

## Octagon Business Finance Ltd ('OBFL')

### Privacy Policy

***Octagon Business Finance Ltd is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy.***

**Octagon Business Finance Ltd** is an Independent Finance Brokerage arranging finance for commercial enterprises throughout the UK. Through a spectrum of financing partners we offer a comprehensive range of debt financing solutions ranging from Unsecured & Secured Business Loans, Hire Purchase, Finance Lease, Operating Lease, Rental, Sale & Lease Back and Personal & Directors Loans.

This policy sets out the basis on which any personal data we collect from you, or that you provide to us, will be processed by us. Please read the following carefully to understand our views and practices regarding your personal data and how we will treat it. By visiting our websites, you are accepting and consenting to the practices described in this policy.

We operate under the Data Protection Act 2018 ('DPA') and the European General Data Protection Regulation ('GDPR'). For the purpose of the GDPR and DPA, the data controller is Octagon Business Finance Limited. Chislehurst Business Centre, 1 Bromley Lane, Chislehurst, Kent. BR7 6LH

This Privacy Policy explains how we process your information and your rights under both the DPA and GDPR.

The DPA and GDPR apply to 'personal data' we process, and the data protection principles set out the main responsibilities we are responsible for.

We must ensure that personal data shall be:

- a) Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner
- b) Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- c) Adequate, relevant, and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- d) Accurate and where necessary kept up to date
- e) Kept for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed. We operate a data retention policy that ensures we meet this obligation. We only retain personal data for the purposes for which it was collected and for a reasonable period thereafter where there is a legitimate business need or legal obligation to do so. For detail of our current retention policy contact our privacy officer at [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk)
- f) Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction, or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures

To meet our Data Protection obligations, we have established comprehensive and proportionate governance measures.

We ensure data protection compliance across the organisation through:

- a) Implementing appropriate technical and organisational measures including internal data protection policies, staff training, internal audits of processing activities, and reviews of internal HR policies
- b) Maintaining relevant documentation on processing activities
- c) Implementing measures that meet the principles of data protection by design and data protection by default including data minimisation, pseudonymisation, transparency, deploying the most up-to-date data security protocols and using data protection impact assessments across our organisation and in any third party arrangements

### The data we collect about you

Personal data, or personal information, means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

We may collect, use, store and transfer different kinds of personal data about you which we have grouped together follows:

- **Identity data** includes first name, maiden name, last name, title.
- **Contact data** includes email address and telephone numbers.
- **Technical data** includes internet protocol (IP) address, your login data, browser type and version, time zone setting and location, browser plug-in types and versions, operating system and platform and other technology on the devices you use to access this website.
- **Usage data** includes information about how you use our website and services.
- **Marketing and communications data** includes your preferences in receiving marketing from us and our third parties and your communication preferences.

### How is your personal data collected?

We use different methods to collect data from and about you including through:

- **Direct interactions.** You may give us your Identity, and Contact Data by filling in forms or by corresponding with us by post, phone, email or otherwise. This includes personal data you provide when you:
  - complete our enquiry form on our website,
  - contact us by telephone or email to seek a quote; and
  - when you instruct us to provide services for you by telephone or email and you become our client.
- **Third parties or publicly available sources.** We may receive personal data about you from various third parties including Technical Data from analytics providers such as Google based outside the EU.

- **Cookies.** Our website uses cookies to distinguish you from other users of our website. This helps us to provide you with a good experience when you browse our website and also allows us to improve our site. For detailed information on the cookies we use and the purposes for which we use them, refer to our Cookie Policy below.

### How we use your personal data

We will only use your personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we will use your personal data in the following circumstances:

- Where we need to perform the contract, we are about to enter into or have entered into with you.
- Where it is necessary for our legitimate interests (or those of a third party) and your interests and fundamental rights do not override those interests.
- Where we need to comply with a legal or regulatory obligation.

Generally, we do not rely on consent as a legal basis for processing your personal data other than in relation to sending third party direct marketing communications to you via email or text message. You have the right to withdraw consent to marketing at any time by contacting us at [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk)

### Purposes for which we will use your personal data

We have set out below a description of all the ways we plan to use your personal data, and which of the legal bases we rely on to do so. We have also identified what our legitimate interests are where appropriate.

Note that we may process your personal data for more than one lawful ground depending on the specific purpose for which we are using your data. Please contact us at [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk) if you need details about the specific legal ground we are relying on to process your personal data where more than one ground has been set out in the table below. We do not process your data for automated decision-making or profiling purposes.

