

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

From May 2018, Data Protection law has changed and GDPR has come into force

This change affects every organisation including the WI. It means that we must be even more transparent with your information and have your explicit consent for some things. You may have had letters or emails from other organisations that you belong to asking you to confirm your agreement to stay on their mailing list.

A lot of what the WI does is covered as we are a membership organisation and we do not share your information with any third parties.

However, there are some extra things that we do that aren't explicitly covered under your membership contract. We have to ask you to say formally that you do or don't want us to hold and/or use some personal data.

This includes taking and using photographs, celebrating birthdays and using your name or photograph in articles in West Sussex News, WI Life or local newspapers or magazines.

Up to now, we have been able to use something called "Presumed Consent". For example, if you put your contact details on a sign up sheet, we could assume that because you had written it down, you were happy for us to use it. We are not allowed to do this anymore.

We need to ask everyone to sign a consent form which clearly asks you to say yes or no to consent to a number of activities.

Unfortunately under the new regulations, we have to prove that we have your consent rather than you just saying it is ok.

Whilst we know that this seems like overkill and totally unnecessary for the WI, the law does not discriminate between the size or type of organisation.

If we fail to comply with the new law, the individual WIs run the risk of being fined by the Information Commissioners Office who are the regulating body.

So could we please ask for everyone's help in getting the forms signed and updating our records.