

GDPR Critical Friend

However confident you are of your own ability in a subject, it can help to have someone available to cast an objective eye over your systems and processes, and to give honest feedback when asked. This is the role of the GDPR Critical Friend: an additional resource on the project steering board, to be called on when an unbiased external view is needed.

If you are planning to tackle your company's preparation for GDPR internally and to continue to manage on-going compliance issues from within the organisation, hopefully it's because you are confident that your staff have the time, knowledge and expertise to cope. If this is the case, congratulations!

Perhaps, though, you're concerned about the cost of buying in full-time assistance when you're sure you'll only need it occasionally: what you'd really like is a pay-as-you-go service to supplement your organisation's own resources.

However knowledgeable your in-house team, even experts need occasional support, and

it's always good to have a sounding board or a second opinion you can count on when things get tricky. This is why Risk Evolves have developed the concept of the GDPR Critical Friend – with the focus very much on the word friend and on constructive rather than negative criticism.

During the run-up to the regulations launch in May 2018, the Critical Friend will be on hand to help you through the process of achieving compliance, encouraging and supporting you, identifying gaps or weak points in your approach, and willing to give clear and candid feedback when necessary.

Once the new regulations take effect, the Critical Friend can continue to work in an advisory capacity, holding you accountable with periodic checks and audits, and encouraging you to think beyond simple compliance and to recognise and embrace opportunities as they arise.

A GDPR Critical Friend will not replace the DPO if your organisation is required to have one, but the Risk Evolves team all have many years of experience reporting at Board level and are just a phone call away to support your in-house team. Simply put, your GDPR Critical Friend is a go-to expert you can consult when you need a second opinion or when the unexpected happens.

A second opinion you can count on when things get tricky.