Sharing data without the individual's knowledge

The general rule in the Data Protection Act is that our students should be aware that personal data about them has been, or is going to be, shared. The Harlow College Enrolment and Learning Agreement, which our learners sign, informs students that their personal data will be shared with the Skills Funding Agency, the Department for Business Innovation and Skills and the Department for Education. However, in certain limited circumstances the Data Protection Act, Section 29 provides for personal data, (including sensitive data), to be shared without the individual even knowing about it.

Harlow College will share personal data without an individual's knowledge:

- with the Police for the prevention or detection of crime;
- with the Police for the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

Harlow College acknowledges that Section 29 is not a legal gateway to personal data for the Police and that it is the College who must make the decision whether to disclose.

On receiving a request from the Police, the College will address whether the actions of the police would be prejudiced by the College withholding the data from the investigators.