

Given that all uses of personal data, except those explicitly exempted, are to count as **'processing'** under the Act, it is important to draw a clear distinction between information that is to count as *personal* (or as *personal and sensitive*) and other information.

Yet the Act is not helpful in explaining **what makes data personal**. It states that personal data are:

...data which relate to a living individual who can be identified (a) from those data, or (b) from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller.

What are **'data that relate to a living individual'**? And when do data and other information make an individual identifiable?

See *Data Protection Act 1998: Legal Guidance*, p. 15 *Data Protection Act 201998 Legal Guidance.pdf*