Skyral

Service Definition Document: Skyral Modelling and Simulation as a Service for Defence and National Security

Service Name: Skyral Modelling and Simulation as a Service for Defence and National Security
Supplier Name: Skyral Defence Ltd
Framework and Lot: G-Cloud 15, Lot 2b

Version Number: v1.0

Date: 14 January 2026

Status: Final

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1. Introduction to Skyral

Skyral represents a unique lineage in the defence technology sector. Originating as the defence and national security division of Improbable - a "unicorn" valued for its metaverse technologies - Skyral was spun out in June 2023. This separation was a strategic manoeuvre designed to decouple the defence-specific intellectual property from the commercial gaming volatility of its parent, allowing Skyral to operate as a focused, secure, and sovereign British defence contractor.

Skyral's platforms and services are designed to operate across high-side and low-side environments, up to and including deployments at SECRET classification for UK MOD. Delivery is underpinned by appropriately security-cleared staff, a Secure by Design and DevSecOps approach, and architectures built for interoperability with existing C2, ISR and modelling systems in line with JSP 939 concepts and broader MOD/NATO interoperability expectations.

2. Service Overview

Service Name

Skyral Synthetics Development for Defence and National Security as a Service

Description and Purpose

Skyral Synthetics Development as a Service is a 3- or 6-month fixed-term engagement that rapidly stands up or extends trusted synthetic environments, models and digital twins on top of Skyral CORE for defence and national security customers. The service focuses on turning mission questions into validated, operationally relevant synthetic environments that can be reused for planning, wargaming, training and experimentation, rather than one-off demonstrators.

The engagement combines secure engineering, domain-aware modelling and data integration to deliver credible, explainable simulations that support high-stakes operational and strategic decisions. It is typically delivered as a follow-on to Skyral's Problem Solving as a Service discovery phase, which defines mission problems, decision levers and success metrics; however, it can also operate as a standalone build phase where those levers and boundary conditions are already understood by the customer. Throughout, the service is delivered using Secure by Design principles, with cleared staff, rigorous data-handling processes and deployment patterns suitable for both high-side and low-side environments

Intended Users and Use Cases

- **Defence and National Security -** Primary users are operational planners, targeting and ISR staff, J5/J3 teams, capability planners, wargaming cells and collective training organisations across single-Service, Joint and NATO/coalition structures.

Typical use cases include:

- Mission planning and operational decision support, including Course-of-Action analysis, Blue–Red adversarial testing and evaluation of multi-domain campaign options.
- Operational Decision Support and theatre-level digital twins, enabling commanders to explore cascading effects across force elements, logistics, civilian patterns of life, CNI and the information environment before committing real-world assets.
- Collective and distributed training, rehearsal and experimentation in synthetic environments aligned to JSP 939 concepts, interoperable with existing MOD synthetic-environment, C2 and training systems.

All defence and national security work is supported by appropriately cleared staff and architectures proven in classified environments, with interoperability across high-side and low-side networks and with legacy and modern C2/ISR systems

- **Government & Public Sector:** Strategic digital twins for health policy, transport, and national infrastructure resilience.

- **Critical National Infrastructure:** Digital twins for telecommunications and energy network performance planning.

3. Method and Activities

This service enables the swift definition, creation, and prioritisation of strategic levers essential for solving strategic problems, and the further development of Skyral CORE solutions against customer needs.

The service builds upon “Skyral Core” , our ecosystem of tooling that revolutionises the engineering and sustainment of next-generation Modelling and Simulation solutions. Core is a suite of tools, technologies, and APIs developed for and used by Skyral engineers, forming the underlying foundation of our products, enabling rapid delivery and operational support of complex synthetic environments.

Skyral Core encapsulates the accumulated knowledge and experience of tackling some of the most challenging modelling and simulation problems. Its uniform approach to synthetics design delivers valuable insights rapidly, ensures a consistent user experience, and significantly reduces long-term operational costs, through the use of common tooling, APIs, and components.

