

MID-NORTHUMBERLAND u3a

Policy 11b. Privacy Statement and Consent (amended Sept 2025)

Mid Northumberland u3a (hereafter 'the u3a') treats your privacy rights seriously. This privacy policy sets out how we will deal with your 'personal information', that is, information that could identify, or is related to the identity of, an individual.

What personal information do we collect?

When you express an interest in becoming a member of the u3a you will be asked to provide certain information. This includes:

- Name.
- Home address.
- Email address.
- Telephone number.
- Subscription preferences.
- For those wishing to join as associate members, the name of the u3a of which you are already a member.

How do we collect this personal information?

All the information collected is obtained directly from you. This is usually at the point of your initial registration. The information will be collected via membership forms or online contact forms. At the point that you provide your personal information for membership purposes, we will also request that you sign to indicate your consent for us to store and use your data. Your consent is required to ensure our compliance with data protection legislation.

How do we use your personal information?

We use your personal information:

- To provide our u3a activities and services to you.
- For administration, planning and management of our u3a.
- To communicate with you about your group activities.
- To monitor, develop and improve the provision of our u3a activities.

We will send you messages by email, other digital methods, telephone and post to advise you of u3a activities.

Who do we share your personal information with?

We may disclose information about you, including your personal information:

- Internally - to committee members and group leaders – as required to facilitate your participation in our u3a activities.
- Externally – where we use an external membership management system and with your consent for products or services such as direct mailing for the Trust magazine (*Third Age Matters*). Where such systems are used, the committee has scrutinised the Terms and Conditions of each supplier and judged that their digital and physical systems and procedures are secure.
- If we have a statutory duty to disclose it for other legal and regulatory reasons.

Where we need to share your information outside of the u3a we will seek your permission and inform you as to who the information will be shared with and for what purpose.

How long do we keep your personal information?

We will retain your personal information during the period of your membership of the u3a and delete/destroy it when you advise us you are leaving or when you fail to pay your membership fee.

The exceptions to this are instances where there may be legal or insurance circumstances that require information to be held for longer whilst this is investigated or resolved. Where this is the case then the member/s will be informed as to how long the information will be held for and when it is deleted.

How your information can be updated or corrected

The u3a does not require annual membership renewal forms so, to ensure the information we hold is accurate and up to date, members need to inform the u3a as to any changes to their personal information. You can do this by contacting the membership secretary. You can send a message via the contact page on the website.

Should you wish to view the information that the u3a holds on you, you can make this request by contacting the membership secretary – as detailed above. There may be certain circumstances where we are not able to comply with this request. This would include where the information may contain references to another individual or for legal, investigative or security reasons. Otherwise we will usually respond within 14 days of the request being made.

How do we store your personal information?

We have in place a range of security safeguards to protect your personal information against loss or theft, as well as unauthorised access, disclosure, copying, use, or modification. Security measures include technological measures such as Secure

Socket Layer (SSL) encryption, which creates a secure connection with your browser when you register and login into our online services.

Our website has built in security measures and, in any case, does not hold your personal data. We commit to holding members' personal information securely and disposing of it, when this is appropriate, in a timely and secure manner, e.g. shredding.

Availability and changes to this policy

This policy is available on the website. This policy may change from time to time. If we make any material changes we will make members aware of this via the newsletter and the monthly members' meetings.