

Data engineering & cloud data platform service

Service overview

The Data Engineering & Cloud Data Platform Service supports public sector organisations to design, build and implement secure, reliable data platforms that enable analytics, reporting and data-driven decision-making. The service focuses on establishing robust data foundations that are suitable for use in live services, aligned to organisational objectives, governance requirements and UK regulatory obligations.

The service is suitable for organisations seeking to improve data quality, accessibility and consistency across cloud environments while maintaining appropriate control and assurance.

Scope of the service

drie works with customers to design and implement cloud data platforms that are proportionate to their operating context and maturity. The service focuses on implementation rather than advisory-only activity.

Depending on requirements, the service may include:

- Assessment of existing data sources, data flows and data quality
- Design of cloud data platform architectures
- Data ingestion, transformation and processing pipelines
- Data modelling and structuring to support analytics and reporting
- Implementation of data quality and validation controls
- Integration with analytics, reporting or AI tools
- Documentation and knowledge transfer

All activities are defined and agreed in advance to ensure clarity of scope, cost and outcomes.

Delivery approach

Delivery follows established public sector digital delivery practices, aligned to the GDS Service Manual and agile principles. Work is delivered iteratively, allowing early validation of assumptions and progressive delivery of value.

Engagements are typically time-boxed and structured to reduce risk, support transparency and provide clear checkpoints for senior oversight. Delivery is primarily remote, with on-site engagement available by agreement. The service may be delivered on a fixed-price or time-and-materials basis depending on scope and complexity.

Security, governance & assurance

Security and governance are embedded throughout service delivery. This includes secure data handling, role-based access controls, encryption, segregation of environments and audit logging.

The service supports alignment with organisational data governance frameworks and UK regulatory requirements, including UK GDPR. Controls are implemented to support auditability, data lineage and accountability. The service does not provide formal certification or regulatory approval.

Customer responsibilities

The customer is responsible for providing timely access to relevant data sources, systems and stakeholders. The customer retains ownership of data, data quality decisions and business outcomes. The customer is also responsible for operating and maintaining the data platform once delivered, unless additional managed services are agreed.

Clear customer engagement is required to ensure effective delivery.

Service outputs

Outputs are agreed as part of the service scope and may include implemented data platforms, data pipelines, data models, configuration artefacts, documentation and operational guidance. Outputs are

designed to support ongoing use, assurance and future development.

Exit and handover

At the end of the engagement, drie provides documentation and knowledge transfer to support continuity and sustainability. Any ongoing monitoring, retraining or support is subject to a separate agreement.

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