G-Cloud 14
Service Description

Governance, Risk and Compliance

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Governance, Risk and Compliance

NCSC Certified consultancy can deliver and implement effective GRC processes and procedures to achieve business objectives. Our delivery will establish effective GRC strategies, maintain strong leadership, support informed decision making and ensure compliance with relevant regulations. We recognise that GRC must mitigate disruption and enhance processes and risk culture.

What is the Service

Methods is an NCSC Assured Cyber Consultancy who has been assured to the highest standards as defined by NCSC and professional bodies such as UK Cyber Security Council. With a proven track record of delivering cyber security consultancy expertise, we pride ourselves on working closely with our clients - often augmenting in-house capability.

A Cyber Security Essentials Plus certified company, the services provided by the Cyber Portfolio align with ISO/IEC 20700 family of information security management standards, ensuring work is appropriately scoped, planned, and delivered to the highest standards.

Methods provide a holistic approach to Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) with work undertaken by industry qualified Cyber security experts, many holding CCP Lead Practitioner else qualified to Chartered status, able to offer approved guidance and support to both public and private sector clients, covering the entirety of the Security organisation.

Methods' Cyber Security professionals have extensive knowledge and experience in the development of GRC strategies, frameworks, and services to enable an organisation to demonstrate effective GRC practices, establish GRC groups, maintain a governance framework, identify, assess, and manage risks, conduct supplier assessments whilst also ensuring relevant regulatory compliance requirements are met.

We support organisations to review existing Governance frameworks, enabling organisations to synchronise information and relevant activities across governance and compliance, establish foundations across the organisation and operate more efficiently through establishing effective information sharing, support informed decision making and avoid wasteful overlaps.

We maintain a series of Cyber and Information systems and frameworks aligned to industry good practice - ISO 27001, ISO 27005, ISO 27017, ISO 27018, ISO9001, ISO 3100, NIST Cyber Security Framework (CSF) NIST SP 800-37, NIST SP 800-30, NIST SP 800-161, NCSC's Cyber Assessment Framework (CAF), Cyber Essentials/ Cyber Essentials Plus, Centre of Information Security (CIS) benchmarks.

