

Make a complaint about your personal information

Make a complaint to us about an organisation's use of your personal information – for example if they haven't allowed you to see it or you want to complain about how they are handling or processing it.

By 'personal information' we mean information that contains your name or something else that could identify you.

About your complaint

What is your complaint about?

- Accessing my personal information
- The way an organisation is handling/processing my personal information

(Accessing my personal information only):

The organisation ...

- didn't respond to my request
- refused my request
- sent only some of the information I asked for
- took too long to send me my information
- Something else

Please specify

(The way an organisation is handling/processing my personal information only):

The organisation ...

- won't delete or remove information it holds about me
- won't correct information it holds about me
- keeps contacting me for marketing purposes
- keeps making automated decisions or profiling me

- has lost personal information, or hasn't kept personal information secure
- has used my personal information without my consent
- has used my personal information in a way I didn't expect
- won't let me move my data to another service provider
- Something else

Please specify

[REDACTED]

Date of your complaint

The date you discovered the problem, or first made your request to the organisation

19th March 2019

Supporting evidence (you can write and/or add documents)

We'll need a copy of letters or emails you've sent to the organisation, and any responses from them

My suspension was leaked to the press by Labour before I was informed - for a rule that does not exist.

I lodged my complaint with Labour's National Executive Committee (NEC) and the Disputes Dept on 19th March - because the Party leaked my suspension to the Jewish News five days before they sent me the letter about it.

I had seen the Jewish News article of the 11th March stating that I was suspended by Labour. [At that point Labour had not said anything to me about suspension.] I had written to the Jewish News (JN) pointing out a number of inaccuracies in the article, including the fact I had not been suspended. My letter was ignored; a JN reporter had rung me, who seemed disinterested in my complaint, only asking if "I thought Labour was doing enough to combat anti-Semitism!", to which I had replied that "there was virtually no anti-Semitism". I wrote to the JN Editor again. Again, my letter was ignored. I even went so far as to lodge a complaint against JN with IPSO over the article, because of its slanderous and inaccurate content.

Then, on the 16th March, five days after the Jewish News had run the story, I received notice from Labour that I really was suspended. The letter pointed out that the Labour Party's investigation process operates confidentially and that

"The Party will not share information about the case publicly." Apparently, it will.

[What is even more galling is that I have been suspended for a rule that does not exist. The letter states that I may have breached rule 2.1.8 . On consulting the rulebook (which can be found at <http://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/2018-RULE-BOOK.pdf>), I discovered that there was no rule 2.1.8]

The letter informing me of the suspension was dated 13th March. I did not receive it until the 16th March, when it was emailed to me on the Saturday afternoon from Labour HQ. I therefore only received notice of my suspension five days after the offending article appeared in the JN on the 11th March.

I wrote to Labour's Disputes Unit on 19th March asking for an explanation. To date, I have had no response to this email, not even an acknowledgement. [However, they have been in touch to clarify matters relating to a query of mine - stating that I am no longer entitled to attend Constituency Labour Party meetings, so the Disputes Dept are clearly getting my emails]

A copy of the JN article, the letter of suspension and email correspondence is attached. As to what this disciplinary action signifies and as to how the matter of my alleged misconduct will be investigated and judged upon, I am yet in the dark.

Because since the 19th October, two weeks after I received my initial Notice of Investigation from the Labour Party, I have been asking for a copy of the Party's disciplinary policy and procedures, and have lodged numerous complaints over the Party's refusal to provide these.

I have pointed out to the NEC on several occasions that "this is setting Labour apart from virtually every other civic body and trade union in the UK; even the GMB, no great lover of civil rights and social justice, provides one to its members on request. "

I have also pointed out to the NEC that my human rights of freedom of expression according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are being undermined by the Party's actions. I referred them to Articles 18-21, which sanctions the so-called "constitutional liberties", with spiritual, public, and political freedoms, such as freedom of thought, opinion, religion and conscience, word, and peaceful association of the individual. I have asked why Labour, the party of social justice, seeks to deny these rights.

