

PRIVACY POLICY

Use of Personal Data

The Data Protection Act (1998) places duties upon users of personal information held both manually and on computer. This Act sets out certain principles which cover how information is obtained, stored and disclosed. The first principle states that information must be obtained fairly. The Data Protection Commissioner feels that information is only obtained fairly if the person providing the information is told about any way in which it may be used which he/she might not expect. The reason for this is to enable people to decide if they wish to disclose information. When you make an enquiry for a loan with B M Samuels there will be a Data Protection section which states that you are consenting to our storage and use of your personal information obtained from both the enquiry and any subsequent loan.

What does B M Samuels use the personal data for?

You can see details of the purposes for which we hold information and the people and bodies to whom we may disclose it in the Register of Data Users and Computer Bureaux. This register can be inspected free of charge and is kept by the Information Commissioner at:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone 01625 545745

Some of these purposes may not be entirely clear to you and examples follow:

Protection

Information on an account may also be used to help prevent crime and to help us trace those responsible. We are required to hold some information to comply with Anti-Money Laundering Regulations.

Marketing

The information which you give us is very helpful. One way it is used which you may not anticipate is in order that we can advise you about services that you might find useful. This might be advice about new types of loans or other services that we provide.

B M Samuels will not share your data with any other firms for marketing purposes. Should you not wish to receive any marketing from BM Samuels you are able to advise of this at any time by contacting us using the contact details on the website or by ticking the box on the enquiry form requesting no marketing.

Credit Reference and Fraud Prevention Agencies

When you apply for a loan with B M Samuels, you disclose certain information which we store on our manual and computer records. Although most of the information comes from you, some of it we may obtain from other sources such as credit reference agencies and fraud prevention agencies.

If we carry out credit reference checks the agency will record such a check. We may give information about you and how you conduct your loan account to the credit reference agency. This information is used to help in making decisions on credit. You have a right to this information by contacting the credit reference agency.

If false or inaccurate information is provided and fraud is identified we will record this and details will be passed to fraud prevention agencies. Law enforcement agencies may access and use this information. B M Samuels and other organisations may also access, use and search the records held by Fraud Prevention Agencies to help prevent fraud and money laundering including when checking details on applications for credit, credit related or other credit facilities.

Please contact us if you want to receive details of the relevant Credit Reference Agencies or Fraud Prevention Agencies we use.

Audit

Information is held about you and your accounts after the accounts have been closed. This is necessary to comply with a number of legal obligations and for audit and inspection purposes. It also helps us to respond to customer enquiries which may arise.

We hope that you have found this brief explanation helpful. Should you wish to know what information B M Samuels holds about you, please ask us for a subject access form and on payment of £10, the information will be provided within 40 days. You may also wish to look at the Information Commissioner's website at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.