Purpose/Activity	Type of data	Lawful basis for processing including basis of legitimate interest
<b>To respond to your application for funding using our enquiry form on our website</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact	(a) Necessary for our legitimate interests (for running a business)
<b>To manage our relationship with you which will include: (a) Notifying you about changes to our terms or privacy policy</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Profile (d) Marketing and Communications	(a) Performance of a contract with you (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation
<b>To administer and protect our business and this website (including troubleshooting, data</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Technical	(a) Necessary for our legitimate interests (for running our business, provision of administration and IT

<b>analysis, testing, system maintenance, support, reporting and hosting of data)</b>		services, network security, to prevent fraud and in the context of a business reorganisation or group restructuring exercise) (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation
<b>To deliver relevant website content and advertisements to you and measure or understand the effectiveness of the advertising we serve to you</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Profile (d) Usage (e) Marketing and Communications (f) Technical	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to study how customers use our products/services, to develop them, to grow our business and to inform our marketing strategy)
<b>To use data analytics to improve our website, products/services, marketing, customer relationships and experiences</b>	(a) Technical (b) Usage	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to define types of customers for our products and services, to keep our website updated and relevant, to develop our business and to inform our marketing strategy)
<b>To make suggestions and recommendations to you about goods or services that may be of interest to you</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Technical (d) Usage (e) Profile	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to develop our products/services and grow our business)
<b>To respond to your enquiry raised using our enquiry form on our website</b>	(a) Identity (b) Contact	(a) Necessary for our legitimate interests (for running a business)

**Disclosure of your information:** In order for us to provide you with any products or services we will need to process your contact details, these include: your name, address, email address, telephone number and date of birth and financial information and identification provided. In certain circumstances we may be required to obtain additional personal information about you.

We may share your information with selected third parties including:

- Business partners, suppliers, and sub-contractors for the performance of any contract we enter into with you, including without limitation any data processor we engage.
- Credit Reference Agencies ('CRAs') and Fraud Prevention Agencies ('FPA') In considering your application we or our funders to whom we may introduce or assign our agreement may conduct CRA or FPA checks. When we consider an application and processing, we will use: Your contact details, these include; your name, address, email address, telephone number and date of birth. We process and use this personal information to comply with a legal obligation, to perform a contract and for our own legitimate business interest. To make a credit decision about you we will use: Information you provide to us directly; Information we obtained through the course of an agreement or previous agreements; Information we receive from third party credit reference and fraud agencies and Information we receive

from third parties. For this purpose of processing we will share your personal information with CRA's and FPA's. The information could be used for: CRA's who will add a search footprint onto your credit file when a credit search has been conducted, this may be seen by other lenders; If you are making a joint application, or tell us you have a spouse or financial associate we and the CRA's or FPA's may link your records together. This means that each other's personal information (including information the CRA or FPA already holds) will be taken into account with all future credit applications by either or both of you. These links will remain on your and their files until such time as you or your partner successfully files for a 'disassociation' with the CRA's to break that link. Therefore, you should make sure you discuss this with them and share this Privacy Policy, before lodging an application. We might add to your CRA or FPA records details of your agreements, this may include any defaults or failure to keep to the terms of your agreement and when a payment is overdue. CRA's or FPA's could pass this personal information onto other companies who have no relation to us who conduct either credit or fraud prevention checks.

- To Regulatory authorities to fulfil or comply with our legal obligations, to prevent financial crime, including fraud and money laundering we will use: Information you provide us directly, and any information we receive from third party CRA's and FPA's. This personal information (name, address, date of birth and nationality) will only be used where it is necessary for us to comply with a legal obligation or for our own legitimate business interest.
- Analytics and search engine providers that assist us in the improvement and optimisation of our site.

We process and use this personal information in order to comply with our legal obligations and for our own legitimate business interest.

We may disclose your personal information to third parties:

- In the event that we sell or buy any business or assets, in which case we may disclose your personal data to the prospective seller or buyer of such business or assets.
- If we are under a duty to disclose or share your personal data in order to comply with any legal obligation, or in order to enforce or apply our Terms of Use or terms and conditions of supply and other agreements; or to protect the rights, property, or safety of Firm Name, our customers, or others. This includes exchanging information with other companies and organisations for the purposes of fraud protection and credit risk reduction.

