**What is GDPR?**

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a European Union regulation that will replace the current Data Protection Act 1998 and comes into force on 25th May 2018.

GDPR has been in development since 2012 by the European Union Parliament and the Trust to harmonise and strengthen the rights of data subject across Europe, including when data is transferred to third party countries.

The Regulation enhances the rights of individuals whose personal data is processed by an entity and allows for new changes such as the right to be forgotten and right to erasure.

It also provides for increased accountability and processes to demonstrate compliance.  For example; we may be required to either appoint a Data Protection Officer (DPO) or designate individual to take proper responsibility for the important task of data protection compliance.  Also the requirements for consent are now much higher.

All breaches will have to be reported to the Information Commissioners Office within 72 hours and the potential fines for breaches are up to €20 million.

**How can I find out more?**

Over the next 5 months the Coleford Town Council will be undertaking a project to ensure compliance with all the GDPR requirements by 25 May 2018.  This page shall be updated when further information becomes available.

In the meantime, should you wish to know more about the GDPR, please visit the dedicated webpage on the ICO website: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/>

**Also, their over-arching Statement on Privacy, as follows, on Home Page:**

We are committed to both the concepts of transparency and open government but recognise the importance of protecting the privacy of our customers and employees. We intend to achieve this by ensuring that we have clear and understandable rules about the information we collect, hold and share.

Our aim is to ensure that we have the right information to allow us to improve and continue to improve customer service and by managing that information effectively and efficiently, to provide the best value services for customer.