

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) Unpaid Data Protection Fee

The ICO are currently in the process of writing to companies who are yet to register with them or have not renewed their annual fee. Failure to register will result in the company receiving a fine of up to £4,000. Therefore, if you do receive a letter from the ICO, we recommend you take action as soon as possible.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is the independent supervisory authority set up to promote and oversee compliance with data protection legislation in the UK.

The Data Protection Regulations 2018 requires every business that processes personal information, which includes names and addresses, credit card machines, email addresses, IP addresses, photographs, etc, pay an annual data protection fee to the ICO. This includes businesses that operate CCTV for the purpose of crime prevention.

This follows regulations which came into force alongside the new Data Protection Act on 25 May 2018.

However, some businesses are exempt. You have to pay a fee if you are processing personal data as a controller, but there are some exemptions. You don't need to pay a fee if you are processing personal data only for one (or more) of the following purposes:

- *Staff administration*
- *Advertising, marketing and public relations*
- *Accounts and records*
- *Not -for -profit purposes*
- *Personal, family or household affairs*
- *Maintaining a public register*
- *Judicial functions*
- *Processing personal information without an automated system such as a computer.*
- *Since 1 April 2019, members of the House of Lords, elected representatives and prospective representatives are also exempt.*

To pay or renew with the ICO, please visit:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-fee/>

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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