

Amicus ITS scores top marks for GDPR event



12th July 2017

Amicus ITS scores 5 stars from every delegate as it holds its first symposium on GDPR with local Hampshire organisations



Amicus ITS held the first of three scheduled round table events on Tuesday to discuss the EU's General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and its potential impact for Hampshire organisations.

The closed discussion provided a vital and timely opportunity for organisations from a mixture of sectors, along with institutional bodies, to get a fuller understanding of the long reach of the new legal requirements, regardless of Brexit.

Comments after the event from delegates included the following:

- ★ *"Very informative. Lots of clarity on guidelines and next steps"*
- ★ *"Well presented by a subject matter expert"*
- ★ *"Very relevant content, well presented with excellent subject knowledge shown by JP. Lots of food for thought and a timely reminder".*
- ★ *"The information provided has clarified much of the 'perceived grey' areas. It has also raised organisational questions but has been a good process to go through to go back and carry out an assessment of our current standing"*

The basis of Amicus ITS' session used the UK's Information Commissioner's Office's 12-step plan formulated as it's springboard. The ensuing discussions reflected a deepening interest and concerns from the business community to get to grips with the new legislation.

The session's speaker and Director of Technology, Security & Governance at Amicus ITS, **JP Norman** welcomed the chance to share his specialist knowledge as a data expert with the Hampshire audience. He noted: *"It will no doubt take a few years for the UK to create its own version of GDPR to update the existing Data Protection Act 1998. The key enhancement here is*

the new rights of individuals. These demand renewed scrutiny of data processes, accountability, transparency and procedure to enable compliance with the new standards. There is however simply no escape for any organisation which handles the data of EU citizens. The benchmark of 'adequacy' in data protection just gets a lot tougher."

JP Norman added: *"25th May 2018 will hit UK businesses and institutions faster than they can imagine. It is being said by analysts that 'data' is the new gold. The new legislation carries a huge weight of increased accountability and responsibility which puts the individual first. This is great for employees but demands extra diligence by organisations and the need for a Data Controller in every organisation and a Data Protection Officer in some."*

"GDPR is forcing a different way of thinking around data management. The new world of data after May 2018 is framed by seriously large penalties and the increased risk of enforcement notices from the ICO for data breaches. This should act as a fundamental wake up call for all Directors. Remember, it is not the size of your organisation that is important but the amount of data you process that determines your increased risk of liability."



Event organiser, **Lindsay Burden**, Marketing Manager for Amicus ITS commented: *"Our audience came into this session with quite humble low to medium assessments of their readiness for GDPR. Gauging their response on leaving the session, it was clear that we hit a nerve and our ability to offer expert and practical advice was well received."*

Everyone acknowledged that they had a considerable climb ahead of them before seeing themselves as GDPR compliant and avoid the punishing gaze of the ICO if it came their way. But the tonic for Amicus ITS is that we provided the right forum to increase awareness, educate and fill in the gaps and offer confidence to support the necessary next steps. Each delegate was delighted to have a valuable GDPR takeaway toolkit from which to start their own audit of information back at base".

Our remaining GDPR round tables are scheduled for 12th September and then 5th December. Any organisation interested in attending should contact [Lindsay Burden](mailto:Lindsay.Burden@amicusits.co.uk) or call 02380 429429.

Any organisation seeking advice or information around GDPR should contact a member of the sales team on **+44 02380 429429** or you can email enquiries@amicusits.co.uk