I made a statement about the Jewish News coverage which I issued as a press release to over 100 journalists. I said "The JN article about me is woefully inaccurate. I never said Israel invented the Holocaust, a plainly ridiculous assertion, when 6 million innocents were murdered in the crime of last century. I said it "exaggerates" according to the Merriam-Webster definition of "over-emphasises". Furthermore, I have not "fought the verdict in Court". I attended

Need help?

Call our helpline

0303 123 1113

an appeal hearing convened by the GMB at my request. I would invite readers to watch the video at tinyurl.com/gmbihra if they are interested in the truth behind these smears and to read my statement at tinyurl.com/gmbstatement. And for the Labour Party to have suspended me for a rule that does not exist is plainly ludicrous. That they leaked the story beforehand to JN is a flagrant breach of data protection regulations. I am very annoyed. I begin to believe Labour HQ, like the GMB, is infested with Zionists. Jews need to beware what is being done in their name by these zealots. For Zionism is racism. And the damage they, and others in the Zionist Jewish Labour Movement, are doing to Labour, is immeasurable. Only Jewish Voice for Labour should speak for Jews in the Party."

I remain angry that Labour has leaked my personal details to the Jewish News

On a quite separate basis I want to complain to the ICO about Labour's failure to respond to my Subject Access Request. I wrote to the Data Protection officer at Labour on the 20th March seeking a SAR. I received an automatic acknowledgement of my email only. Since then, nothing.

I would like to mention that numerous others have also recently been damaged by Labour leaks. The journalist Asa Wistanley suffered a data breach in early March, as noted in this article <https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/ali-abunimah/labour-party-investigates-electronic-intifada-journalist>. That article indicates that Labour HQ has been leaking data for three years.

In addition, Jackie Walker, Pam Bromley and Sian Bloor have also recently suffered breaches. Some have complained to the ICO as well. There would appear to be a pattern here, as most of these breaches have occurred since the beginning of March. This is about the same time that Labour's General Secretary Jennie Formby (who usually has a firm grip on HQ affairs) started treatment for breast cancer. I suspect that now Labour HQ is losing control of its staff.

I am in touch with all the above individuals, should the ICO want to contact them for comment.

What more can the organization you're complaining about do to resolve your complaint?

1. They can issue a public statement apologising for the way I have been treated over the data breach.
2. They can find out who is passing information to the Jewish News (and for the others mentioned above, the Jewish Chronicle and The Times newspaper) and dismiss or expell them from the Labour Party to prevent further breaches
3. They can comply with my SAR

Organisation your complaint is about

Organisation name

The Labour Party

Organisation address

Head Office, Southside, 105 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QT

Contact name

Full name of the person you have contacted at the organisation, if you have one

Nareser Osei, Acting Head of Disputes

Email

Email of the organisation or the person you contacted, if you have one

disputes@labour.org.uk and dataprotection@labour.org.uk

Phone

For the person you spoke to, if you have one

The Labour Governance & Legal Unit can be contacted on 020 7783 1498

About you

Your name

Full name of the person completing this form. We need your name, even if you're acting on behalf of someone else

Peter Gregson

I'm acting on behalf of someone else

(If you're acting on behalf of someone else only) Name of person you're acting on behalf of

We'll need to know you're allowed to act on their behalf. You can provide a signed document from them, or get the person you're acting on behalf of to call us

I/person making this complaint was 16 or under

Tick if the person making the complaint was aged 16 or under at the time they made their request or complaint to the organization. We use this to understand if the complaint relates to the rights of children

Email

The address you want us to use for correspondence about this complaint

Address, including postcode

Phone

Optional. Useful if we need to contact you about your complaint

Declaration

- I understand that the ICO may need to share the information I have provided so they can look into my complaint, and have indicated any information or documents that I don't want the ICO to share.
- I understand the ICO will keep the information relating to my complaint, including any documents for two years, or longer if necessary.
- If I am making a complaint on someone else's behalf, I confirm that I am allowed to act on their behalf.

I agree

Sending your form to us

By email

1. Fill in this form and save it to your computer.
2. Open a new email, with 'Personal data complaint' in the subject line.
3. If you have all your supporting documents electronically, attach them to your email.
4. Email the completed form to casework@ico.org.uk

By post

If you have only paper copies of any of your supporting documents, print this form and post it with all your supporting documents to:

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

Please note that we cannot guarantee security of forms or any attachments sent by email.