

Data Protection Ireland

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Headlines

- HSE faces inquiry into two leaks of patient data, p.18
- Court dismisses challenge against DPC over investigation into Google complaint, p.19
- RSA to resume sharing crash data, p.20

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More complaints and record fines — DPC's Annual Report

The Data Protection Commission ('DPC') has published its [Annual Report for 2023](#) ('the Report'), containing in-depth coverage of complaints received, enforcements, litigation and supervisory activity.

The DPC received 11,200 new cases from individuals in 2023 (up 20% from 2022) and concluded around the same number (11,147).

3,218 of the 11,200 new cases were resolved either through the amicable resolution process or by the DPC utilising section 109 of the Data Protection Act 2018 ('DPA'). In 2023,

there was an addition to this section of the DPA, allowing the DPC to issue reprimands outside of the statutory inquiry process. The most common cases concluded this way related to controllers not responding to access requests, or failing to adequately meet their GDPR obligations in respect of customers.

The DPC received reports of 6,991 valid GDPR data breaches, representing a 20% increase (1,077) on the breach numbers reported in 2022. Despite the continuous rise in cybercrime, the most frequent cause of the breaches reported was

human error, in particular correspondence inadvertently being misdirected to the wrong recipients (52% of the overall total).

As with previous years, public sector bodies and banks accounted for the organisations with the highest number of breach notifications recorded against them, with insurance and telecom companies featuring.

The DPC concluded six domestic inquiries and imposed reprimands, compliance orders, processing bans and/or fines ranging from €22,500 to

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Meta halts AI rollout in Europe following DPC intervention

Meta has stopped training its AI models with data from the EU until further notice, thus complying with a request from the DPC which initially wanted to approve the project, but now sees a need for further discussion following protests.

The move comes after, in early June, digital rights advocacy group NOYB filed complaints in 11 Supervisory Authorities about Meta's AI plans in Europe,

requesting an urgent procedure before the plans were to be rolled out on 26th June 2024.

NOYB argued that Meta's AI plans were too vague to process user's public posts, and that the DPC was "complicit" in the rollout.

Meta was planning to use public posts, including images and videos, shared on its platforms to train AI large language

models ('LLMs') which would then be used to create generative AI "experiences."

The DPC made its request following intensive engagement with Meta.

The company said it is disappointed and that the delay in training LLMs using public content shared by adults on Facebook and Instagram will

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