



Cloud Security Assurance and Risk Management Service

Service Definition

1. Service Overview

The Cloud Security Assurance and Risk Management Service provides structured advisory support to help public sector organisations assess, strengthen, and govern their cloud security posture. The service focuses on risk reduction, compliance alignment, and operational security maturity rather than ownership of infrastructure.

It enables organisations to maintain secure cloud environments while supporting regulatory obligations, resilience requirements, and public sector governance standards. The service is designed to embed security assurance into everyday cloud operations.

2. Service Scope

The service supports:

- Cloud security posture assessments
- Risk identification and mitigation planning
- Security architecture advisory
- Compliance and governance alignment
- Identity and access governance review
- Vulnerability management advisory
- Incident readiness planning
- Security policy framework mapping
- Threat modelling workshops
- Formal security reporting

The service provides advisory capability and does not replace buyer security ownership.

3. Service Features

- Structured security assessment framework

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- Risk modelling and prioritisation
 - Architecture review and guidance
 - Compliance gap analysis
 - Identity governance advisory
 - Vulnerability exposure analysis
 - Incident preparedness planning
 - Security control mapping
 - Governance workshop facilitation
 - Continuous advisory reporting
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4. Service Benefits

- Reduces cyber risk exposure
 - Strengthens security governance
 - Supports regulatory compliance
 - Improves identity and access controls
 - Identifies vulnerabilities early
 - Enhances incident preparedness
 - Protects sensitive public sector assets
 - Improves audit readiness
 - Builds organisational security maturity
 - Supports resilient cloud operations
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5. Onboarding and Engagement Approach

Engagement begins with discovery workshops and risk baseline assessment. Buyers provide access to relevant documentation, policies, and architectural information.

A structured assurance plan is agreed before advisory delivery begins. Outputs are provided through formal reporting and governance reviews.

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Delivery is primarily remote unless onsite engagement is agreed.

6. Service Management

The engagement operates under consultancy governance processes including milestone reviews, progress reporting, and escalation handling.

Security advisory outputs are tracked against agreed deliverables. Buyers receive regular status updates and formal review checkpoints.

7. Support Levels

Standard advisory support is included within the engagement scope.

Enhanced advisory availability may be agreed for accelerated security programmes.

A dedicated cloud security advisory lead may be assigned for complex environments.

8. Security and Compliance

The service operates within an ISO/IEC 27001-aligned governance framework. Advisory practices align with recognised public sector security principles and operational standards.

Security assurance activities are embedded within all engagement outputs.

9. Availability and Resilience

The service focuses on strengthening resilience outcomes through risk modelling, continuity advisory, and resilience architecture planning.

Recommendations support secure, high-availability cloud environments.

10. Data Protection and Exit

Buyers retain ownership of all engagement outputs and security documentation. At contract end, materials are returned or securely deleted as agreed.

No buyer data is retained after engagement closure.

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11. Constraints and Assumptions

The service assumes buyer cooperation, accurate documentation, and stakeholder availability. Outcomes depend on the quality of information provided.

The service is advisory and assurance-focused rather than operational security ownership.

12. Commercial Model and Ordering

Services are delivered using transparent, effort-based commercial arrangements aligned to the published SFIA rate card. Buyers may select the pricing structure most appropriate to their operational needs.

Time and Materials

Services may be delivered on a time and materials basis using the SFIA rate card. Charges are based on effort expended and invoiced periodically in arrears.

Fixed Capacity Engagement

Services may be delivered through an agreed fixed-capacity advisory team for a defined duration.

Statement of Work (Resource-Based)

Services may be delivered under a high-level Statement of Work using SFIA day rates. Weekly worksheets confirm advisory effort provided.

Expenses, where applicable, are agreed in advance and invoiced at cost. VAT is applied where required. Pricing assumes remote delivery unless onsite engagement is agreed.

Services are ordered through G-Cloud call-off procedures with scope confirmed prior to commencement.

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