



CENTRE FOR
FORENSIC HOPE

RESEARCH · LIVED EXPERIENCE · RENEWAL

*Improving lives in forensic communities
through the advancement of hope*

Privacy Policy

How we collect, use, and protect your information

Version 1.2 · July 2026

Centre For Forensic Hope Ltd · A company limited by guarantee · Non-profit making

Company number: 17294992

"Your privacy is not a compliance exercise. It is a commitment."

forensichope.org.uk

1. Who We Are and How to Contact Us

1.1 The data controller is Centre For Forensic Hope Ltd (“the Centre”, “we”, “us”), a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.

1.2 You can contact us about any privacy matter at: enquiries@forensichope.org.uk or by writing to the Centre Director, Centre for Forensic Hope, enquiries@forensichope.org.uk.

1.3 ICO registration. The Centre is registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) as a data controller under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Our registration reference is **ZC189227**. This policy sets out how we handle personal data in accordance with those obligations.

A note on lived experience data

Information about a person’s lived experience of forensic settings or incarceration — including their conviction history, detention history, or the fact of their Lived Experience Membership — is among the most sensitive information we hold. We treat it with the highest level of care, restrict access to it strictly, and will never disclose it without your explicit consent. This is not just a legal obligation — it is a core commitment of the Centre. The specific protections that apply are set out in section 5 of this policy.

2. What Personal Data We Collect and Why

2.1 Membership. When you apply for or hold membership of the Centre, we collect and process: your name, email address, and (for paid tiers) payment information processed via Stripe; your membership tier and member ID; your join date, renewal date, and membership status; for Lived Experience Members (LCFH): the fact of your self-declaration of lived experience — and nothing more; for Organisational Members: the names and email addresses of nominated staff members; any post-nominal letters or designations you hold within the Centre; and your Hopeful Minds meeting access token.

2.2 Member directory. The member directory is entirely consent-based. You will only appear in it if you have actively chosen to do so. You can withdraw consent and remove yourself at any time through your member dashboard.

2.3 The Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG). If you are a member of the LEAG, we additionally hold: records of your appointment, term, and any reappointment; meeting attendance records and any formal recommendations you contribute to; remuneration and expenses records; and any accessibility requirements you have shared with us.

2.4 Research and training. If you participate in Centre research or training: we will collect only the data described in the participant information sheet provided to you before your involvement begins; participation is always voluntary and based on your informed consent, which you may withdraw at any time; and anonymised or aggregated research data may be retained for longer periods.

2.5 Website and communications. When you use our website (forensichope.org.uk) or contact us, we may collect: your name and email address when you use a contact or enquiry form; technical data such as IP address, browser type, and pages visited; and email correspondence you send to us. We do not use third-party analytics trackers or advertising cookies. Our website also generates an anonymous, real-time count of how many visitors are currently browsing and which pages they are on. This count is derived from

a temporary, randomly generated identifier held only for the duration of your browser tab — it is not a cookie, is never linked to your name, account, or IP address, and is discarded the moment you close the tab. We use it solely for our own operational awareness of site activity.

2.6 Member Perspectives articles. If you submit a Member Perspectives article, we collect the content of your submission and your name as author. We will contact you before publishing anything under your name and you may withdraw or amend a submission at any time before publication.

3. Our Lawful Basis for Processing

We rely on the following lawful bases under UK GDPR:

- **Contract** — processing necessary to administer your membership, provide member benefits, and manage your account (Article 6(1)(b));
- **Legitimate interests** — processing necessary for the Centre's operational administration, communications with members, governance activities, and understanding of website usage (Article 6(1)(f));
- **Legal obligation** — processing required to comply with company law, tax law, or other legal obligations (Article 6(1)(c));
- **Consent** — processing for the member directory, marketing communications, and any other processing where we ask for your consent (Article 6(1)(a)). You may withdraw consent at any time.

Special category and criminal convictions data

Information relating to a person's lived experience of forensic settings or incarceration may constitute special category data or criminal convictions data under Article 10 UK GDPR and Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018. Where we process such data, we rely on: your explicit consent (Article 9(2)(a)); and substantial public interest (Article 9(2)(g) / Schedule 1, paragraph 6 DPA 2018) for processing in connection with the Centre's objects.

4. How Long We Keep Your Data

Data type	Retention period	Reason
Membership records	Duration of membership + 6 years	Legal and contractual obligations
Lived Experience self-declaration	Duration of LCFH membership only	Deleted on resignation, lapse, or termination
LEAG records	Duration of appointment + 6 years	Remuneration, governance, and legal obligations
Payment records	7 years from transaction	HMRC requirement
Research data (identified)	As stated in participant information sheet	Research ethics requirements
Research data (anonymised)	Indefinitely	Academic and public benefit

Data type	Retention period	Reason
Member Perspectives articles (published)	Until withdrawal requested	Member consent and legitimate interests
Website / enquiry correspondence	2 years from last contact	Operational purposes
Anonymous live-visitor presence data	Duration of browser tab only	Never stored — exists only in-memory while you browse

5. Specific Protections for People with Lived Experience

These protections are absolute. The following commitments are not subject to discretion or exception by individual staff members or volunteers. They are enforced through our Code of Conduct, Constitution, and the terms of access for anyone who works with or for the Centre. Breach of these protections is treated as serious misconduct.