### **Where we store your personal data**

The data that we collect from you may be transferred to, and stored at, a destination outside the European Economic Area ("EEA"). It may also be processed by staff operating outside the EEA who work for us or for one of our suppliers. Such staff maybe engaged in, among other things, the fulfilment of your order, the processing of your payment details and the provision of support services. By submitting your personal data, you agree to this transfer, storing or processing. We will take all steps reasonably necessary to ensure that your data is treated securely and in accordance with this privacy policy.

All information you provide to us is stored on our secure servers. Any payment transfers will be encrypted using SSL technology. Where we have given you (or where you have chosen) a password which enables you to access certain parts of our site, you are responsible for keeping this password confidential. We ask you not to share a password with anyone.

Unfortunately, the transmission of information via the internet is not completely secure. Although we will do our best to protect your personal data, we cannot guarantee the security of your data transmitted to our site: any transmission is at your own risk. Once we have received your information, we will use strict procedures and security features to try and prevent unauthorised access.

### **Retention of your data**

We will only keep your personal data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements. To determine the appropriate retention period for personal data, we consider the amount, nature, and sensitivity of the personal data, the potential risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure of your personal data, the purposes for which we process your personal data and whether we can achieve those purposes through other means, and the applicable legal requirements. When you leave us as a client, we shall agree a data retention period with you and after expiry of this period, your personal data shall be deleted.

### **Your rights**

You have the right to ask us not to process your personal data for marketing purposes. We will inform you (before collecting your data) if we intend to use your data for such purposes or if we intend to disclose your information to any third party for such purposes. You can exercise your right to prevent such processing by checking certain boxes on the forms we use to collect your data. You can also exercise the right at any time by contacting us at [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk).

Our site may, from time to time, contain links to and from the websites of our partner networks, advertisers, and affiliates. If you follow a link to any of these websites, please note that these websites have their own privacy policies and that we do not accept any responsibility or liability for these policies. Please check these policies before you submit any personal data to these websites.

Under the GDPR You have the following specific rights in respect of the personal data we process:

1. The right to be informed about how we use personal data - This Privacy Statement explains who we are; the purposes for which we process personal data and our legitimate interests in so doing; the categories of data we process; third party disclosures; and details of any transfers of personal data outside the UK
2. The right of access to the personal data we hold. In most cases this will be free of charge and must be provided within one month of receipt
3. The right to rectification where data are inaccurate or incomplete. In such cases we shall make any amendments or additions within one month of your request
4. The right to erasure of personal data, but only in very specific circumstances, typically where the personal data are no longer necessary in relation to the purpose for which it was originally collected or processed; or, in certain cases where we have relied on consent to process the data, when that consent is withdrawn and there is no other legitimate reason for continuing to process that data; or when the individual objects to the processing and there is no overriding legitimate interest for continuing the processing.

5. The right to restrict processing, for example while we are reviewing the accuracy or completeness of data or deciding on whether any request for erasure is valid. In such cases we shall continue to store the data, but not further process it until such time as we have resolved the issue
6. The right to data portability which, subject to a number of qualifying conditions, allows individuals to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes across different services
7. The right to object in cases where processing is based on legitimate interests, where our requirement to process the data is overridden by the rights of the individual concerned; or for the purposes of direct marketing (including profiling); or for processing for purposes of scientific / historical research and statistics, unless this is for necessary for the performance of a public interest task
8. Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling

Please contact our data protection officer at [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk) for more information about the GDPR and your rights under Data Protection law.

If you have a complaint about data protection at Octagon Business Finance Ltd, please contact our data protection officer at [trisha@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:trisha@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk) Alternatively you may get in touch with our supervisory authority for data protection compliance at: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk):

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate)

### About cookies

Cookies are pieces of information that a website transfers to your computer's hard disk for record-keeping purposes. Cookies can make the internet more useful by storing information about your preferences on a particular site, such as your personal preference pages.

The use of cookies is an industry standard, and most websites use them to provide useful features for their customers. Cookies in and of themselves do not personally identify users, although they do identify a user's computer. Most browsers are initially set to accept cookies. If you would prefer, you can set yours to refuse cookies. However, you may not be able to take full advantage of a website if you do so.

We use the following cookies:

Cookie Description	Purpose
Analytics	Tracking and Web site performance, these are non-essential and visitors can opt out of these cookies by not giving consent

### **Changes to our privacy policy**

Any changes we may make to our privacy policy in the future will be posted on this page and, where appropriate, notified to you by e-mail. Please check back frequently to see any updates or changes to our privacy policy.

### **Contact**

Questions, comments, and requests regarding this privacy policy are welcomed and should be addressed to [info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk](mailto:info@octagonbusinessfinance.co.uk)

Policy Last updated: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025