

Privacy statement website

Interreg North Sea is partnership between ten partners from the North Sea Region that have teamed-up and established FIER, a project focused on four key areas: Flooding, Infrastructure, Evacuation, and Resilience. The aim is to enhance societal resilience and minimise the impact of flood crises. The Province of Zeeland, as the lead partner and administrator of the website, is the primary contact and data controller on behalf of the FIER partners for the processing of personal data. For this reason, the terms and privacy statement of the Province of Zeeland apply, hereinafter referred to as such.

The Province of Zeeland, which manages the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier> on behalf of its partners, places great importance on ensuring that personal data is handled carefully, securely, proportionately and confidentially within its organisation. With this privacy statement, we aim to provide you with a clear understanding of the information used by the Province of Zeeland when you visit the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier>.

What is personal data?

Personal data refers to any information that tells us something about you or that we can link to you. This can include information that directly relates to you or can be traced back to you, such as your name, address, or account number.

What is processing?

Processing refers to all actions we can perform with your personal data, such as collecting, storing, recording, modifying, disclosing, transferring, or deleting it.

Who is responsible for processing personal data?

The Province of Zeeland is the responsible party for processing your personal data as described in this privacy statement. The Province of Zeeland is located at the Provinciehuis, Abdij 6, 4331 BK Middelburg.

You can contact us regarding questions about your personal data in connection with the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier> at fier@zeeland.nl.

Who is this statement intended for?

This privacy statement is intended for citizens and/or companies who visit the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier> or have contact with the Province of Zeeland about FIER.

Why and what personal data do we process?

The Province processes your personal data on or with the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier> for the following purposes:

Website visit

You can visit this website anonymously. We do not collect names or other information that reveals the identity of visitors to our website without consent.

Questions by post or e-mail

If you contact us by mail or e-mail with a question, we will use your information, name, e-mail address and possibly your address and phone number, to respond to your questions.

Forms on website

When you fill out a form on our website, the information you provide, such as your name, e-mail address, and possibly your address and phone number, will be submitted. In the form, we always specify the purpose for which we will use your data, such as responding to your submission or conducting a survey. We use this data solely to respond to your submission or, for example, to send requested information. We do this based on your consent, which you provide in the form.

Newsletter subscription

If you wish to subscribe to FIER's newsletter, your name and e-mail address are collected to send you updates about FIER. We only send newsletters with your consent. You can withdraw your consent at any time by using the unsubscribe link in the newsletter or by contacting us via the provided e-mail address. Once you unsubscribe, you will no longer receive newsletters and we will no longer process your personal data for that purpose. We will only retain a record of your withdrawal of consent to comply with accountability requirements.

To evaluate the effectiveness of our newsletters and content, we use a tracking pixel to determine whether the newsletter has been opened. Additionally, we track the number of clicks on hyperlinks within the newsletter to assess engagement with topics and campaigns. This helps us understand the effectiveness of the newsletter and its content.

Is personal data shared with other parties?

The Province of Zeeland, as the lead partner of FIER and the administrator of this website on behalf of FIER's partners, generally does not share your personal data with third parties without your prior consent, unless required by law, necessary for the performance of a public task, or mandated by a court ruling. When organisations process personal data on our behalf, we enter into a data processing agreement with them. This agreement sets out the responsibilities and ensures that the data is handled carefully and securely in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Will your data be transferred outside the EU?

As a rule, personal data may not be transferred to an organisation in a country outside the EU. This is because the EU provides robust protection for personal data, which is not always guaranteed outside its borders. Transfer includes actions such as storing data (e.g., in the Cloud) or making it accessible to an organisation outside the EU.

As a government entity, the Province of Zeeland prioritises the protection of personal data and does not allow data processing outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless strictly necessary. The EEA includes all EU countries as well as Liechtenstein, Norway, and Iceland, which offer equivalent levels of personal data protection. In rare cases where processing outside the EEA is unavoidable, the Province will only transfer personal data to a country or international organisation based on agreements approved by the European Commission.

Do we use profiling?

Profiling involves the automated processing of personal data to evaluate or predict behaviour. The Province of Zeeland does not engage in profiling on or through the <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier> website.

How do we secure your personal data?

