

## Privacy and Cookies Notice

**Privacy Notice for <https://comet.nerc.ac.uk/>, which is hosted by the University of Leeds.**

This privacy notice has been updated in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

### 1. Purpose of this Notice

This Notice tells you how the University of Leeds (University) will collect and use your personal data when you access this website. The University is a “controller” of this personal data for the purposes of the data protection legislation.

It is important that you read this Notice together with any other privacy notice we provide on specific occasions when we collect or process your personal data, so that you are fully aware of how and why we use your data. This Notice supplements the other notices and is not intended to override them.

### 2. About us

The UK Centre for Observation and Modelling of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tectonics (COMET) is a national research centre, funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) in partnership with the British Geological Survey (BGS).

The University of Leeds is the lead COMET institution and hosts the COMET website. Due to this, when we refer to “we”, “us” or “our” in this Notice, we mean the University of Leeds (“the University”).

### 3. How we collect your personal information

We collect information about you in the following ways:

- Contact information you provide (for example, via our “Get in touch” form or email queries).
- When you register to attend an event or webinar, or download one of our reports.
- Usage data: information about how you use our website (including your IP address, device/browser type, pages visited, time and date of access, referral source).



#### **4. Purpose of processing - automated collection of personal information**

When you access our web pages, certain information your browser provides, including your IP address at the time, browser type, and potentially the address of the page you last visited, will be automatically recorded by the University. This data may be used to aid detection in the event of a security breach. The legal basis for this processing is the necessity of pursuing our legitimate interests in keeping our website secure. The University retains this data in a form from which you may be identifiable for a period of up to two months.

#### **5. Lawful basis for processing**

We rely on one or more of the following legal bases to process your personal data:

- Your consent (for example, when you opt in to receive information from us).
- Performance of a contract (for instance, if you apply for a role or membership and we must process your data to carry out our obligations).
- Legitimate interests (for example, analysing how visitors use our website in order to improve our services) where your rights and freedoms do not override such interests.
- Compliance with a legal obligation (for instance, if required to retain data for audit or regulatory purposes).

#### **6. Data retention**

We will retain your personal data only for as long as necessary for the purposes set out in this Privacy Policy (such as responding to your enquiries, fulfilling contractual or membership obligations, maintaining records for research or regulatory purposes). After the relevant retention period, your personal data will be securely deleted or anonymised. In other cases, for example, if you subscribe to news or events, any retention of data will be made clear at the point of collection.

#### **7. Changes to this Notice**

We keep the information provided in this Notice under review. This Notice may be updated from time to time. If we make any substantial updates, we will draw these to your attention.

We will not use your personal data in any manner that is incompatible with the purpose for which the data were collected originally, unless we have obtained your consent to that additional use.



## **8. Third-party access**

The personal data you have provided will not be routinely sent to third parties (unless notified).

## **9. Cookies**

Cookies are small text files that are placed on your device by websites that you visit.

We use cookies for the following purposes:

- Essential: To help our website function
- Performance tracking: Track how our website is used and help us make improvements

## **10. Third-party cookies and tracking**

If you share content from our website on other websites, such as Facebook or BlueSky, these services may use cookies or other tracking, and you need to manage your privacy via your account (not through the COMET site).

Articles on this site may include embedded content (e.g. videos, images, articles, etc.). Embedded content from other websites behaves in the exact same way as if the visitor has visited the other website.

These websites may collect data about you, use cookies, embed additional third-party tracking, and monitor your interaction with that embedded content, including tracking your interaction with the embedded content if you have an account and are logged in to that website.

## **11. Manage your cookies and privacy**

You can opt out of non-essential cookies (pop up available in the bottom left of the browser window). You can also manage your privacy settings, including cookie settings, in your browser.

Further information about cookies can be found on the [Information Commissioner's Office website](#).

## **12. Your duty to inform us of changes**



It is important that the holds about you is date. Please keep us data you have be updated.

personal data COMET accurate and up to informed if the personal provided to us needs to

Contact us at [comet@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:comet@leeds.ac.uk).

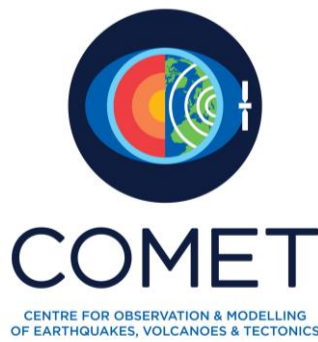
### **13. Your right as a data subject**

Under the GDPR, in certain circumstances, you have the right to:

- withdraw your consent to our processing of your personal data where that is the legal basis for such processing
- access any of your personal data which we hold
- have your personal data, which we hold, corrected if it is inaccurate
- have any of your personal data which we hold erased
- restrict how we process your personal data
- object to our processing of your personal data
- receive a copy of any of your personal data which we hold in a structured and commonly used machine-readable format
- in certain cases, not be subject to a decision based solely on automated decision making
- lodge a complaint to a supervisory authority

### **14. Queries and complaints**

If you have any queries or concerns relating to this privacy notice or the way your data is being processed through this website then please contact the University's Data Protection Officer, David Wardle on [d.wardle@adm.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.wardle@adm.leeds.ac.uk) or by post to



University of Leeds,  
Building, Leeds LS2  
The University's main  
+44 (0) 113 2431751.

11.72 EC Stoner  
9JT, UK.  
telephone number is

The UK's regulator for the DPA and GDPR is the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The University is registered as a Data Controller with the ICO

Should you be dissatisfied with our handling of your concerns you have the right to complain to a supervisory authority. In the case of the UK this is the Information Commissioner's Office and details can be found at <https://ico.org.uk>.

#### 15. These cookies help our website function

COOKIE	PURPOSE
_cf_bm	This is a necessary functional, performance and security cookie. It helps distinguish legitimate human traffic from automated bots by analysing user behaviour. This cookie does not contain personally identifiable information and helps prevent sites from being overwhelmed by bots
__Secure-ROLLOUT_TOKEN	This is a YouTube-related cookie used to manage the phased rollout and testing of new features and interface updates for

COOKIE	PURPOSE
	users, ensuring a consistent experience within experimentation groups.
__Secure-YNID	This cookie stores user preferences and other information for embedded YouTube videos.
VISITOR_INFO1_LIVE	This cookie helps YouTube provide you with content and videos relevant to your past views and searches.
VISITOR_PRIVACY_METADATA	This is a YouTube (Google) cookie that stores a user's cookie consent and privacy settings for the current domain, ensuring their choices regarding tracking and personalised ads are respected for embedded YouTube content.