

Data Subject Access Requests

Under Article 15 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), organisations must respond to Data Subject Access Requests (DSARs) within one month.

As data volumes grow and organisations rely in multiple systems such as Microsoft 365, collaboration platforms and cloud storage, identifying and reviewing relevant personal data can quickly become complex and resource-intensive. 365

Many organisations initially manage DSARs internally, but as volumes increase this can place significant pressure on legal, HR and IT teams. Grant Thornton provides a managed DSAR service combining advanced technology, forensic data expertise and structured review workflows to help organisations respond quickly, consistently and defensibly. Our services are flexible and can be tailored to suit your organisation.

Technology Enablement

Your internal team uses our secure review platform and automated tools to accelerate DSAR responses.

Managed DSAR Service

Grant Thornton manages the entire DSAR workflow from collection through to disclosure.

Accelerated AI Review

AI-assisted workflows significantly reduce review time, enabling rapid DSAR responses while maintaining human validation.

Our managed service model allows organisations to handle both individual DSARs and high volumes of requests.

Typical use cases include:

- Employee DSARs arising from HR disputes or grievances
- Regulatory requests requiring rapid identification of personal data
- High-volume DSAR programmes requiring a repeatable process
- Organisations seeking to reduce the burden on internal legal or HR teams

Building a Defensible DSAR Process

Our approach ensures that every DSAR response is supported by:

1. Documented search criteria
2. Structured review workflows
3. Clear redaction decisions
4. A complete audit trail

This provides you with confidence that requests are handled consistently, proportionately and in line with regulatory expectations.



A workflow tailored to your needs

Targeted Collection

Identifying and collecting data from relevant sources only, ensuring a focused cost efficient review.

Data Processing

We rapidly process the data ensuring that it is available for immediate review.

PII Detection

Identify personal and sensitive data using keywords, regular expressions and AI techniques with over 90% accuracy in identifying relevant documents.



Redaction

Automated redaction paired with manual review guarantees DSAR compliance and safeguards against disclosing sensitive third party information.

Quality Assurance

Our bespoke live dashboards identify anomalies in the review as they arise ensuring constant oversight and control throughout the process.

Production of Documents

Consistently collate all relevant documents and securely transfer them to the data subject within the statutory time frame.

Our clients choose Grant Thornton because:

Our Forensic Technology team has extensive experience managing large and sensitive data sets in the context of investigations, litigation and regulatory matters, often involving the identification and review of millions of documents across multiple systems. This experience allows us to apply proven workflows, advanced technology and structured review processes to DSAR responses, helping organisations meet statutory deadlines while maintaining a clear and defensible audit trail.

Our work is supported by secure, enterprise-grade technology infrastructure, including EU-hosted document review platforms and advanced analytics capable of processing and analysing large volumes of information efficiently. Grant Thornton also operates a dedicated forensic technology laboratory with robust security controls, enabling the secure handling, processing and analysis of sensitive data. Together, this combination of technical capability, secure infrastructure and multidisciplinary expertise allows us to support both individual DSAR responses and high-volume managed DSAR programmes with confidence.



Mel McGovern

Head of Forensic Technology, Forensic & Investigation Services
D: +353 1 680 5893
E: Mel.McGovern@ie.gt.com



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