Determining if data is ‘personal data’ under the DP Act 1998

Below is a flow-chart of questions under the ICO technical guidance note:

Yes.

Can a living individual be identified from the data, or, from the data and other information in the possession of, or likely to come into the possession of, the data controller?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Does the data ‘relate to’ the identifiable individual, whether in personal or family life, business or profession?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Unsure?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Is the data ‘obviously about’ a particular individual?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Is the data ‘linked to’ an individual so that it provides particular information about an individual.

The data is ‘personal data’.

Is the data used, or is it to be used, to inform or influence actions or decisions affecting an identifiable individual?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Does the data have any biographical significance in relation to the individual?

Unsure?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Does the data focus or concentrate on the individual as its central theme rather than on some other person, or some object, transaction or event?

Unsure?

The data is ‘personal data’.

Does the data impact or have the potential to impact on an individual, whether in a personal, family, business or professional capacity.

No.

Not ‘personal data’.

The data is ‘personal data’.

Not ‘personal data’.

Unsure?