# In the matter of the General Data Protection Regulation

**DPC Complaint Reference:** 

In the matter of a complaint, lodged by with the Data Protection Commission pursuant to Article 77 of the General Data Protection Regulation, concerning CurrencyFair Limited

Record of Amicable Resolution of the complaint and its consequent withdrawal pursuant to Section 109(3) of the Data Protection Act, 2018

Further to the requirements of EDPB Guidelines 06/2022 on the practical implementation of amicable settlements Version 2.0 (adopted on 12 May 2022)

# RECORD OF AMICABLE RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDPB GUIDELINES 06/2022 ON THE PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF AMICABLE SETTLEMENTS VERSION 2.0 (ADOPTED ON 12 MAY 2022)

Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023



Data Protection Commission 21 Fitzwilliam Square South Dublin 2, Ireland

# **Background**

- On 13 August 2021, ("the Data Subject") lodged a complaint pursuant to Article 77 of the GDPR with the Data Protection Commission ("the DPC") concerning CurrencyFair Limited ("the Respondent").
- 2. The DPC was deemed to be the competent authority for the purpose of Article 56(1) of the GDPR.

#### The Complaint

- 3. The details of the complaint were as follows:
  - a. The Data Subject emailed the Respondent on 13 August 2021 to request the erasure of their personal data from the Respondent's systems.
  - b. On 16 August 2021, the Respondent refused the Data Subject's request. In its reply, the Respondent indicated it was required to retain the Data Subject's data for compliance with its legal obligations, as per article 17.3 (b) of the GDPR.
  - c. As the Data Subject was not satisfied with the response received from the Respondent, they lodged a complaint with the DPC.

## Action taken by the DPC

- 4. The DPC, pursuant to Section 109(4) of the Data Protection Act, 2018 ("the 2018 Act"), is required, as a preliminary matter, to assess the likelihood of the parties to the complaint reaching, within a reasonable time, an amicable resolution of the subject-matter of the complaint. Where the DPC considers that there is a reasonable likelihood of such an amicable resolution being concluded between the parties, it is empowered, by Section 109(2) of the 2018 Act, to take such steps as it considers appropriate to arrange or facilitate such an amicable resolution.
- 5. Following a preliminary examination of the material referred to it by the Recipient SA, the DPC considered that there was a reasonable likelihood of the parties concerned reaching, within a reasonable time, an amicable resolution of the subject matter of the complaint. The DPC's experience is that complaints of this nature are particularly suitable for amicable resolution in circumstances where there is an obvious solution to the dispute, if the respondent is willing to engage in the process. In this regard, the DPC had regard to:
  - a. The relationship between the Data Subject and Respondent (being, in this case, an individual consumer and a service provider); and
  - b. The nature of the complaint (in this case, an unsuccessful attempt by the Data Subject to exercise his/her data subject rights).

- 6. While not relevant to the assessment that the DPC is required to carry out pursuant to Section 109(4) of the 2018 Act, the DPC also had regard to EDPB Guidelines 06/2022 on the practical implementation of amicable settlements Version 2.0, adopted on 12 May 2022 ("Document 06/2022"), and considered that:
  - a. the possible conclusion of the complaint by way of amicable resolution would not hamper the ability of the supervisory authorities to maintain the high level of protection that the GDPR seeks to create; and that
  - b. such a conclusion, in this case, would likely carry advantages for the Data Subject, whose rights under the GDPR would be vindicated swiftly, as well as for the controller, who would be provided the opportunity to bring its behaviour into compliance with the GDPR.

# **Amicable Resolution**

- 7. The DPC engaged with both the Data Subject and Respondent in relation to the subject matter of the complaint. Further to that engagement, it was established that the Respondent was required to retain the Data Subject's data, to fulfil its legal obligations as a provider of financial services. In the circumstances, the Respondent agreed to confirm the following:
  - a. The Respondent confirmed the length of the retention period for which the Data Subject's personal data would be kept, in addition to the date at which the erasure request would be completed;
  - b. The Respondent confirmed that the Data Subject's account had been closed, and that all personal data related to it would be restricted for the duration of the retention period.
- 8. The DPC's letter outlining the information provided by the Respondent as part of the amicable resolution process issued to the Data Subject on 13 June 2023. In its correspondence to the Data Subject, the DPC requested that the Data Subject notify it, within a specified timeframe, if they were not satisfied with the information provided by the Respondent, so that the DPC could take further action.
- 9. The DPC did not receive any further communication from the Data Subject and, accordingly, the complaint has been deemed to have been amicably resolved.
- 10. In circumstances where the subject matter of the complaint has been amicably resolved, in full, the complaint, by virtue of Section 109(3) of the 2018 Act, is deemed to have been withdrawn by the Data Subject.

#### **Confirmation of Outcome**

11. For the purpose of Document 06/2022, the DPC confirms that:

- a. The complaint, in its entirety, has been amicably resolved between the parties concerned;
- b. The agreed resolution is such that the object of the complaint no longer exists; and
- c. Having consulted with the supervisory authorities concerned on the information set out above, as required by Document 06/2022 the DPC has now closed off its file in this matter.
- 12. If dissatisfied with the outcome recorded herein, the parties have the right to an effective remedy by way of an application for judicial review, by the Irish High Court, of the process applied by the DPC in the context of the within complaint.

Signed for and on behalf of the DPC:

Tomy Delaney

Deputy Commissioner Data Protection Commission