



O'Brien Legal

Privacy Statement

How O'Brien Legal collects, uses and protects personal information

Last updated: 1 May 2026

O'Brien Legal is committed to protecting your privacy. We collect, use and store personal information to provide legal services and run our business. We handle this information in line with the Privacy Act 2020 and the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006.

In this Privacy Statement, "we", "our" or "us" means O'Brien Legal, a New Zealand law firm based in Auckland. We provide legal services with a focus on privacy, data, intellectual property and commercial law.

We have written this Privacy Statement in plain language. If you have questions or need anything clarified, just ask.

What personal information we collect

We may collect personal information when you:

- engage us to provide legal advice
- contact us with a query
- sign up to receive updates from us
- visit our website
- apply for a job
- attend an event
- are involved in a matter we are advising on, even if you are not our client (for example, as another lawyer, counterparty or witness)

This information may include:

- your name, contact details and job title
- your organisation or employer
- identity verification documents (for example, passport or driver licence)
- billing and payment details
- any personal information relevant to the matter we are advising on
- details about other people connected to the matter, like employees, customers, suppliers or family members
- information you give us in meetings, emails or calls
- dietary or accessibility requirements for events
- any other details you choose to give us

If you apply to work with us, we may also collect:

- your CV, references and academic records
- any criminal or credit history, if relevant

- evidence of visa or work eligibility

If you do not provide us with certain personal information that we request, we may not be able to provide our services to you.

How we collect personal information

Directly from you

Most of the time, we collect personal information directly from you, when you engage us, contact us, attend an event, or apply for a role.

From other people and public sources

Sometimes we collect personal information about you from a source other than you. This is called indirect collection. We may do this when:

- you are a counterparty, witness, family member, employee, customer or supplier connected to a matter we are advising on
- you are an employee, customer, supplier or contractor of an organisation that engages us for a privacy impact assessment, maturity assessment, audit, training, or other privacy advice
- a referrer or introducer (such as another lawyer, accountant or recruiter) sends us your details
- a previous lawyer transfers files to us on a matter
- we receive your details from someone you have authorised to act for you
- we run identity, AML, sanctions or due diligence checks through a verification provider
- we look you up in public sources, such as the Companies Office register, court files, NZLII, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner's published decisions, regulator websites, media reports, company websites or LinkedIn
- you apply for a role and we contact your referees, previous employers or a recruitment agency.

Why we collect and use personal information

We collect and use personal information to:

- provide legal advice and services
- understand your needs and objectives
- carry out due diligence and conflict checks
- comply with our legal and professional obligations (such as AML and CFT laws)

- manage our relationships with clients and service providers
- prepare and send invoices and manage payments
- send legal updates or event invitations, if you have opted in
- respond to queries or complaints
- recruit, onboard and manage staff or contractors
- conduct audits and meet our professional obligations, including Law Society requirements
- improve the way we deliver our services and run our business
- support staff development and internal planning
- help clients investigate or respond to privacy incidents or breaches
- help clients understand how personal information is collected or used in their business, such as during a privacy impact assessment

We only collect the personal information we need for these purposes. If we need to use your information for anything else, we will ask you first unless the law allows us to use it without asking.

Disclosing your information

We only share your personal information when it is necessary, and only with trusted parties. This might include:

- people you have authorised us to deal with
- your other advisers, such as accountants, consultants, insurers or lawyers
- barristers, expert witnesses or consultants we engage on your matter
- your bank or payment provider
- event venues or caterers (for dietary or access needs)
- our IT providers, accountants or insurers
- courts, regulators or law enforcement (where required by law)
- contractors or consultants working with us, where they need access to carry out their role.

Some of our service providers are based outside New Zealand. Your personal information may be held or processed in New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Europe or the United States, with safeguards in place that meet the Privacy Act 2020.

We will not sell your personal information or use it for purposes unrelated to the services we provide.

How we keep your information safe

We store personal information securely using trusted providers. We use:

- access controls and password protection
- secure cloud-based systems
- training on privacy obligations.

We keep your information only as long as needed to carry out the purpose we collected it for, or to meet legal obligations.

If a privacy breach occurs, we will assess it promptly and notify affected individuals and the Privacy Commissioner where required.

Your rights

You have the right to:

- access the personal information we hold about you
- ask us to correct it if it is wrong

To make a request, email us at submission@obrienlegal.co.nz.

Cookies and website tracking

We use cookies and basic analytics tools to understand how people use our website. You can change your browser settings to block cookies if you prefer.

If you use our website to send an enquiry or sign up to a newsletter, we will collect the information you provide. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link in the email or by contacting us.

Changes to this Privacy Statement

We may update this Privacy Statement from time to time. We will always post the latest version on our website.

Contact us

If you have questions about this Privacy Statement or how we handle your information, please get in touch:

Rachel O'Brien

Privacy Officer, O'Brien Legal

Email: rachel@obrienlegal.co.nz

You can also contact the Office of the Privacy Commissioner at www.privacy.org.nz for more information about your rights.