In the matter of the General Data Protection Regulation

DPC Complaint Reference:
IMI Complaint Reference Number:

In the matter of a complaint, lodged by with Data Protection Authority of Bavaria for the Private Sector pursuant to Article 77 of the General Data Protection Regulation, concerning Paysafe Payment Solutions 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 12 MAY 2022

Dated the 11th day of July 2023



Data Protection Commission 21 Fitzwilliam Square South Dublin 2, Ireland

Background

- On 13 April 2019, ("the Data Subject") lodged a complaint pursuant to Article 77 GDPR with the Data Protection Authority of Bavaria for the Private Sector ("the Recipient SA") concerning Paysafe Payment Solutions Limited ("the Respondent").
- 2. In circumstances where the Data Protection Commission ("the **DPC**") was deemed to be the competent authority for the purpose of Article 56(1) GDPR, the Recipient SA transferred the complaint to the DPC on 15 September 2020.

The Complaint

- 3. The details of the complaint were as follows:
 - a. The Data Subject asserted that the Respondent had supplied an erroneous credit rating relating to them to a national credit-reporting agency. As a result, on 30 March 2019, the Data Subject submitted an access request pursuant to Article 15 GDPR. Following direct engagement between the Data Subject and the national creditreporting agency, on 12 April 2019, the agency confirmed that the credit rating entry had been removed.
 - b. However, the Data Subject asserted that, apart from an acknowledgement of their access request, they had received no further response from the Respondent.

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 their 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 (via the Recipient SA) and the Respondent in relation to the subject-matter of the complaint.
- 8. On 23 December 2022, the DPC wrote to the Respondent, formally commencing its investigation. The DPC raised a number of queries with the Respondent and requested that the Respondent address the Data Subject's access request.
- 9. On 23 January 2023, the Respondent responded to the DPC confirming that it had now responded to the access request and provided the Data Subject with access to their personal data. The Respondent explained that its failure to respond to the Data Subject's access request had been due to an internal miscommunication. The Respondent outlined that it had conducted an investigation and had subsequently improved its processes and training to mitigate against the risk of any similar recurrences.
- 10. On 3 May 2023, the DPC wrote to the Data Subject via the Recipient SA outlining the Respondent's actions in response to their complaint. In light of the explanations provided by the Respondent for the delay in addressing the access request, as well as its commitment to address those issues in future, and in light of the fact that the Data Subject's access request had now been actioned, the DPC considered that the issues raised by the Data Subject appeared to have been addressed. The DPC therefore proposed to conclude the complaint by way of amicable resolution. In the circumstances, the DPC asked the Data Subject to notify it, within a specified timeframe, if they were not satisfied with the outcome, so that the DPC could take further action. On 26 May 2023, the Recipient SA confirmed to the DPC that no response had been received within that time. Accordingly, the complaint has been deemed to have been amicably resolved.
- 11. On 6 June 2023, and in light of the foregoing, the DPC wrote to the Recipient SA noting that the DPC considered the complaint to have been amicably resolved and withdrawn in accordance with section 109(3) of the Act and that it would conclude the case and inform the Respondent.

12. 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

- 13. 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.
- 14. 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:

Deputy Commissioner

Data Protection Commission