The Province of Zeeland implements appropriate measures to prevent misuse, loss, unauthorised access, and other unwanted actions concerning personal data. These measures are outlined in our information security policy and align with the relevant ISO27001 security standards and the Baseline Information Security for the Government (BIO).

Within the province, we use systems and standards to protect your personal data. We regularly update these systems and standards to comply with new regulations and market developments.

In addition to technical security measures such as encrypting personal data and implementing access controls on computer systems, employees are bound by confidentiality agreements, and access to personal data is only granted to authorised employees. We ensure that your data is accessible solely to those who need it to perform their job responsibilities.

Only employees for whom it is necessary to perform their duties have access to (part of) the system in which your data is stored. Authorisation for access to the system is based on roles. The granting of these authorisations follows established procedures, overseen by the manager of the relevant organisational unit that processes your data.

When determining measures, the current state of the art is always considered and security is adjusted accordingly. For more information, please refer to: [Besluit van gedeputeerde staten van Zeeland houdende Informatieveiligheidsbeleid Provincie Zeeland 2019 - 2023](#)

How long do we store your personal data?

The Province of Zeeland does not retain personal data longer than necessary for the proper execution of its duties and compliance with legal obligations. The retention period for specific data depends on the nature of the data and the purpose for which it is processed.

We do not retain your personal data longer than necessary for the purpose for which we process it. However, in some cases, we are required to keep your personal data for a longer period. In such cases, we must retain this data to comply with the Archives Act (*Archiefwet*) or other legislation, such as tax laws.

What rights do data subjects have regarding their personal data?

As a data subject, you have several rights regarding the processing of your personal data under the GDPR. When you wish to exercise your rights, we will verify your identity to ensure we are communicating with the correct individual. This may involve asking you a few identifying questions. To process your request and confirm your identity, we require at least your name, address, place of residence, and contact details (such as your e-mail address or phone number). We will use this information solely for handling your request and communicating with you about it.

If you would like to know what personal data the Province of Zeeland processes about you, you can submit a written request for access (Article 15 GDPR).

If you find that your data is inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant, you can submit an additional request to have your data corrected or updated (Article 16 GDPR).

Under certain circumstances, you have the right to request the Province to delete your personal data, also known as the "right to be forgotten" (Article 17 GDPR). This may apply, for example, in the case of unlawful processing.

Regarding the use of the website <https://www.interregnorthsea.eu/fier>, no data processing occurs that would require us to fulfill a request based on your right to data portability (Article 20 GDPR).

However, you may request that we restrict the processing of your personal data or object to its processing (Articles 18 and 21 GDPR).

A request can be made by sending a letter or an e-mail to the address below:

Province of Zeeland
w.r.t. GDPR request
P.O. Box 6001
4330 LA Middelburg
E-mail address: avg@zeeland.nl

The Province of Zeeland strives for a personal and prompt handling of your request and will process your request within a 4-week period. In order to best respond to your request, please communicate your request as clearly as possible. The Province of Zeeland handles your request. The Data Protection Officer, as an independent supervisor, oversees the proper and correct handling of your request.

If you require assistance or further information on how to exercise your rights, please contact our Data Protection Officer.

Where can I ask questions about privacy and my rights?

The Data Protection Officer oversees how privacy and the processing of personal data are handled within the Province of Zeeland.

Questions about privacy or exercising your privacy rights

If you have a general question about privacy or wish to exercise one of your privacy rights, you can contact the Data Protection Officer by mail or e-mail using the contact details below:

Province of Zeeland
Attn: Data Protection Officer
P.O. Box 6001
4330 LA Middelburg
E-mail address: avg@zeeland.nl

Data breach

If you have received information that was not intended for you, have identified a vulnerability in our security, or believe there has been a data breach, please report it immediately to servicedesk@zeeland.nl. Please leave your contact details (e-mail address or phone number) so that we can get in touch with you.

Filing a complaint

If you have a complaint, you can report it to avg@zeeland.nl. Your complaint will be handled by our Data Protection Officer. If you are not satisfied with the handling of your complaint, you can file a complaint with the Dutch Data Protection Authority. Please refer to: [Submitting a tip-off or a complaint to the Dutch DPA](#).

Changes

The Province of Zeeland may update this privacy statement at any time. Any changes will become effective once they are published on this page. We suggest that you consult this privacy statement regularly to stay updated on any changes.