

848

Data Foundation & Architecture

Service Definition

Insightful Business

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1. Service Overview

Organisations need a coherent data foundation before they can scale reporting or introduce intelligent services. Disconnected platforms and inconsistent definitions make it harder to understand what information is available and how it should be used. Data Foundation & Architecture connects data strategy to the selected platform and architectural capability needed for further progress.

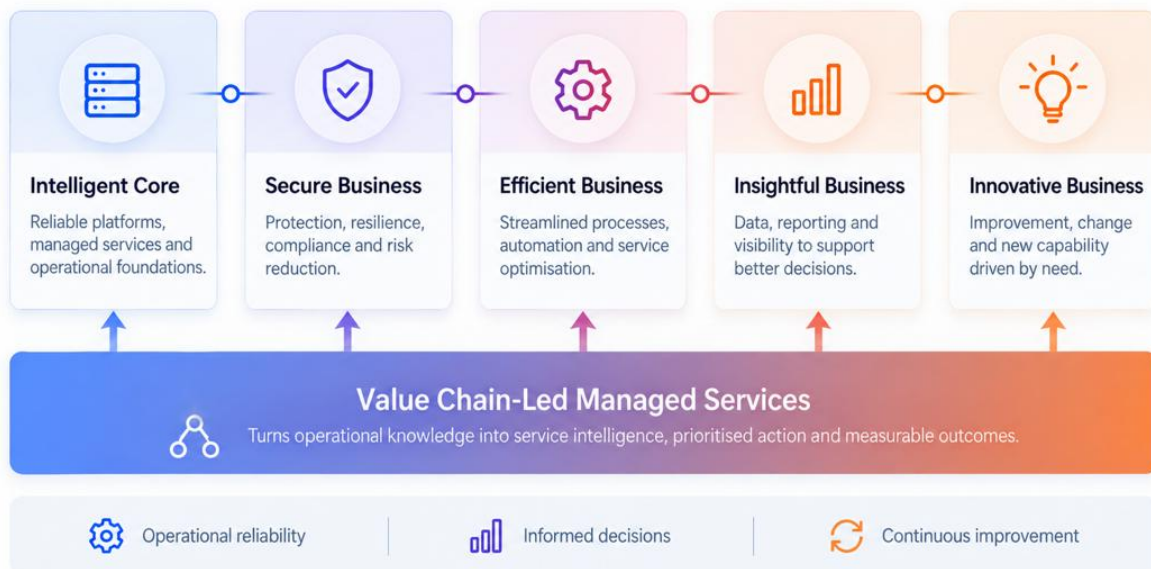
Data Foundation & Architecture sits within The Insightful Business, part of 848's Intelligent Business Framework. The framework connects technology investment to the way the organisation operates, makes decisions and delivers services. Each engagement addresses the selected outcome while considering its place in the wider customer environment.



Powered by **Intelligence** | Driven by **People** | Focused on **Outcomes**

848 Intelligent Business Framework

A framework that aligns service delivery, security, insight and improvement to business outcomes.



From business need to usable capability

The work establishes direction and makes the dependencies of modernisation explicit. A target design can guide investment, while selected platform or master data elements provide practical foundations. Customer teams gain a clearer understanding of how the estate should develop and what subsequent engineering will require.

Enterprise Architecture provides wider business and technology context. This service defines or establishes the data foundation used by Data Integration & Engineering and downstream analytics. Data Governance & Quality supplies the operational ownership and policy detail needed to sustain that foundation.

2. Scope and Service Boundaries

Customers select the elements that support their intended outcome. The scope identifies what 848 will deliver and the work retained by customer teams or suppliers.

