# Cookies

When we provide services, we want to make them easy, useful and reliable. Where services are delivered on the internet, this sometimes involves placing small amounts of information on your device, for example, your computer or mobile phone. These small amounts of information are known as cookies.

## What are cookies?

Cookies are pieces of data created when you visit a site, and contain a unique, anonymous number. They are stored in the cookie directory of your device. Some expire at the end of your website session; others remain on your device for slightly longer.

Cookies do not contain any personal information about you and cannot be used to identify you personally. You may safely turn off cookies on our web site without affecting how our web pages are displayed or function.

## How are cookies used?

### Cookies are used to improve our website and your experience when using it through, for example:

- recognising that you may already have entered a username and password so you don't need to enter it every time you need to logon
- measuring how many people are using our web pages, so they can be made easier to use and there's enough capacity to ensure they are fast
- analysing data to help us understand how people interact with our web pages so we can make them better

## How does the City of London website use cookies?

Cookies enable us to identify your device, or you when you have logged in. We use cookies that are strictly necessary to enable you to move around the site or to provide certain basic features.

We use cookies to enhance the functionality of the website by storing your preferences, for example. We also use cookies to help us to improve the performance of our website to provide you with a better user experience.

We don't sell the information collected by cookies, nor do we disclose the information to third parties, except where required by law.

## Types of cookies

### First party cookies

First party cookies are cookies placed by the specific website visited - the website displayed in the browser's address bar.  In our case that's www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.

### Linked to third party cookies

Linked to third party cookies are cookies placed by a third party website that the City of London's website provides a link to.  External links they are marked with an icon (   ) to help you identify them.

## What cookies does the City of London website put on my device?

### First party cookies

#### Session cookies for logged in user

Our website uses a cookie to recognise that you may already have entered your username and password so you don't need to enter it every time you logon.

### Google analytics

Our website uses Google analytics to measure how many people are using our web pages and to help us understand how people interact with our web pages so we can make them better. Google uses a cookie to enable us to gather this information.

### Google maps

Our website contains some pages that display a Google map. When viewing these pages Google uses a cookie to store preferences and information.

### Twitter

Our website contains pages that allow you to post to Twitter. This functionality will occasionally use a cookie to facilitate this.

### Share

Some of the pages in our website can be shared with third party websites, like Facebook and Twitter. Occasionally a cookie is used to by the third party to enable you to do this.

### iFrames

Our website uses iFrames to display third party content, such as Facebook, within a web page. In some cases, this third party content may place a cookie on your device.

**Adobe Flash Player cookies**

Our website contains flash objects that may place a cookie on your computer.

**Linked to third party cookies**

Our website contains links to various external websites that may place a cookie on your device.  To enable you to differentiate between internal and external links, external links are marked with an icon (   ).

## How to manage your cookies

**Web browser cookies**

If you wish to restrict or block the cookies which are set by our website, or indeed any other website, you can do this through your browser settings. The 'Help' function within your browser should tell you how.

Alternatively, you may wish to visit www.aboutcookies.org which contains comprehensive information on how to block cookies on a wide variety of browsers. You will also find details on how to delete cookies from your device as well as more general information about cookies.

**Adobe Flash Player Cookies**

The Adobe Flash Player, used to provide services to view videos, is also capable of storing information on your device. However, these cookies cannot be controlled through your web browser. Some web browser manufacturers are developing solutions to allow you to control these through your browser, but at the present time, if you wish to restrict or block Flash Cookies, then you must do this on the Adobe website.

## Feedback

If you have any questions about how we use cookies on our website please contact us.