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CHARITY NO: NIC101239

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***"Addressing alcohol and drug related issues: reducing harm and supporting positive change"***

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**ASCERT Job Applicant Privacy Notice v1.6**

This Job Applicant Privacy Notice sets out what personal data we, ASCERT, will hold about you and how we collect and use it, during and after the recruitment process.

It applies to anyone who is applying to work for us.

Please note that we will not necessarily hold, use or share *all* of the types of personal data described in this Privacy Notice in relation to you. The specific types of data about you that we will hold, use and share will depend on the role for which you are applying, the nature of the recruitment process, how far you progress in the recruitment process and your individual circumstances.

We are required by data protection law to give you the information in this Privacy Notice. It is important that you read the Privacy Notice carefully. Should your application be successful, when you start work for us, we will provide you with another privacy notice that explains how we deal with your personal data whilst you are working for us.

ASCERT are registered as a data controller with the Information Commissioners Office and our registration number is ZA241457 and our registered address is: ASCERT, 23 Bridge St, Lisburn, BT28 1XZ.

ASCERT recognises the importance of privacy of personal information. We are responsible for the personal information we collect, use, maintain and disclose. We are therefore committed to protecting the security and privacy of this information. To ensure this accountability, we have developed a set of privacy statements, and have trained our staff about our policies and practices.

**Personal data** means any information relating to a living individual who can be identified (directly or indirectly) in particular by reference to an identifier (e.g. name, NI number, employee number, email address, physical features). It can be factual (e.g. contact details or date of birth), an opinion about an individual’s actions or behaviour, or information that may otherwise impact that individual in a personal or business capacity.

Data protection law divides personal data into two categories: ordinary personal data and special category data. Any personal data that reveals racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, physical or mental health conditions, sexual life or sexual orientation, or biometric or genetic data that is used to identify an individual is known as **special category** data. (The rest is **ordinary personal data**).

**What type of ordinary personal data do we hold about you and why?**

At the initial stages of recruitment, we collect, hold and use the following types of ordinary personal data about you:

* Information contained in your application form/covering letter, including your name, title, contact details, employment history, experience, skills, qualifications/training (including educational, vocational, driving licences where appropriate),
* Publicly available information about you, such as your business social media presence
* Selection information, including correspondence, interview notes, internal notes, the results of any written or online selection tests

If you are shortlisted for a position, or you receive a conditional offer of employment, we may collect, hold and use the following additional types of ordinary personal data about you:

* Pre-employment check information, including references and verification of qualifications
* Right to work checks and related documents

We hold and use this personal data so that we can:

* process your application and correspond with you about it;
* assess whether you have the required skills, experience, qualifications and training for a role within the company;
* make informed recruitment decisions;
* verify information provided by you;
* check and demonstrate that you have the legal right to work in the UK;
* keep appropriate records of our recruitment process and decisions;

**What are our legal grounds for using your ordinary personal data?**

Data protection law specifies the legal grounds on which we can hold and use personal data.

We rely on one or more of the following legal grounds when we process your ordinary personal data:

* We need it to take steps at your request in order to enter into a contract with you (**entry into a contract**), because by applying for a job with us you are effectively asking us to enter into a contract with you [whether this is an employment contract, a contract for services or another type of contract].
* We need it to comply with a legal obligation (**legal obligation**), e.g. the obligation not to discriminate during our recruitment process, or the obligation not to employ someone who does not have the legal right to work in the UK.
* It is necessary for our legitimate interests (or those of a third party) and your interests and fundamental rights do not override those interests (**legitimate interest**). For example, it is in our legitimate interests to review and consider your personal data (as listed above) so that we can select the most appropriate candidate for the job.

**What type of special category personal data do we hold about you, why, and on what legal grounds?**

We will only collect, hold and use limited types of special category data about you during the recruitment process, as described below.

Since special category data is usually more sensitive than ordinary personal data, we need to have an additional legal ground (as well as the legal grounds set out in the section on ordinary personal data, above) to collect, hold and use it. The additional legal grounds that we rely on to collect, hold and use your special category data are explained below for each type of special category data.