Methods hold multiple Microsoft Global Partnership and AWS Select Tier Services Partners status to ensure we can provide customers with robust, consistent assurance in our quality processes and the protection of our systems and customer-related data.
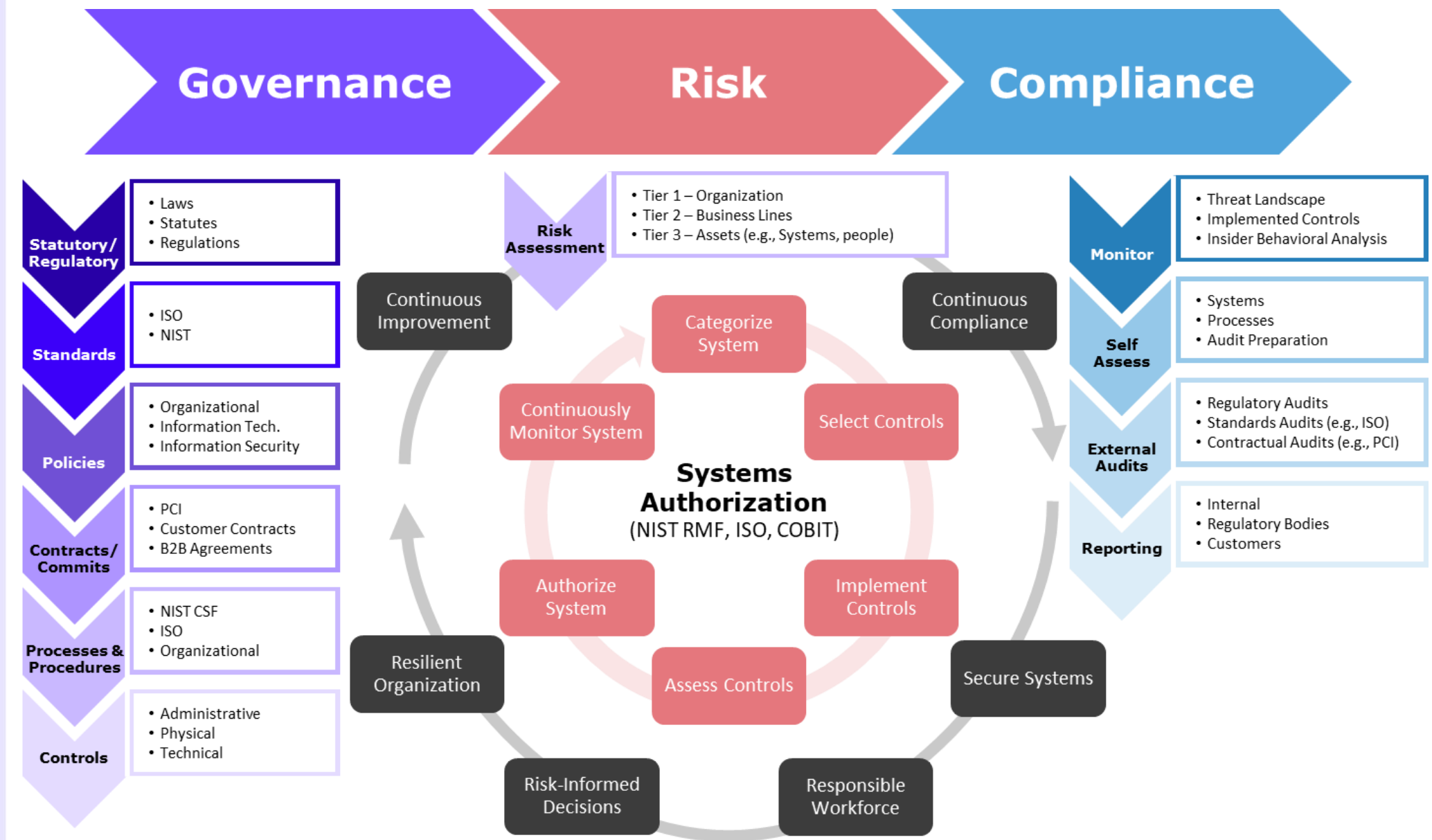
Methods support organisations with review and enhancement of a well-planned GRC strategy, demonstrating the ultimate benefit through adoption of frameworks which include but not limited to:

- Improved decision-making for risk
- Provide independent oversight and validation of security posture
  - Effective management of Data Breaches and/or Security Incidents; and
  - Governance, Risk and Compliance framework which supports the organisation
- Enhance operational efficiency
- More optimal IT investments
- Support towards reduced compliance costs
  - Elimination of silos
  - Reduce duplication of effort
  - Reduced fragmentation among divisions and departments
- Provides access to technical skills and resources, allowing continuous improvement
- Effective GRC knowledge transfer to the organisation
- Support strategy development and implementation
- Threat analysis scanning.

Methods can enable and tailor GRC strategies to specific, industry, size, and risk profile, ensuring that the organisation looks to enhance existing processes in the following ways:

- (G) - Governance: Implementation of effective governance processes and procedures to ensure organisational activities such as managing IT operations are aligned to strategic roadmaps to achieve business goals, maintain leadership, and establish trust across key business stakeholders.
- (R) - Risk: Implement and deliver expert guidance and knowledge to improve risk management, conduct risk assessment to ensure that standardised, clear consistent processes for risk identification, assessment, mitigation, and monitoring align to business goals and objectives.
- (C) - Compliance: Developing robust GRC strategies and continuous monitoring process will ensure that organisational activities are conducted in a manner that complies with latest security standards e.g.ISO27001, NIST, NCSC CAF, laws and relevant regulations/legislation across the organisation.

