**Cookies Policy**

A cookie is a small non-executable text file that is placed on your computer when visiting websites.

The S&G Response website uses two types of cookies:

* First party ’session cookies’ retain information for the duration of a visit; for example, if a visitor completes more than one form, session cookies ensure information only needs to be entered once.
* First party ‘persistent cookies’ remain on a computer after a visit and can be used to monitor what pages of the site are visited. These are used to improve websites in accordance with visitor patterns and preferences.

The cookies tracked by S&G Response **do not** hold any personal or confidential information about visitors. Most browsers are set to automatically accept cookies, however users can opt-out through browser settings.

The S&G Response website uses the following types of cookies:

* **Session cookies**: These cookies are used to retain information for the duration of a visit. For example, if a visitor completes more than one form, session cookies ensure information only needs to be entered once.
* **Sandgresponse.co.uk tracking cookies**: These cookies are used to recognise repeat visitors to the site and record specific browsing information (e.g. how a visitor arrives, pages that are viewed, options selected, information entered, and paths taken).
* **A user identification cookie**: This holds a unique (32-character) reference which identifies this visitor each time that they return to the site. This cookie is held for a 10-year duration, unless visitors upgrade their browsers or clears the cache (which clears their cookies) within this time. This identifies a user only and does not identify people personally.
* **Distinguishing cookie:** This cookie allows us to distinguish one visitor from another, but this cookie cannot identify an individual.
* **Traffic source cookie**: This cookie stores the traffic source or campaign that explains how a visitor reached the website. The cookie is created when the JavaScript library executes and is updated every time data is sent to Google Analytics.
* **Google Analytics Cookies**: Google Analytics cookies store information, such as what time a visit occurred, whether the visitor has been to the site before, and what site referred the visitor to the web page. The cookies report website trends. **They do not identify individual visitors**. A different set of cookies is used for each website, and visitors are not tracked across multiple sites.
	+ In addition to disabling cookies, visitors can also install the Google Analytics Opt-out Add-on, which prevents Google Analytics from collecting information about website visits.
	+ To find out more visit <https://www.google.com/analytics/learn/privacy.html>
* **Facebook Pixel cookies**: Facebook Pixel cookies store information about visits to websites. This information is used to categorise different content on Facebook.

Visitors can block or delete cookies by changing browser settings

Please refer to your browser’s ‘help’ functionality for advice or to find out more you can visit <https://www.allaboutcookies.org/manage-cookies/index.html>.