We employ over 4,000 people in a network of offices across the UK.

Issues circa 6 million passports

Responds to over 6 million passport validation service requests.

Other government departments and a credit-reference agency to help us check your identity. We may also pass the information you give us to UK law enforcement agencies or government departments involved in preventing fraud to help prevent or detect identity theft, fraud or other criminal activity. You can find details about the personal information we hold, how we protect it, who we pass it to and how you can get a copy of that information and other rights in our Privacy Information Notice (PIN) on our website

* <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/636e1326e90e07618e6ae553/09.22_Guidance_Booklet_IND.pdf>

**Type of Information gathered: - personal identifiable information (PII)**

* Full name
* House address
* **Race - NON**
* Gender - NON
* Date of birth - NON
* Place of birth - NON
* Contact details

**Biometric information (photo ID, fingerprints, iris scan, facial recognition data)**

* Credit card info/payment info (both for paying, but also for renewing ur passport)
* Documentary data (birth certificates, identification documents (like driver’s licences)
* Application history (previous application info for passports)
  + <https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rules-business-and-organisations/legal-grounds-processing-data/sensitive-data/what-personal-data-considered-sensitive_en#:~:text=trade%2Dunion%20membership%3B,sex%20life%20or%20sexual%20orientation>.
  + <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/uk-gdpr-guidance-and-resources/lawful-basis/a-guide-to-lawful-basis/lawful-basis-for-processing/special-category-data/>
    - Statutory and government purposes - substantial public interest conditions

Different Systems in place:

* Verification System – verify authenticity of supporting documents – needs optical character recognition technologies (OCR) to automate the process/detect issues
* Payment system – process payments, interface with banks, generates invoices and receipts
* Biometric data systems – could be lumped in with the rest of them
* Database – for all the info – needs to be secure – a database management system – to assure CIA and backup
* Processing system (more web focused)

**Describe the business of the passport office and the different types of data that are held by them. This includes what you have learnt through background research.**

The passport office is an institution that is inextricably linked with the systems of our government. Their role is to gather information about people, whether that be provided by the customer, or information gathered through other governmental departments POSSIBLE CITATION/THING. They then analyse this information, determining if it is both accurate and also meets the requirements for a valid passport. If so, they are in charge of printing and issuing said passport to the customer in question, and securely storing all the information for future use, or for verification purposes.

They hold many different types of data, most of which are counted as personal identifiable information (PII). Some of this data is considered ‘sensitive PII’, such as biometric information (photo ID, fingerprints, iris scan, facial recognition data) or information regarding racial origin or ethnicity. To process said sensitive information, the organisation is required to have ‘Reasons of substantial public interest (with a basis in law)’. An example of a substantial public interest reason would be for any ‘Statutory and government purposes’, for which the passport office would apply. While the other types of data are still PII, they are not sensitive, and the processing and security requirements are somewhat lessened, although strict privacy rights must still be enforced. Other types of data include but are not limited to: Full name, address, gender, date of birth, place of birth, contact details, payment information, documentary data (such as supporting documents like a driver’s license) and application history (regarding previous passport applications).