Methods provide cyber security compliance reviews that enable evidence-based assessments across an organisation's level of compliance with cyber security standards, legislation, regulations, and laws, identifying how they meet, or fall short of, the required compliance level and providing a prioritised roadmap of identified gaps and support improvements.

Methods can support an organisation in the effective communication of your GRC strategy across E-suite, C-suite, and wider organisation stakeholders, support cultural improvements of risk awareness and awareness, enable continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure continuous improvement is recognised and demonstrated and enhance processes that support the delivery of GRC as an ongoing activity.

Our methodology is agile and is designed to integrate seamlessly into the organisation, complementing and innovating the current working practices. Whether the organisation is looking for ad-hoc support, or a long-term partner, our team of experts can help identify and implement the best and most viable solutions.

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What it can do for you

Methods is an NCSC Cyber Security certified consultancy in Cyber Security Governance & Risk Management, delivering approved advice and guidance to a diverse range of clients to provide the most cost effective and pragmatic approach, based on industry best practice. We provide our customers access to industry recognised experts who have a record of delivering cyber security consultancy assignments, as defined by NCSC and the UK Cyber Security Council. Our GRC professionals have deep industry knowledge and can provide the organisation the most cost effective and pragmatic approach to enabling effective GRC principles including preparing an organisation for a GovAssure Scheme risk-based review.

Based on industry best practice, Methods can assist the organisation with working towards establishing a strategy for managing effective governance, define goals and objectives of the GRC strategy, implementing effective enterprise risk management that supports the prioritisation of risk, identify relevant regulations and internal policies that demonstrate compliance with internal processes, law and legislation/regulatory requirements, develop standardised processes and foster a positive culture of risk awareness and compliance. We enable IT to align with the business objectives to ensure integration across enterprise systems and services, making an organisation more effective and avoiding silo approach.

Service Features

1. Establish and maintain a Governance Framework across the organisation
2. Establish working GRC groups, ensuring roles/responsibilities are clearly defined
3. Provide assessment/analysis of Cyber Security posture and support remediation requirements
4. Publish/deploy policies, standards, procedures across the organisation supporting effective governance
5. Support/manage risk/incident management, business continuity, disaster recovery/crisis event management
6. Achieve Cyber Essentials / ISO27001 certifications.
7. Assess practices' maturity using NIST; recommendations to support maturity growth
8. Conduct supplier assurance activities
9. Governance, Risk and Compliance programme direction, strategy and leadership
10. Recommend services and technology, to meet risk and compliance needs

