

BEFORE YOU SAY 'NO IMPACT'

A one-page checklist for finding the blast radius of a change

THE CHANGE Describe it in one sentence: _____

Before tracing systems, confirm today's behaviour, expected behaviour and scope.

☐ 1 BUSINESS PROCESS

What workflow, hand-off or business outcome changes?

☐ 2 USERS AND TEAMS

Who works differently, needs access, training or communication?

☐ 3 SYSTEMS AND INTEGRATIONS

Which applications, APIs, events or dependencies are touched?

☐ 4 DATA

What is added, changed, reused, missing or consumed downstream?

☐ 5 RULES, CONTROLS AND SECURITY

Which rules, approvals, permissions or audit needs move?

☐ 6 DOWNSTREAM AND REPORTING

Who consumes the output? Do reports, SLAs or reconciliation change?

☐ 7 FAILURE AND RECOVERY

What if it times out, partly succeeds, retries or runs twice?

☐ 8 HISTORY AND MIGRATION

What happens to in-flight work, old records and backfills?

☐ 9 PERFORMANCE AND OPERATIONS

Will it hold under real load? Who monitors and supports it?

☐ 10 TESTING, RELEASE AND ROLLBACK

How will we prove, deploy, monitor and safely reverse it?

THREE QUESTIONS THAT FIND HIDDEN IMPACT

Who works differently?

Who consumes this next?

What if it fails halfway?

THE BIG IDEA

The ticket shows the change.

Impact analysis shows everything the change touches.