At the initial stages of recruitment, we collect, hold and use the following special category data about you:

**Equal opportunities monitoring**

Equal opportunities monitoring data which could include information about your race or ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or health. We use this information to report and monitor equality of opportunity and diversity in our recruitment process. Our additional legal ground for using this information is that it is necessary in the public interest for the purposes of equal opportunities monitoring and is in line with our Data Protection Policy.

**Adjustments for disability/medical conditions**

Information relevant to any request by you for adjustments to the recruitment process as a result of an underlying medical condition or disability. We use this information to enable us to carry out a fair, non-discriminatory recruitment process by considering/making reasonable adjustments to our process as appropriate. Our additional legal ground for using this information is that we need it to comply with a legal obligation/exercise a legal right in relation to employment – namely, the obligations not to discriminate, and to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a disability – and such use is in line with our Data Protection Policy.

If you are shortlisted for a position, or you receive a conditional offer of employment, we may collect, hold and use the following additional types of special category personal data about you:

**Pre-employment health questionnaires/medicals**

We collect information about your health in a pre-employment medical questionnaire and/or examination, as well as any information about underlying medical conditions and adjustments that you have brought to our attention. We use this information to assess whether you are fit to do the job with adjustments, to consider/arrange suitable adjustments and to comply with health and safety requirements. Our additional legal grounds for using this information are that: we need it to comply with a legal obligation/exercise a legal right in relation to employment – namely, the obligation to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a disability – and such use is in line with our Data Protection Policy; and it is needed to assess your working capacity on health grounds, subject to appropriate confidentiality safeguards.]

**Criminal records information-Access NI checks**

We may request criminal records checks from Access NI. We use this information to assess your suitability for the role and verify information provided by you. Our additional legal ground for using this information is thatyou have given us your explicit consent to do so.

**How do we collect your personal data?**

You provide us with most of the personal data about you that we hold and use, for example in your written application, by completing any assessments and during any interviews.

Some of the personal data we hold and use about you is generated from internal sources during the recruitment process. For example, [the person interviewing you may score your suitability for the role and we record the reasons for decisions made about whether or not your application is successful.]

Some of the personal data about you that we hold and use may come from external sources. For example, a recruitment agency provides us with a shortlist of candidates. If we offer you a role, we will carry out pre-employment checks, such as taking up references from past employers or education providers. We may ask an occupational health professional to report to us on your fitness to do the job. We may seek a criminal record check from Access NI. In some circumstances, we may ask the Home Office for information about your immigration status to verify your right to work in the UK. For some roles, we may also obtain information about you from publicly available sources, such as your LinkedIn profile or other media sources.

**Who do we share your personal data with?**

**Medical/occupational health professionals**

We may share information relevant to any request by you for adjustments to the recruitment process as a result of an underlying medical condition or disability with medical/occupational health professionals to enable us to identify what, if any, adjustments are needed in the recruitment process and, if you are successful, once you start work. We may also share details of disclosed medical conditions and/or answers to pre-employment health questionnaires with medical/occupational health professionals to seek a medical report about you to enable us to assess your fitness for the job and whether any adjustments are needed once you start work. This information may also be used by the medical/occupational health professionals to carry out assessments required by health and safety legislation. Our legal grounds for sharing this personal data are that: it is necessary for entry into a contract; it is in our legitimate interests to consider adjustments to enable Job Applicants to participate fully in the recruitment process and to assess the fitness for work of Job Applicants to whom we have offered jobs; and it is necessary to comply with our legal obligations/exercise legal rights in the field of employment (obligations not to discriminate, to make reasonable adjustments, to comply with health and safety requirements).

**Legal/professional advisers**

We share any of your personal data that is relevant, where appropriate, with our legal and other professional advisers, in order to obtain legal or other professional advice about matters related to you or in the course of dealing with legal disputes with you or other Job Applicants. Our legal grounds for sharing this personal data are that: it is in our legitimate interests to seek advice to clarify our rights/obligations and appropriately defend ourselves from potential claims; it is necessary to comply with our legal obligations/exercise legal rights in the field of employment; and it is necessary to establish, exercise or defend legal claims.

**Home Office**

We may share your right to work documentation with the Home Office, where necessary, to enable us to verify your right to work in the UK. Our legal ground for sharing this personal data is to comply with our legal obligation not to employ someone who does not have the right to work in the UK.