Service	Outcome
Data strategy and roadmap	A vision and phased plan connect data capability to organisational priorities. Detailed solution design and implementation are separate.
Estate modernisation assessment	Existing platforms and team readiness are reviewed to identify modernisation opportunities. Recommendations guide decisions; migration and decommissioning are separate.
Architecture governance	Standards and decision routes define how data architecture should be reviewed. Day-to-day governance operation and detailed platform design are separate.
Azure or Fabric platform foundations	Selected foundational cloud data components are designed and deployed. Data ingestion, analytical models and ongoing platform management are separate.
Hybrid data architecture	A design explains how on-premises and cloud data environments should connect. Network engineering and implementation of the integrations are separately scoped.
Reference data management	Selected structures and distribution patterns support consistent reference values using Fabric and Purview. Full master data matching and ongoing stewardship are separate.
Metadata and catalogue enablement	Selected Purview structures and harvesting capabilities improve visibility of the data estate. Large-scale manual metadata population and ongoing catalogue administration are separate.
Master data management	Selected Profisee capability integrates mastering with Fabric and Purview, including agreed matching and stewardship arrangements. Application refactoring and continuing MDM operation are separate.
Storage and performance review	Selected storage and platform behaviour is assessed to identify improvements. Implementation of recommended changes requires explicit separate scope.
Platform health review	A review identifies reliability and configuration concerns against agreed expectations. Remediation and continuing platform monitoring are separate.

Dependencies and exclusions

Strategy, design and implementation are separate service choices. A deployed data foundation does not include the pipelines or reports that will later use it. The engagement is limited to selected Microsoft-aligned components, with Profisee specifically supported for MDM. Platform reviews provide findings and recommendations; they do not guarantee certification or include all remedial changes.

3. How 848 Delivers the Service

Delivery follows the selected scope, using the customer's operating context to guide the work. The sequence below explains how evidence and decisions progress towards the agreed outputs. Customer review and knowledge transfer form part of that progression.

Establish the data baseline

848 reviews the existing estate and business priorities with customer owners. Current-state information exposes platform constraints and capability gaps. The customer confirms the outcomes and organisational boundaries for the selected work.

Define direction and architecture

848 develops the commissioned strategy, roadmap or design. Dependencies between platform foundations and later data services are made explicit. Customer architecture and data owners review the proposed direction and its fit with organisational priorities.

Establish the selected foundation

Where implementation is included, 848 configures the agreed platform, catalogue or mastering components. Validation considers the selected design and available data sources. Review-only work concludes with its findings and recommendations without implying deployment.

Transfer the foundation into ownership

848 explains the outputs and the responsibilities needed to sustain them. Customer teams review the documentation and remaining actions. The resulting recommendations guide subsequent integration, governance or analytical work.

4. Service Delivery and Management

4.1. Deliverables and Outcomes

The outputs give the customer a usable record of the work and the information needed to act on it. The selected elements determine which deliverables apply; findings and limitations remain visible alongside the results.

Deliverable	Use for the customer
Strategy and architecture material	Provides the selected roadmap, design or governance principles for the data estate.
Foundational capability	Delivers the commissioned platform, catalogue or master data components.
Review findings and handover guidance	Explains constraints, validation results and the next work required to use or improve the foundation.

4.2. Working with 848

Data leadership confirms priorities and ownership. Architecture teams review design choices. Platform and source system specialists provide access and receive the relevant technical handover.

Participant	Responsibility
848 delivery team	Performs the selected work, explains findings and documents the relevant outputs. Coordinates review and knowledge transfer with the customer.
Customer service owner	Confirms the intended outcome and scope. Makes customer decisions and identifies who can resolve dependencies or approve changes.
Customer specialists and suppliers	Provide relevant information and agreed access. Complete retained activity and participate in review or validation where their systems or processes are involved.
Receiving team	Reviews the relevant outputs and takes ownership of the activities that continue after handover.

4.3. Service Assurance

Customer review checks the strategy or design against agreed priorities. Implemented components are validated within the selected scope. Findings distinguish delivered capability from subsequent engineering and governance work.

