

CASE STUDY



FULL-SCALE DATA PROTECTION AUDIT AND GDPR COMPLIANCE PROGRAMME

Challenge

This long-standing leading furniture brand initially engaged us to perform a **full-scale data protection, privacy risk and gap analysis audit** of its key business functions, including Compliance, HR, Finance & Payroll, IT and Marketing.

Delighted with the audit's success, and with the GDPR implementation date looming, the company engaged us most recently to perform a follow-up audit to analyse its implementation progress, extending the audit's scope to include a gap analysis report on levels of **compliance with the then anticipated GDPR**.

Solution

Audits of this level are a significant undertaking, in this case requiring assessment and reassessment over several years of focused work. It is necessary to carry out initial audits and then follow-up audits to consider the impact of business process change, law and regulatory changes, and also to discover whether previous audit recommendations have been effectively implemented in practice.

Over time, we worked closely with our client to assess their organisational needs. We then carried out telephone interviews with many of the company's personnel to gain an **accurate picture of the company's compliance gaps, but also to identify the great processes that it had in place – in some cases requiring replication into other business function areas or formalisation**. Delving into the data processes within the organisation's various central business functions enabled us to offer **detailed advice on legal and practical compliance measures at all levels of the organisation**.

In addition to this audit work, our client has continued to engage our expertise in various data protection compliance areas, as well as instructing us to advise on other discrete data protection matters, on breach investigations and reporting, and on their commercial arrangements with business partners.

Impact

The fruitful collaboration between our client and ourselves enabled us to produce **comprehensive audit reports of our findings**, as well as **practical recommendations for best practice compliance**. We also generated a **suite of follow-up compliance actions and policies**.

Our advice should help mitigate unquantifiable, but significant financial and reputational risk, including risks under the GDPR of fines of up to €20 million or 4% of annual global turnover.



DFS Furniture Company Limited, an international furniture retailer

Legal directory extract

"Described as 'genuine experts in niche areas' of data protection law, Pritchetts Law ... is highlighted for its 'high quality but pragmatic advice'."

The Legal 500 UK 2019

You can find out more by [emailing us](#), or calling us on 0117 307 0266