Service Benefits

1. Provide pragmatic and cost-effective support, ensuring maximum return on investment
2. Deploy industry recognises Governance, Risk and Compliance experts
3. Independent oversight/validation of security posture, identifying improvements through gap analysis
4. Deliver a tailored Governance, Risk and Compliance framework
5. Allow your business to make informed, risk-based decisions
6. Provides access to technical skills and resources, allowing continuous improvement
7. Effective GRC knowledge transfer to your organisation
8. Meet contractual obligations (certifications and qualified roles)
9. Enable the organisation to meet statutory and industry regulations requirements
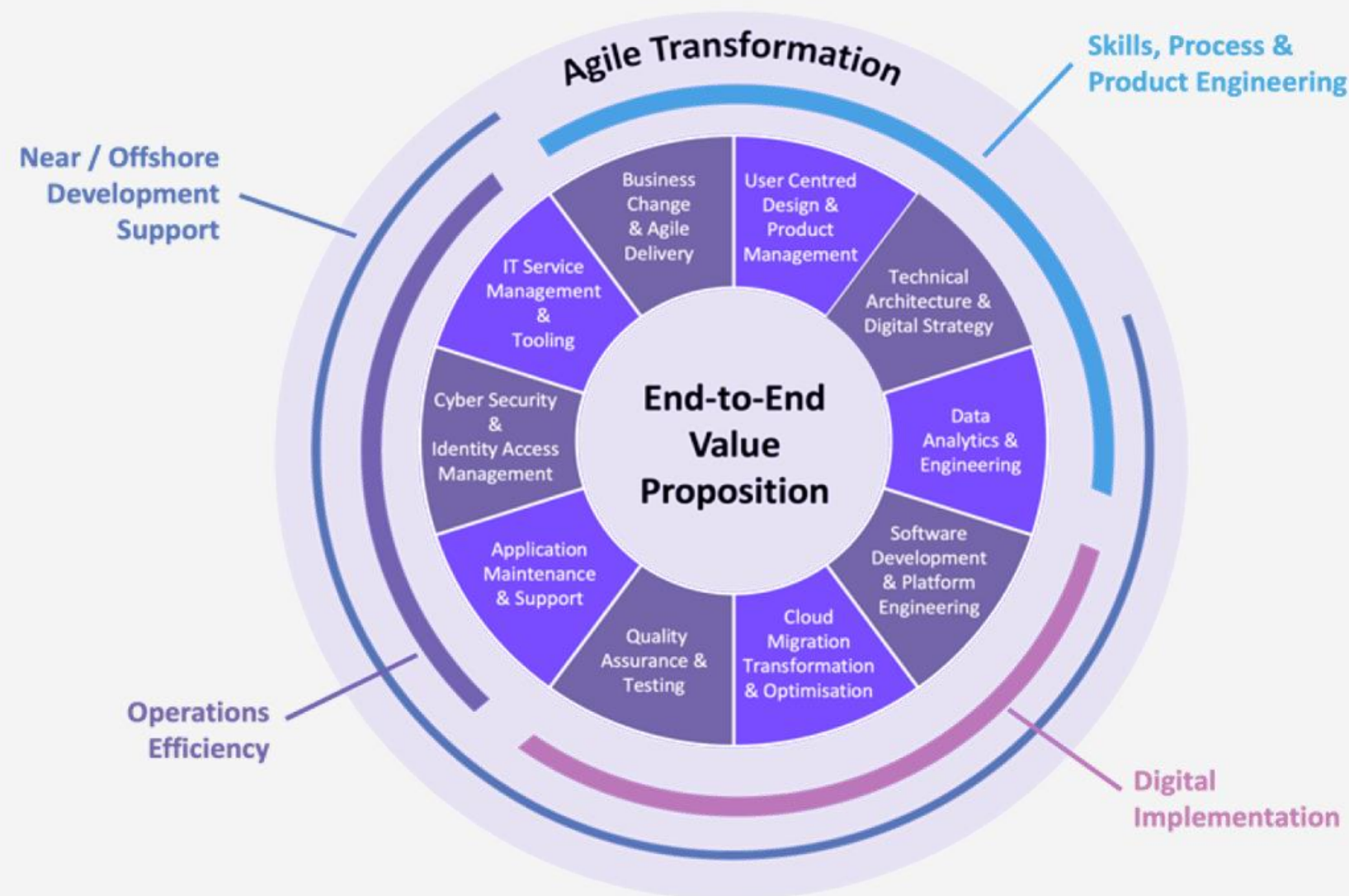10. Improved planning and budgeting for the organisation

