

How to Corroborate Information

A practical method for testing claims against independent evidence.





What does corroboration mean?

Corroboration means finding separate evidence that supports, challenges or qualifies a claim.



For professional discussion and reflection • Illustrative, not exhaustive • Apply alongside appropriate organisational risk, evidence and decision-making processes



Start with the claim

A clear claim makes it easier to identify what needs to be confirmed.





Define what needs confirmation

Break the claim into specific points that can be checked.





Identify the original source

Begin by understanding where the claim came from.





Distinguish sources from copies

Repeated versions of the same information are not independent confirmation.



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Choose independent sources

Use sources that are separate, relevant and appropriate to the claim.





Compare definitions

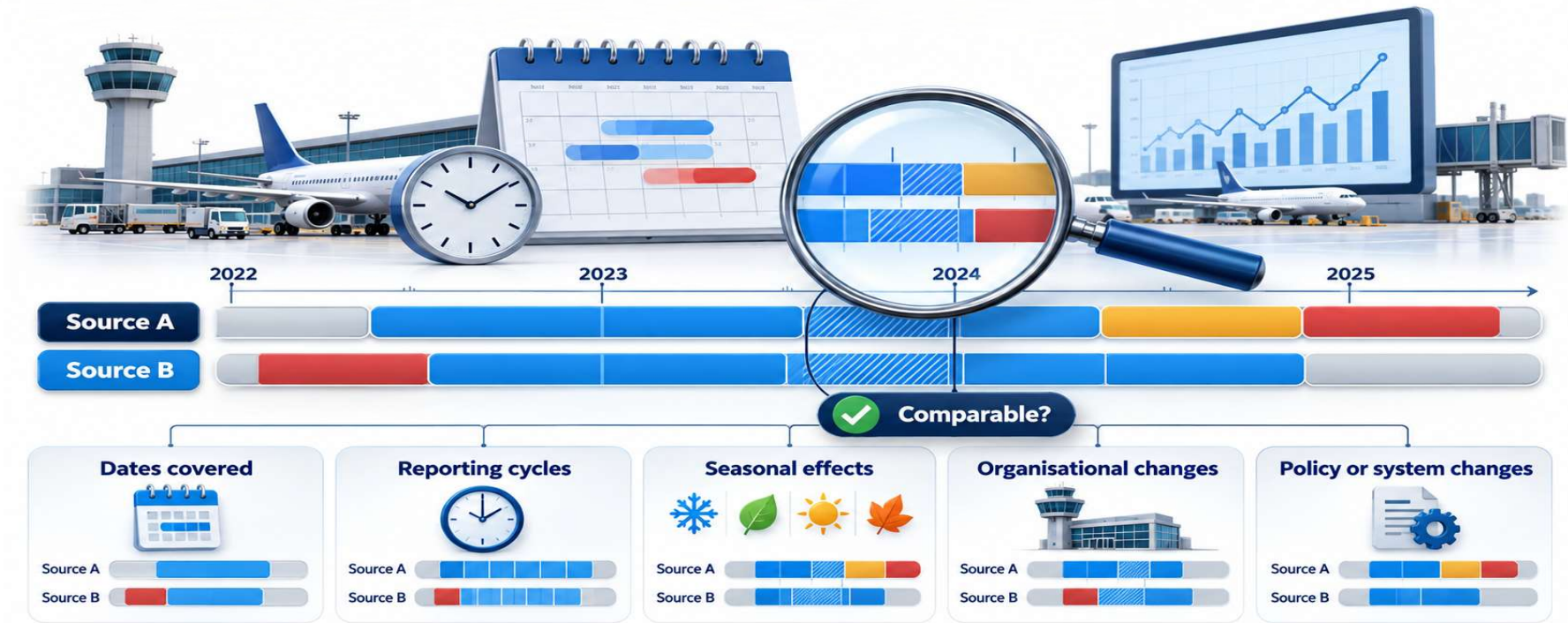
Different sources may use the same words to describe different things.





Compare time periods

Evidence is only comparable when the time periods are understood.





Compare locations and groups

Information may not apply equally across every location, department or workforce.





Test the quality of the evidence

Corroboration is only useful when the supporting evidence is credible.





Look for contradictions

A strong corroboration process records conflicting evidence.





Reach a balanced judgement

Corroboration should lead to a proportionate judgement, not forced certainty.





The corroboration checklist

Corroboration does not remove uncertainty. It makes uncertainty easier to understand and manage.

