

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)

GDPR comes into force on 25 May.

GDPR is an EU regulation that, among other things, aims to give individuals control of their personal data. Its requirements affect all organisations storing personal data - and that includes many ThenMedia (TM) customers.

Organisations storing personal data already have obligations. GDPR extends these. There will now be a lawful basis for storing personal data which, in many (though not all) cases, will require the explicit permission of an individual. Individuals will have the right:

- to know what data is being stored about them and for what purpose,
- to examine any data stored about them and withdraw permission for its storage at any time,
- to have personal data stored safely and securely and not shared with any third party without explicit permission.

All TM website/cloud owners or operators holding personal information (including names, email addresses, home addresses etc.) should consider the implications of GDPR. TM customers may have parent organisations that can advise, or there are many available online resources, including the following:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/general_data_protection_regulation

<https://www.eugdpr.org/eugdpr.org.html>

<https://ico.org.uk/media/1624219/preparing-for-the-gdpr-12-steps.pdf>

<https://www.tmcpc.org.uk/about/data-protection> (for Chrestos customers)

Responsibility for understanding and applying the regulations lies with the holder of personal information. TM cannot claim legal expertise in the regulations but is happy to talk to customers about compliance with GDPR.

TM already provides for the safe and secure storage of personal data. Its software runs on a customised version of Linux, with MySQL and PHP/Javascript used for storage and retrieval. TM servers are protected by FortiGate industrial strength firewalls and access to commonly exploited ports is restricted to qualified TM staff. TM servers are hosted securely at an established Data Centre in Staffordshire, UK. TM servers are regularly backed-up at the Data Centre and offsite at TM. TM staff are aware of the requirements of GDPR and treat customer data with respect at all times.

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