Skyral embeds a secure-by-design philosophy across its CORE platform and products, using DevSecOps practices, automated testing, and governance to ensure security is engineered in from the outset rather than added later. This includes operating up to

SECRET classification for UK MOD, compliant data protection processes, and rigorous authenticity and supplier controls that make simulation and decision-support outputs trusted and auditable for high-consequence missions. At the same time, Skyral's modular, cloud-native architecture and 3-3-3 delivery model enable highly agile delivery—reusing battle-hardened components, integrating rapidly with existing environments, and iterating with stakeholders at pace so new capabilities can be safely fielded in days and weeks instead of months and years

At the heart of every synthetic solution delivered by Skyral, Skyral Core is continuously improving, shaped by customer feedback and project experiences. With a broad set of enabling and accelerating capabilities (see the diagram below), it offers a comprehensive ecosystem for developing reliable, efficient, and secure solutions. Focusing on modularity, reusability, and improvement not only accelerates project delivery but also establishes Skyral as a leader in innovation and customer satisfaction, driven by a development ecosystem that matures with each project.

4. Service Outputs

Service outputs are customer-driven and agreed at the outset of the engagement, then refined through delivery to ensure they remain aligned to priority questions and constraints.

Typical outputs (tailored per engagement) could include:

- A configured synthetic environment and associated models, implemented on Skyral CORE to represent the agreed system of interest (e.g. missions, organisations, networks, assets, populations, processes) at the required level of fidelity.
- A set of validated configurations and scenarios reflecting the agreed use cases, with documented assumptions, limitations and—where data permits—calibration and validation evidence to support assurance and future enhancement.
- User-facing views and interfaces, plus any in-scope integrations, designed to make the synthetic environment usable by the customer's planners, analysts, trainers or decision-makers in their own workflows.
- Documentation, handover and a roadmap, proportional to the engagement, describing what has been built, how to operate and extend it, and how it can be developed or scaled further within Skyral CORE and the customer's wider programmes.

Key Benefits

- **Credible Digital Twins:** Rapidly develop validated modelling capabilities to test interventions safely.
- **Reduced Complexity:** Leverages the unified **Skyral CORE** platform and reusable components to lower development costs and integration risk.
- **Increased Understanding:** Reveal multi-domain cascading effects across forces, logistics and CNI.
- **Experimentation:** Enable coalition experimentation while protecting sovereign data and IP.
- **Transparent Results:** Produces mathematically grounded, explainable outcomes that avoid "black-box" AI, essential for high-consequence decisions.
- **Scalable Foundation:** Provides a modular roadmap for long-term modelling and simulation capabilities across an enterprise.

5. Service Description and Scope

Service Functionality

The service utilises **Skyral CORE**, a modular platform for building and operating simulations as a long-lived capability:

- **Model Implementation:** Construction of large-scale agent-based models (ABM) representing millions of entities, assets, and behaviours.
- **Validation & Calibration:** Applied Scientists use statistical methods to ensure simulations reflect real-world dynamics.
- **Integration & Visualisation:** Engineering of map-centred visualisations (Lens) and data plane integrations for analytics.
- **Scenario Testing:** Using the Orchestrator and Scenario Service to run thousands of "what-if" parallel simulations.

Scope of Delivery

The engagement provides a multi-disciplinary technical team:

- **Leadership:** Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Product Owner.
- **Science & Engineering:** Applied Scientists, Modelling Engineers, Solutions Architects, and Full-Stack/Test Engineers.
- **Deliverables:** Model implementations, hosted environments, a final insights report, and an optional **six-month Skyral CORE trial licence**, not necessary if a licence is already in place.

Roles and Responsibilities

Skyral offer this service based on 3 configurations of team size:

- **Small** - able to take on small development projects or augment existing development teams
- **Medium** - able to take on medium complexity projects and/or augment existing development teams
- **Large** - able to take on complex development activities with wider scope and/or augment existing development teams.

