

The state representative for

privacy and

Freedom of Information

PRESS RELEASE

free

Hanseatic city

Bremen

Bremen/Bremerhaven,

March 18, 2022

The GDPR has a noticeable effect and will be felt

On the occasion of the presentation of their 4th activity report according to the General Data Protection Regulation (DSGVO) provides the State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Dr. imke summer, states that after almost four years, the GDPR has arrived in people's reality.

The GDPR has a noticeable effect

Those operated by the State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (LfDI).

data protection supervisory procedures lead to concrete improvements in the situation

affected holders of fundamental rights.

Examples include:

- the employer who had asked their employees to enclose photos of their test results in a upload corporate WhatsApp group and not just this practice but that ended all use of this provider,

- the school that gave up the project via the learning platform without involving the

Coordinate vaccination appointments for the children with custody

- and the company that allows unauthorized access to folders containing employee data locked.

In other cases, those affected could at least

achieve that the data protection deficits, according to the assurances of those responsible

Places will not repeat at least in the future.

It was like this

- at the public order office, which had collected unnecessary copies of ID cards,

- the service provider in the event industry, the lists with private landline and

handed over the cell phone numbers of his own employees to the organizer,

- and the department store detective, who snapped a photo of an alleged

Caught in the act made and this in a WhatsApp group with his

colleagues had uploaded.

The number of complaints lodged with the LfDI by those affected was as soon as it came into effect

of the GDPR has skyrocketed and since then has averaged more than nine

complaints per week.

The GDPR is noticeable

The GDPR is now also applicable to bodies that process personal data

become reality.

The number of data protection violations reported to the LfDI by those responsible

has increased continuously since the GDPR came into force on May 25, 2018. In the past year

there were 196. These include, for example, two cases in which in the health sector

Responsible: The State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Arndtstraße 1, 27570 Bremerhaven

Tel.: 0421 - 361 - 20 10 or 0471 - 596 - 20 10 • Email address: office@datenschutz.bremen.de

employed persons used patient data for their own purposes. In one case was

a patient has been contacted for private purposes via a messenger service and in which

In another case, an employee of a medical service allegedly had photos of

computer screens and forwarded for private use.

It can be expected that the number of data breaches reported to the LfDI

will increase significantly in the future, because proactive reports in the assessment of

Fines according to the GDPR are taken into account to reduce sanctions.

At the end of 2021, the LfDI could start for those registered since the GDPR came into force

to impose fines for violations of data protection law in accordance with Article 83 GDPR. For this the

Annual report five cases. Since then, seven further notifications have been made

Imposition of fines under Article 83 GDPR, four of which are already final.

"The increase in the number of complaints, the increase in those reported by responsible bodies

Data breaches and the increase in fines imposed show that the effects

of the GDPR are becoming more and more noticeable," said the State Commissioner for Data Protection and

Freedom of Information. "In our digitized society there is hardly a social one

A problem that does not at least have a data protection aspect. Whether it is in her role as

Employees, tenants or parents or whether they face the administration: The GDPR

works and protects people in all walks of life."

And here is the connection to freedom of information, to which the state commissioner for

Data Protection and Freedom of Information presented its 16th annual report: "Without whistleblowers,

so without people who inform us about social grievances, the dark field would be

of violations of the law in the area of data protection is much higher. When implementing the EU

Whistleblower Protection Policy, we must note that these important

Informants must also be comprehensively protected if they violate

uncover German law and if they of the grievances outside of a

experienced employment relationship."

Contact/enquiries:

dr Imke Sommer, telephone 0421 361-2010