



KNOW YOUR DEADLINES

Date of Commencement	Deadline	Legislation	Comment
15 October 2021	15 October 2022*	Data Protection Act, No. 32 of 2018	<p>Any person who undertakes operations through which personal data is processed must regularise their operations to meet the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>The Act provides for a 12-month transitional period from the date of its commencement by which such data processing operations must be regularised.</p> <p>*The Data Protection (Amendment) Bill has been tabled before Parliament (August 2022) to amend the Act by granting the responsible Minister the power to extend the transitional period. We anticipate that this will be effected before the deadline, thus providing businesses with more time to comply.</p>
20 April 2022	20 October 2022	Tribal Land Act, No. 1 of 2018	<p>In terms of the Tribal Land Act, the following categories of people must register or re-register with the respective land boards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. all persons occupying land under the repealed Act who hold a certificate of customary land grant or lease; 2. all persons who occupy tribal land granted by a Kgosi and do not hold a lease or certificate of customary land grant. <p>This piece of legislation does not provide penalties for failure to comply. Where persons fail to register or re-register as required, the land board shall complete and sign such documents in the name of the person, and register same with the Registrar of Deeds.</p>
25 February 2022	25 February 2023	Societies Act, No. 6 of 2022	All existing societies must apply to the Registrar of Societies for re-registration. Failure to meet this deadline means the Society shall be de-registered.
25 February 2022	25 February 2023	Companies (Amendment) Act, No. 7 of 2022	All companies which did not have Constitutions prior to commencement of this Amendment, shall submit to the Registrar of Companies a Constitution by 25 February 2023, or face deregistration.
1 August 2022	1 August 2023	Credit Information Act, No. 17 of 2021	<p>The Act applies to the following persons;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. credit bureaus; 2. data providers (including financial institutions such as banks and non-bank financial institutions, entities that provide goods on credit, educational institutions and any other person designated by the Bank of Botswana); 3. data subjects (any persons whose data is collected or disclosed to 3rd parties in the credit information sharing system); and 4. any other person who accesses or uses consumer information. <p>All of these persons must comply with the requirements of the Act or cease to carry out such acts, duties or operations.</p>
21 February 2022	31 December 2023	Bank of Botswana Public Notice dated 21st February 2022	The Bank of Botswana has made a decision to discontinue the use of cheques and the set deadline is 31 December 2023. Therefore with effect from 1 January 2024, banks in Botswana will cease to accept cheques for deposit and/or encashment.

If you have any questions or require any assistance with regularising your business operations, we are available to assist. Please feel free to contact **Onalenna Otladisa** at onalenna@otladisa.law, **Andile Mthupha** at andile@otladisa.law, **Watipa Lesetedi** at watipa@otladisa.law, or contact us on our office line at **+2673111072**.