Large Team (complex development activities with wider scope and/or augment existing development teams)

Role	SFIA Level	Days (3-month)	Days (6-month)	Indicative activity focus
SME	5	32	63	Lead problem framing, domain assumptions, and validation of models and scenarios.
Solution Architect	5	16	32	Define overall solution architecture, integration patterns and non-functional constraints.
Modelling Engineer 1	4	63	126	Implement core model components, data structures and simulation logic.
Modelling Engineer 2	3	63	126	Build and maintain model features, parameter sets and supporting utilities.
Applied Scientist	5	63	126	Design experiments, calibration and analysis methods; interpret results with SME.
Back End Engineer	4	16	32	Develop and optimise services, APIs and back-end orchestration for the solution.
Front End Engineer	4	63	126	Build and refine user interfaces, visualisations and mission/operator views.

Production Engineer	4	16	32	Set up environments, pipelines, observability and deployment/operational tooling.
Product Owner	4	16	32	Own backlog, scope and prioritisation; align delivery with agreed outcomes.
Project Manager	4	16	32	Coordinate delivery, risks, dependencies and reporting across the engagement.

Medium Team (medium complexity development activities and/or augment existing development teams)

Role	SFIA Level	Days (3-month)	Days (6-month)	Indicative activity focus
Solution Architect	5	16	32	Define overall solution architecture, integration patterns and non-functional constraints.
Modelling Engineer 1	4	63	126	Implement core model components, data structures and simulation logic.
Modelling Engineer 2	3	63	126	Build and maintain model features, parameter sets and supporting utilities.
Applied Scientist	5	63	126	Design experiments, calibration and analysis methods; interpret results with SME.
Back End Engineer	4	16	32	Develop and optimise services, APIs and back-end orchestration for the solution.
Front End Engineer	4	63	126	Build and refine user interfaces, visualisations and mission/operator views.

Small Team (small development projects or augment existing development teams)

Role	SFIA Level	Days (3-month)	Days (6-month)	Indicative activity focus
Modelling Engineer 1	4	63	126	Implement core model components, data structures and simulation logic.
Applied Scientist	5	63	126	Design experiments, calibration and analysis methods; interpret results with SME.
Front End Engineer	4	63	126	Build and refine user interfaces, visualisations and mission/operator views.

Typical deliverables:

- Implemented models and scenarios for the agreed business and risk questions.
- Hosted environments and integrations into the customer's chosen hosting context.



- A final insights report summarising key findings, sensitivities and recommended actions or decision options.

- Where required a six-month Skyral CORE trial licence can be obtained through Skyral CORE provision.

Deployment Models

The service supports diverse hosting environments via Skyral **SPORE** technology:

- Public Cloud (e.g., Microsoft Azure).
- Private, Hybrid, and Community Clouds.
- Sovereign and air-gapped environments up to **UK SECRET**.

6. Service Features and Benefits for Network Operations and Performance

Key Features

- Fixed-term three- or six-month modelling and simulation development engagement.
- Builds validated synthetic models for prioritised strategic insights and levers.
- Leverages Skyral Core tooling ecosystem for rapid solution development.
- SME-led technical guidance ensuring accuracy and relevance throughout delivery.
- Applied Scientists construct, calibrate, validate models and simulations.
- Modelling Engineers provide integrations, visualisations, and performance tuning.
- Workshops with customer stakeholders to refine insights and demonstrate progress.
- Hosted environment with optional six-month Skyral Core trial licence.
- Final report detailing insights, improvements, and future modelling roadmap.
- Continued one-month post-delivery support to embed insights operationally.

Key Benefits

- Evaluate force structure options through credible synthetic experimentation.
- Analyse operational risk across multiple threat and scenario conditions.
- Identify capability gaps and high-impact investment opportunities.
- Improve multi-domain integration with operationally relevant modelling and experimentation.
- Test readiness, resilience, and sustainment under realistic constraints.
- Enhance wargaming through validated, data-driven simulation support.
- Strengthen decision-making with transparent and reproducible evidence.
- Compare future capability concepts before committing to procurement.
- Improve joint understanding across domains, functions, and formations.



- Reveal second-order effects of force or capability decisions.

