate use of resources);
- Details of any other persons who may be making a presentation at the same engagement;
- The nature of the processing undertaken by organisations that may be present;
- An agreement to meet all reasonable expenses that may be incurred in relation to attending the presentation (if required).

Continual Professional Development ("CPD")

Whilst the Commissioner does not provide bespoke training sessions, should your organisation wish to use the speaking engagement as CPD time, then this will be at your discretion. The Commissioner will not issue CPD certificates.

Contact the Commissioner

Jersey

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