End-to-end transformation and innovation experts

Applying our skills in innovation and collaboration from across the Methods Group, to deliver end-to-end business and technical solutions that are people-centred, safe, and designed for the future.
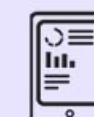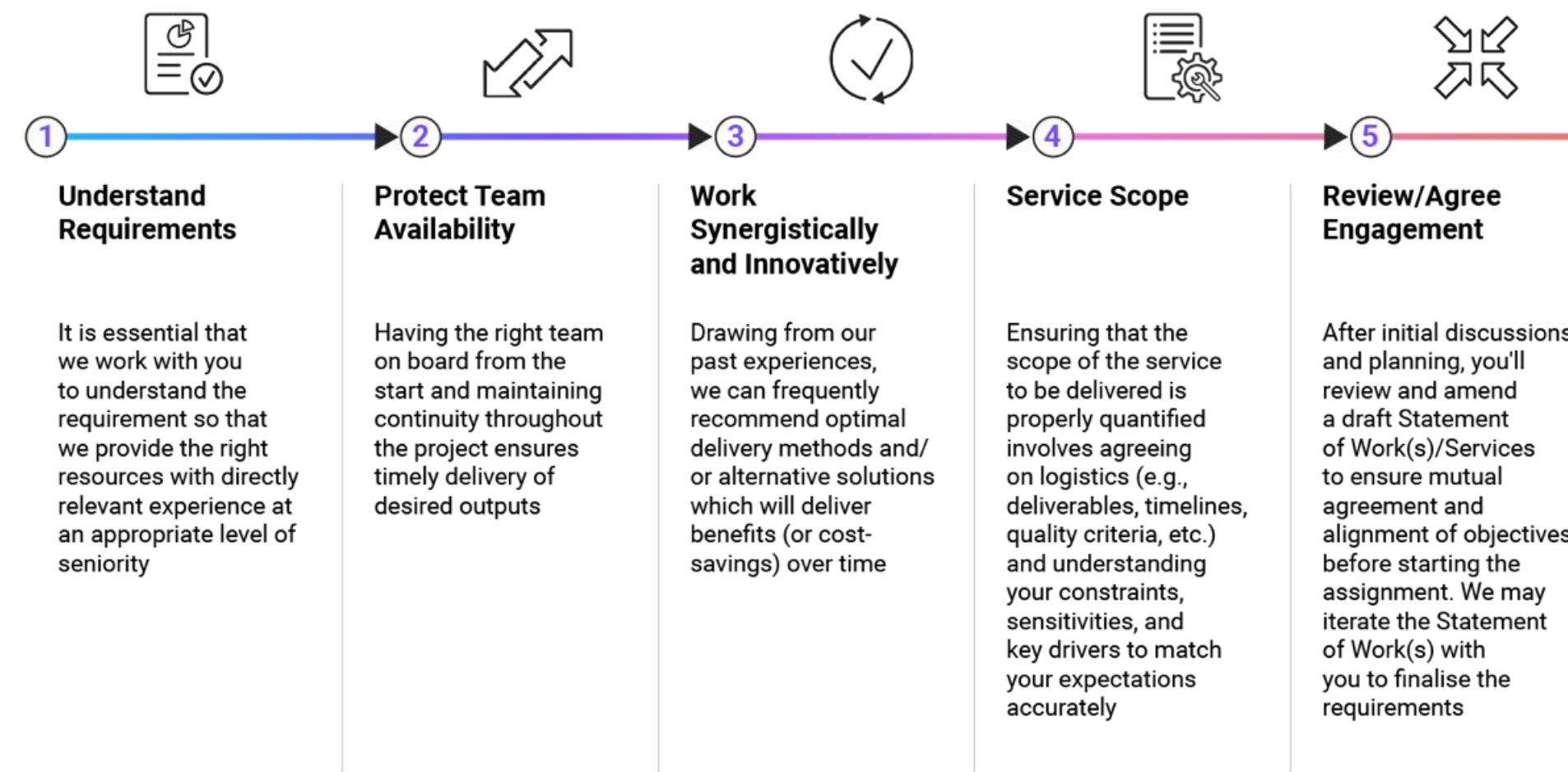
Methods provide collaborative and innovative solutions to help Central Government adapt to the changing landscape and deliver better outcomes for citizens.

With a focus on driving interoperability and innovation in UK Central Government, we have helped multiple organisations in the sector modernise their IT architecture, systems, strategy, and operating models to improve organisational resilience and service delivery.