5.1 No disclosure without explicit consent. We will never disclose to any third party that a specific person holds Lived Experience Membership, has participated in the LEAG, or has any personal history of forensic involvement, without that person's explicit, informed, and freely given consent to that specific disclosure.

5.2 No verification of lived experience. Lived Experience Membership is granted on self-declaration. We do not ask for, store, or attempt to verify the nature, circumstances, or details of your forensic involvement. You define your own lived experience.

5.3 No outing. No member, staff member, contractor, LEAG member, Advisory Board member, or volunteer of the Centre may disclose another person's conviction history, detention history, diagnosis, or lived experience status without that person's explicit prior consent. This applies in all contexts. Breach of this obligation is grounds for termination of membership and removal from any role.

5.4 Separation of lived experience data. The fact of your Lived Experience Membership is stored separately from your general member record. Access to the field recording your LCFH status is restricted to the Centre Director.

5.5 Directory opt-in only. Your lived experience status will never appear in the member directory unless you have specifically and separately consented to display it. Your membership tier (including LCFH) is not shown in the directory by default.

5.6 Research safeguards. Any research involving people with lived experience of forensic settings is conducted under a written research ethics framework that includes: informed consent with the right to withdraw at any point; the right to review and approve any direct quotations attributed to you; anonymisation by default unless you explicitly consent to identification; and a named contact for any concerns.

5.7 LEAG confidentiality. Information shared in LEAG meetings is treated as strictly confidential. Minutes are circulated only to LEAG members and the Centre Director. Board members receive summary reports from the LEAG Chair but not verbatim records of personal disclosures made in meetings.

5.8 Accessible privacy processes. If you wish to exercise any of your data rights, you do not need to explain or justify your forensic background to do so. Contact us at enquiries@forensichope.org.uk.

6. Data Processors and International Transfers

We use a small number of carefully selected third-party data processors. We have data processing agreements in place with each processor. We do not sell your data and do not share it with third parties for marketing purposes.

Processor	Purpose	Location	Safeguard
Supabase	Member database, authentication, and anonymous live-visitor presence	EU (data stored in EU region)	EU Standard Contractual Clauses
Stripe	Payment processing for paid membership tiers	USA / EU	Stripe's standard DPA; EU SCCs where applicable
Vercel	Website hosting and serverless functions	Global CDN; primarily USA	Vercel DPA; EU SCCs

Where data is transferred outside the UK or EEA, we ensure appropriate safeguards are in place in accordance with UK GDPR Chapter V. We do not share personal data with any law enforcement agency unless required to do so by law.

7. Your Rights

Under UK GDPR, you have the following rights in relation to your personal data:

- **Right of access.** You can request a copy of the personal data we hold about you. We will respond within one month.
- **Right to rectification.** You can ask us to correct inaccurate or incomplete data.
- **Right to erasure.** You can ask us to delete your personal data in certain circumstances.
- **Right to restrict processing.** You can ask us to pause processing your data while a dispute is resolved.
- **Right to data portability.** Where processing is based on consent or contract and carried out by automated means, you can ask for your data in a structured, machine-readable format.
- **Right to object.** You can object to processing based on legitimate interests.
- **Right to withdraw consent.** Where processing is based on consent, you can withdraw it at any time.
- **Rights related to automated decision-making.** We do not make decisions about you using solely automated processes.

To exercise any of these rights, contact us at enquiries@forensichope.org.uk. We will respond within one month. If you are not satisfied with how we have handled a privacy concern, you have the right to complain to the ICO at ico.org.uk or by calling 0303 123 1113. Our own registration reference with the ICO is ZC189227.

8. Cookies and Website Tracking

Our website (forensichope.org.uk) does not use third-party analytics services, advertising cookies, or tracking pixels. We do not sell data derived from website usage. Our website uses only functional cookies necessary to operate the site, including session tokens required for member login.

We use one additional, non-cookie mechanism: an anonymous, real-time visitor presence feature that shows how many people are currently browsing the site and which pages they are viewing. Each browser tab is assigned a random, temporary identifier that exists only in that tab's memory — it is not a cookie, is not written to your device's storage, is never linked to your identity, IP address, or any personal data, and disappears the moment the tab is closed. No historical log of individual visits is created or retained; the feature only ever reflects who is on the site at that exact moment. This is used solely for our own internal operational awareness and is not shared with any third party.

If we introduce any non-essential cookies or third-party analytics tools in the future, we will update this policy and seek your consent before deploying them.

9. How We Protect Your Data

We take the security of your personal data seriously and have implemented appropriate technical and organisational measures, including: encryption of all data in transit (TLS) and at rest; role-based access controls; separate storage of lived experience status with restricted access; payment data processed directly by Stripe and never stored on our own systems; and periodic review of security arrangements.

In the event of a personal data breach that is likely to result in a risk to your rights and freedoms, we will notify the ICO within 72 hours of becoming aware and will notify affected individuals where required by law.

10. Children

Our services are not directed at children under the age of 13. We do not knowingly collect personal data from children under 13. Where Student Membership is held by a person under 18, we apply additional care to the processing of their data and will seek parental or guardian consent where required by law.

11. Changes to This Policy

We may update this policy from time to time. Where changes are material, we will notify members by email before they take effect and publish the updated policy at forensichope.org.uk with a revised version number and date.

Privacy Policy v1.2 · July 2026 · Centre For Forensic Hope Ltd · A company limited by guarantee · Non-profit making · ICO registration: ZC189227 · Data controller contact: enquiries@forensichope.org.uk · forensichope.org.uk