

Name : Daniel Mwangi Gachohi

RegNo : SIT/0015/14

Task : Assignment 2

Development of Data Protection Act

This act was developed due to very large amount of data about individuals was being collected and stored in computers and then used for unacceptable purposes which were not the intention when the data was collected. Unauthorized people could access such data and that the data might be outdated, incomplete or just plain wrong. At the beginning, the law for this matter was designed to protect individuals, against the misuse of personal data by large organizations. But evolutionary gone to a wider concern.

Data Protection (UK Data Protection Act)

The Data Protection Act 1998 was a United Kingdom Act of Parliament designed to protect personal data stored on computers or in an organised paper filing system. It enacted the EU Data Protection Directive 1995's provisions on the protection, processing and movement of data.

Under the DPA 1998, individuals had legal rights to control information about themselves. Most of the Act did not apply to domestic use, for example keeping a personal address book. Anyone holding personal data for other purposes was legally obliged to comply with this Act, subject to some exemptions. The Act defined eight data protection principles to ensure that information was processed lawfully.

It was superseded by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) on 23 May 2018. The DPA 2018 supplements the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which

came into effect on 25 May 2018. The GDPR regulates the collection, storage, and use of personal data significantly more strictly.

Privacy

Government security services and law enforcement authorities can only intercept, monitor and investigate electronic data in certain specified situations such as when preventing and detecting crime. Organizations that provide computer and telephone services (this includes not only ISPs and other telecommunications service providers but also most employers) can monitor and record communications without the consent of the users of the service in some circumstances. Organizations intercepting communications in this way are under an obligation to make all reasonable efforts to inform users that such interception may take place.

Freedom of Information

Every citizen does have rights of access to information held by bodies in the public sector such like Parliament, government departments, health authorities, universities, schools, etc. But there may be exceptions in situations such disclosures may avoided due to public interest. Public authorities are advised to adopt schemes for publication of information. (1919) Freedom of information does not mean that people can access others' personal information.