

Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs)



Introduction

Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs) are an essential, and often mandatory, step in protecting personal data and implementing privacy by design.

A DPIA is required for certain high risk processing activities, and in particular for projects involving personal data.

We offer deep data protection expertise balanced with the business understanding and quality standards you expect from a top tier professional services firm. As a core service offering of our team, we have developed a pragmatic and comprehensive approach to conducting DPIAs, including:

- industry leading methodology, tools and templates;
- custom-designed Risk & Control Matrix (RCM);
- workshop-based data flow mapping;
- clear, concise and actionable findings.

Our expertise, your value

Grant Thornton's Data Protection team are industry leading providers of DPIA services.

While there are a number of considerations when assessing whether a processing activity is 'high-risk', it useful for organisations to ask the following questions when determining whether a DPIA is required:



Are we undertaking a project that will impact personal data?



Are we introducing a new data processing technology?



Are we changing the way that we process personal data?



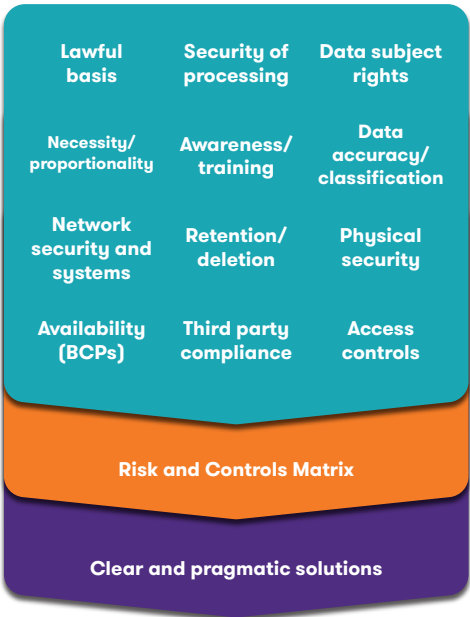
If the answer is 'yes' to any of the above, it is likely that a DPIA is necessary. If there is uncertainty about whether a DPIA should be carried out, contact our team who can assist in assessing whether a DPIA is required.

Our approach

Our pragmatic and comprehensive approach to conducting DPIAs has been developed through the Grant Thornton data protection centre of excellence in Ireland.

The approach incorporates GDPR requirements, relevant supervisory authority guidance and international leading practice.

We utilise an iterative approach and a proprietary Risk and Controls Matrix (RCM) to identify, assess and mitigate risks against key areas of data protection compliance.



Benefits of completing a DPIA

There is now a legal requirement and a consumer expectation to conduct DPIAs for high risk processing activities.

Even when not mandatory, it is good practice to carry out the assessments to identify and mitigate privacy risks in your organisation. Key benefits to conducting DPIAs include:



Protect the personal data of customers and employees



Implement 'privacy by design' into business practices



Improve consumer confidence in your organisation



Meet regulatory requirements and avoid fines

Key contacts for our dedicated team:

At Grant Thornton, we can work with you to tailor a DPIA approach that meets the specific requirements of your organisation. Please do not hesitate to call a member of our team to discuss your options further.



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