Review focus	What is checked
Scope alignment	The delivered work and outputs address the agreed requirements and selected service elements.
Evidence and validation	Findings or test results show the basis for conclusions, including known limitations and unresolved dependencies.

Review focus	What is checked
Customer acceptance	Relevant owners review the outputs and understand any open actions before accepting the commissioned work.

4.4. Onboarding

Onboarding establishes the conditions needed for useful delivery. The customer and 848 confirm what the engagement should achieve and check that the people and information needed for the selected work will be available.

Preparation	What needs to be established
Outcome and scope	Confirm the selected elements, boundaries and expected outputs, together with the customer's priorities.
Information and access	Existing architecture and data estate information are required. Implementation depends on the selected licences and cloud foundations, with source access and customer specialists available for validation.
Participants and decisions	Identify the service owner, relevant specialists and receiving team. Confirm review participants and escalation routes.
Delivery readiness	Agree the applicable schedule and customer prerequisites. Confirm any operational constraints affecting access, validation or handover.

4.5. Operating and Improving

The roadmap supports staged modernisation as business needs and data use develop. Customer owners prioritise further engineering or governance work. Periodic health reviews can inform those decisions where commissioned.

4.6. Handover and Exit

848 explains architectural decisions and the selected platform responsibilities. The receiving team takes ownership of the agreed components and the customer retains the next-step roadmap and open actions.

Handover item	Purpose
Agreed outputs	Provide the final documents or configuration material relevant to the selected service.
Findings and open actions	Preserve the evidence, limitations and remaining work for the customer or receiving provider.
Knowledge and ownership	Explain how the outputs should be used and confirm who owns the next operational or improvement activity.

5. Why 848

848 helps organisations improve how technology supports the way they operate, make decisions and deliver services. Our focus is not on deploying technology for its own sake, but on connecting technology investment to measurable business outcomes.

Our services are aligned through The Intelligent Business Framework, which brings together five outcome areas: The Intelligent Core, The Secure Business, The Efficient Business, The Insightful Business and The Innovative Business. This provides a consistent way to move from technology foundations and security through to operational efficiency, data-led decision-making and innovation, without treating each requirement as an isolated project.

848 combines consulting, engineering and managed service capability within one UK-based team. That matters because the people who design and implement change understand how technology must operate once it enters live service. Architecture, cloud, security, data, Power Platform, Dynamics 365, Microsoft 365 and managed services can therefore be considered as connected parts of the customer environment rather than separate technical towers.

Our Microsoft capability is supported by established partner credentials and practical delivery experience across Microsoft Azure, Microsoft 365, Power Platform, Dynamics 365, Fabric, Sentinel, Defender, Intune, Entra ID and Purview. 848 is a Microsoft Solutions Partner for Security and a Microsoft Direct CSP, giving our teams direct access to Microsoft technologies, programmes and commercial capability.

Service quality and security are supported by recognised organisational standards. 848 holds ISO/IEC 27001, ISO 9001, Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus, with security-cleared capability available where required. These controls sit behind the way we manage information, quality, access, risk and service delivery across customer engagements.

What differentiates 848 is the connection between delivery and improvement. Through Value Chain-Led Managed Services, service information is converted into practical intelligence about how technology and services perform across users, teams, suppliers, systems and hand-offs. Service Flow Analysis extends that view by identifying friction, delay, rework, unclear ownership and recurring service issues across end-to-end journeys. The result is a clear improvement backlog based on real operational evidence rather than assumption.

We also place a strong emphasis on internal capability. Knowledge transfer, clear ownership and practical handover are built into our services so that customers understand what has been delivered, how it works and how it should evolve. Where 848 remains involved, improvement continues through review, prioritisation and measurable service outcomes rather than static support.

For customers, the result is a partner able to move from strategy through design, implementation, validation, operation and improvement while maintaining a consistent view of the wider business outcome. 848 brings together the people, Microsoft capability and service intelligence needed to make technology easier to operate, easier to improve and more valuable over time.