Methods deliver wide-ranging services and thought leadership to support delivery including:

Agile Transformation

Skills, Process & Product Engineering

Near / Offshore Development Support

- Business Change & Agile Delivery
- User Centred Design & Product Management
- IT Service Management & Tooling
- Technical Architecture & Digital Strategy
- Cyber Security & Identity Access Management
- Data Analytics & Engineering
- Application Maintenance & Support
- Software Development & Platform Engineering
- Quality Assurance & Testing
- Cloud Migration Transformation & Optimisation

End-to-End Value Proposition

Operations Efficiency

Digital Implementation

Onboarding and offboarding process

1. Understand Requirements

It is essential that we work with you to understand the requirement so that we provide the right resources with directly relevant experience at an appropriate level of seniority

2. Protect Team Availability

Having the right team on board from the start and maintaining continuity throughout the project ensures timely delivery of desired outputs

3. Work Synergistically and Innovatively

Drawing from our past experiences, we can frequently recommend optimal delivery methods and/ or alternative solutions which will deliver benefits (or cost-savings) over time

4. Service Scope

Ensuring that the scope of the service to be delivered is properly quantified involves agreeing on logistics (e.g., deliverables, timelines, quality criteria, etc.) and understanding your constraints, sensitivities, and key drivers to match your expectations accurately

5. Review/Agree Engagement

After initial discussions and planning, you'll review and amend a draft Statement of Work(s)/Services to ensure mutual agreement and alignment of objectives before starting the assignment. We may iterate the Statement of Work(s) with you to finalise the requirements

Ordering and Invoicing

Once we have agreed a Statement of Work(s) we will sign the appropriate agreement and complete a Call Off contract with an attached Statement of Work(s), and submission of a Purchase Order. We will then set up a mutually acceptable start date and commence work.

Payment terms are 30 days or less as may be agreed.

Please note - we are unable to accept Government Procurement Card (GPC) payments.

Customer Responsibilities

For any given requirement, we will identify any dependencies on the customer (e.g. access to key stakeholders, facilities, documentation, etc.) and agree these at the start of the work.

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Making a difference

The work we do each day is focused on delivering a positive difference for the public sector for the benefit of society as a whole.

Environment
We use the 'recycle, reuse, repair, refuse' approach to waste reduction to minimise landfill waste, support climate initiatives, and enhance biodiversity, creating a sustainable environment for our colleagues and community

Volunteering
We continue to support charitable causes that align with and support our values including our charity partner and VCSE initiatives

Investment in Talent
We cultivate young talent through our GRAVITATE programme, championing vibrant apprenticeship and graduate schemes while aiding tech career exploration for individuals aged 14-24

Diversifying our Supply Chains
We diversify our local supply chains, promoting small business enterprise and engaging local people, SME, and micro-business suppliers

Staff Wellbeing
We offer career paths and continue to enhance our PDP processes, and maintain our commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant. Moreover, we continue to support our colleagues holistically, considering them as complete individuals at every career stage with Methods

Safeguarding Services
We continue to provide insightful thought leadership on leveraging modern technology to secure our public services for future generations. This involves speaking at industry events, educating youth on tech career paths, and offering pro-bono advice to senior policymakers

Customer stories

Stopped a Central Goverment high-severity Cyber threat in its tracks with a Threat Management solution that continuously monitors the security posture and responds to active cyber security incidents and vulnerabilities fast

Simplified 230+ service offerings with no disruption to live service to deliver service management maturity that was standardised to be more efficient, and optimised to reduce cost at a critical time for HMCTS

Put nature at the heart of government decision-making using digital and AI innovation to explore 21 natural capital ecosystem assessments with Defra

Reduced service costs by 60% through the design and transition of Robotic Process Automation of 1.2M service billing transactions per month at NOS Telecoms Cabinet Office

Enabled the delivery of 4.7M care and food supplies to people who were at the highest risk from COVID-19 through the development, delivery, and maintenance of the Shielding Vulnerable People service at the Cabinet Office

Increased speed and traceability of annual education funding allocations by transforming the Funding Service at ESFA in the DFE