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Related Policy	DWD-POL-DP-01 DWD-NOT-DP-03

This Cookie Notice explains how Dowds Group uses cookies and similar technologies on the Dowds Group website. It should be read alongside the Dowds Group External Privacy Notice (DWD-NOT-DP-03), available at the Dowds Data Protection Hub (SharePoint), which explains more fully how we handle your personal data.

1. What are cookies?

A cookie is a small text file that a website places on your device when you visit. Cookies let a site work properly, remember your preferences, and, where you allow it, help us understand how the site is being used. Where this notice refers to “cookies”, we also mean similar technologies such as pixels and local storage.

2. The cookies we use

We group cookies into categories. You stay in control of the non-essential ones.

Strictly necessary cookies: always on

These are needed for the website to function and cannot be switched off. They include cookies that keep the site secure, manage network traffic, and remember the cookie choices you make. Because they are essential to provide the service you have asked for, we do not need your consent to set them.

Analytics cookies: off until you allow them

These help us understand how visitors use the site, such as which pages are visited most often, so we can improve it. The information is aggregated and is not used to identify you. We only set these cookies if you accept them.

Marketing and advertising cookies

We do not currently use marketing or advertising cookies. If this changes, we will update this notice and ask for your consent before setting them.

3. Cookies on this website

The table below lists the cookies we use. We keep it under review and update it when the website changes.

Cookie name	Provider	Category	Purpose	Type	Duration
dowds_cookie_consent	Dowds	Strictly necessary	Stores your cookie preferences so we do not ask on every visit	First party	6 months
_ga	Google Analytics	Analytics	Distinguishes unique users	Third party	2 years
ga[ID]	Google Analytics	Analytics	Maintains session state for GA4	Third party	2 years

4. Managing your cookie choices

When you first visit the website, you are shown a cookie banner. You can accept all cookies, reject all non-essential cookies, or choose which categories you allow. There are no pre-selected non-essential cookies.

You can change or withdraw your choice at any time using the “Cookie settings” control on the website. Withdrawing consent does not affect the lawfulness of any processing carried out before you withdrew it, and it will not stop the website working. You can also control or delete cookies through your browser settings; your browser’s help pages explain how.

5. Consent and lawful basis

We set strictly necessary cookies on the basis that they are essential to provide the service you have asked for, so they do not require consent. We set all other cookies only where you have given your consent through the cookie banner. This is in line with the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR) and the UK GDPR.

6. Changes to this notice

We may update this notice from time to time, for example if we introduce new cookies. The “Date of Issue” above shows when it was last revised. Please check back from time to time.

7. How to contact us

If you have any questions about this Cookie Notice, or wish to exercise your data protection rights, please contact our Data Protection Officer:

DPO, Dowds Group, dpo@dowdsgroup.com