**Using our member directory:  The Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003**

Our 2016 business survey revealed that 75% of companies said that they supported local companies and actively used the 'shop local' principle.  We therefore publish members’ details in order to assist you in finding new suppliers or providers of goods and services.   Our members have given consent to this information being published on the website.

This consent, however, does not mean that you can use this information for email marketing purposes.

**What does the law say?** The Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003 covers the sending of email marketing.

This legislation says that organisations must only send marketing emails to individuals if you have agreed to receive them, except where there is a clearly defined customer relationship.  Click here for more information <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/online/spam-emails/>

There is an immense difference between having access to an email list, and having permission to send an email to that list.  You cannot send out electronic marketing emails or campaigns to anyone listed in the directory unless you have obtained express permission to do so.

We will report any breach of the law to the Information Commissioner’s Office.