FinOps – Cloud, AI & Data Platforms

Service overview

We help public sector bodies understand, control and reduce what they spend on the cloud. We analyse AWS and Azure spend, clean and tag billing data, build dashboards in QuickSight, Tableau and Power BI, and use AI to forecast costs and spot waste. We also turn property and estates data into clear evidence for spending decisions, in line with GDS spend controls.

What is included

- AWS and Azure cost analysis and optimisation
- Billing data cleaning, tagging and cost allocation by team, service or project
- Cost dashboards in QuickSight, Tableau and Power BI
- AI-based cost forecasting and anomaly detection
- Right-sizing, reserved instances and savings plans advice
- Property and estates data analysis
- Strategic decision support and evidence for business cases
- Data engineering pipelines for cost and usage data
- Budget alerts, governance and spend control reporting
- Redesign of costly workloads using serverless and cloud-native services

How we work

Stage	What happens
Discover	We agree goals and scope, get read-only access to billing and usage data, and map who owns which costs.
Analyse	We clean and tag the data, build a baseline of current spend and identify savings, ranked by value and effort.
Optimise	We put savings in place with your teams, such as right-sizing, scheduling, commitments and redesign, and track the results.
Embed	We set up dashboards, alerts and a regular review cycle, and train your staff so savings continue after we leave.

What you get

- Baseline report of current cloud spend, with a savings plan
- Cost and usage dashboards, handed over for your team to run
- Tagging and cost allocation standard
- AI-based forecasts and anomaly alerts
- Evidence packs for business cases and spend control approvals
- Handover notes and training for in-house staff

What is not included

- Paying cloud bills or buying cloud resources and licences on your behalf
- Changes to live systems without your written approval
- Third-party software licence costs, unless agreed in the order

Examples of our work

Cabinet Office Digital – GRID. We have designed, built and run GRID, a cross-government data platform, since 2020. It replaced a licensed analysis platform, saving about £8 million a year. Its serverless-first design and detailed cost reporting mean it runs at a fraction of commercial licence costs, and helped the team manage through budget reductions.

House of Lords Appointments Commission. We reviewed an over-provisioned, high-availability hosting set-up against real traffic and support data, then moved the service to AWS Lightsail (2023 to 2025). Hosting costs fell by 72%, response times improved by 50%, and security scans found no high or medium vulnerabilities.

About Four Seals Digital

Four Seals Digital Limited is a UK digital agency that works with the public sector. Our team of around 25 people includes solution architects, engineers, data analysts, AI engineers, business analysts, and product and delivery managers.

We have long experience of working with UK central government. We build and support web applications, data platforms and AI services on AWS and Azure.

We are certified to ISO 27001. All our staff and operations are in the UK, and we have staff with Security Check (SC) clearance.

Standards we follow

- GDS Service Standard and Technology Code of Practice
- NCSC Cloud Security Principles and Cyber Assessment Framework
- ISO 27001 information security management
- UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018
- WCAG 2.2 AA for anything users see

Security and your data

We work inside your own cloud accounts wherever possible, and ask for the least access we need (read-only where that is enough). Your data stays in the UK and is handled only by UK-based staff. We do not share your data with anyone else, and we return or securely delete it when the work ends.

Starting the service

- Kick-off meeting to confirm goals, scope, contacts and ways of working
- Agree access, security clearance needs and any data sharing terms
- Agree service levels, reporting and how we raise and escalate issues
- Short discovery to confirm the plan before main delivery starts

Ending the service

- Hand over all code, documents, dashboards and configuration
- Knowledge transfer sessions with your team or new supplier
- Return or securely delete your data, and confirm this in writing
- Remove our access to your systems and accounts

Support and service levels

We offer working-hours support (9am to 5pm), extended support on working days, or 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We agree the right level with you. Typical response times are below; resolution targets are agreed in the order.

Severity	What it means	We respond
Service down	A core service is unavailable	Immediately
Critical	Business outage or major impact on users	Within 1 hour
Urgent	Service works but is badly affected, or a time-sensitive issue	Within 2 hours
Important	Issue with little current impact on users	Within 4 hours
Monitor	No action needed beyond monitoring	Within 1 working day
Information	Request for information only	Within 1 working day

Who does what

You will:

- Give us access to the systems, data and people we need

- Name the people who can raise and approve requests
- Raise issues through the agreed route and set their priority

We will:

- Deliver the agreed work to the agreed standards
- Track every issue through to resolution and keep you updated
- Escalate problems early, through the agreed route

Contact us

Four Seals Digital Limited, Office 2, Tweed House, Park Lane, Swanley, BR8 8DT. Contact us through the Digital Marketplace to discuss your needs.