**Consequences of not providing personal data**

We only ask you to provide personal data that we need to enable us to make a decision about whether or not to offer you a role. If you do not provide particular information to us, then we will have to make a decision on whether or not to offer you a role without that information, which in some cases could result in us deciding not to recruit you. If you do not provide us with names of referees or a reference when asked, we will not usually be able to offer you the role. In addition, some of the personal data you provide to us is required by law. For example, if you do not provide us with the documentation we need to check your right to work in the UK, then we cannot by law employ you.

If you choose not to provide us with personal data requested, we will tell you about the implications of any such decision at the relevant time.

**How long will we keep your personal data?**

We will keep your personal data throughout the recruitment process.

If your application is successful, when you start work for us you will be issued with an Employee Privacy Notice which will include information about what personal data we keep from the recruitment process and how long we keep your personal data whilst you are working for us and after you have left.

We retain your personal information as per ASCERTs data retention policy and data processing register which is guided by requirements related to law and professional regulations. Your information will be stored in ASCERT offices. We destroy paper files containing personal information by shredding. We destroy electronic information by deleting it and, when the hardware is discarded, we ensure that the hard drive is physically destroyed.

We will not keep your personal data for longer than we need it for our legitimate purposes.

We take into account the following criteria when determining the appropriate retention period for Employees’ personal data:

* the amount, nature, and sensitivity of the personal data
* the risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure
* the purposes for which we process your personal data and how long we need the particular data to achieve these purposes
* how long the personal data is likely to remain accurate and up-to-date
* for how long the personal data might be relevant to possible future legal claims
* any applicable legal, accounting, reporting or regulatory requirements that specify how long certain records must be kept

In all cases, we will not keep your personal data for longer than we need it for our legitimate purposes.

**References**

If you give us details of referees, we require you to inform them what personal data of theirs you are giving to us. You must also give them our contact details and let them know that they should contact us if they have any queries about how we will use their personal data.

**Where do we store your information?**

For technical reasons we may, on occasion decide to use the services of a supplier outside the European Economic Area (EEA), which means that your personal information is transferred, processed and stored outside the EEA**.**  
By submitting your personal data, you agree to this transfer, storing and processing at a location outside the European Economic Area.  
  
At ASCERT we have taken all steps reasonably necessary to make sure that your data is treated securely and in accordance with this privacy statement. We have done our best to protect your personal data, and ensured that it will be held in compliance with European data protection regulations.

**Your rights**

You have a number of legal rights relating to your personal data, which are outlined here:

* **The right to make a subject access request.** This enables you to receive certain information about how we use your data, as well as to receive a copy of the personal data we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.
* **The right to request that we correct incomplete or inaccurate** personal data that we hold about you.
* **The right to request that we delete or remove** personal data that we hold about you where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal data where you have exercised your right to object to processing (see below).
* **The right to object to our processing** your personal data where we are relying on our legitimate interest (or those of a third party), where we cannot show a compelling reason to continue the processing
* **The right to request that we restrict our processing** of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of personal data about you, for example if you want us to establish its accuracy or the reason for processing it.
* **The right to withdraw your consent to us using your personal data**. As described above, we do not normally rely on your consent as the legal ground for using your personal data. However, if we *are* relying on your consent as the legal ground for using any of your personal data and you withdraw your consent, you also have the right to request that we delete or remove that data, if we do not have another good reason to continue using it.
* **The right to request that we transfer** your personal data to another party, in respect of data that you have provided where our legal ground for using the data is that it is necessary for the performance of a contract or that you have consented to us using it (this is known as the right to “data portability”).

**Further contact information**

In an attempt to ensure this privacy statement is clear and concise, it does not provide exhaustive detail of every aspect of how we collect or use your personal data. If you require further information please contact our information officer at:

Information Officer, ASCERT, 23 Bridge Street, Lisburn, N.Ireland, BT28 1XZ

Email [dataprotection@ascert.biz](mailto:dataprotection@ascert.biz) Tel: 0800 2545 123

Our Information Officer will attempt to answer any questions or concerns.

**I hereby acknowledge that I have read ASCERT’s Privacy Statement (Version 1.6) and understand and agree the data ASCERT gather and hold my personal information in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998) and the General Data Protection Regulations (2018).**

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| **SIGNED:** | |
| **PRINT NAME:** | **DATE:** |