7. Dependencies and prerequisites (including customer responsibilities)

These services are delivered against a customer-defined **north-star** outcome, with required inputs and outputs specified upfront and then managed through an agile backlog.

Key prerequisites (customer side):

- Clear articulation of desired outcomes, priority questions, success metrics and non-functional constraints, agreed at initiation and used to shape the initial backlog (epics, features and acceptance criteria).

- Provision, at the start of the engagement, of requisite inputs such as domain knowledge, architectural or process views, key datasets, reference models and relevant policies or standards.

- Access to empowered product-owner and SME stakeholders who can attend ceremonies, review increments, re-prioritise the backlog and formally accept completed work.

- Confirmation of any platform, security, regulatory or interoperability constraints that affect how Skyral platforms are used or how Skyral assets are integrated into other systems.

This work assumes:

- Development on a Skyral platform (e.g. CORE and associated components) and/or

- Integration of Skyral assets into other customer or partner systems, with third-party dependencies identified and agreed at the outset.

8. Onboarding and agile delivery approach

Onboarding establishes the north star, guardrails and initial backlog; delivery then proceeds in an agile way towards the customer-defined requirement.

Indicative approach:

- **Kick-off and north-star definition**
    - Confirm target outcomes, users, use cases and scope across domains such as defence, healthcare, mobility and infrastructure, or business optimisation.
    - Define requisite inputs and outputs (e.g. environments, models, integrations, documentation, insights), capturing them as backlog items with clear acceptance criteria.
- **Backlog creation and refinement**
    - Translate the north star into an initial, prioritised backlog covering model features, data pipelines, UX/views, integrations, validation and documentation.
    - Agree iteration cadence, ceremonies (backlog reviews, showcases, retros) and decision forums with the customer product owner.
- **Iterative build and validation**
    - Deliver increments of capability on Skyral platforms or integrated environments, demonstrating value early and adjusting priorities via backlog reviews rather than changing the overall north star.
    - Incorporate feedback, test results and data learnings into backlog refinement so the solution converges on the agreed requirement within the fixed 3- or 6-month window.
- **Closure and transition**
    - Stabilise and document the most valuable capabilities in final iterations; prepare for handover and any follow-on phases.
    - Confirm that agreed outputs and acceptance criteria are met, and capture a forward backlog/roadmap for future development where appropriate.



9. Configuration, customisation and integration

Configuration, customisation and integration are driven by the customer-defined requirement, with Skyral providing the agile engineering, modelling and data work to reach it.

Configuration and customisation:

- Configure Skyral assets (CORE components, models, UX, data structures) or integration patterns to reflect domain specifics, data schemas, KPIs and non-functional requirements expressed in the initial scope and refined backlog.

- Evolve fidelity (e.g. level of detail, time resolution, geography), scenario sets, visualisations and user interactions iteratively, guided by backlog priorities and customer-owned acceptance criteria.

Integration (Skyral platform or hybrid deployments):

- Where development is on Skyral platforms, configure environments, access controls and operational practices to align with customer architecture, security and governance.

- Where Skyral assets are integrated into other systems, define and implement required data, API or workflow integrations as backlog items, respecting third-party constraints and patterns agreed at the start.

10. Service levels and performance (including availability targets)

Service levels focus on predictable, high-quality agile delivery towards the agreed north star, not on 24×7 operational SLAs.

- **Delivery cadence and governance**

    - A 3- or 6-month delivery plan agreed at initiation, with iteration boundaries, backlog-review cycles and key decision points aligned with customer governance and planning cycles.

    - Regular showcases to demonstrate increments against the north star,



manage trade-offs between scope, time and fidelity, and confirm ongoing alignment to priorities.

- **Responsiveness and platform behaviour**
    - Target response to engagement-related questions and backlog changes within agreed working hours and timeframes, with escalation routes for issues that could affect critical milestones.
    - For work delivered on Skyral platforms or Skyral-hosted environments, operational behaviour (e.g. performance, availability) follows Skyral CORE/SPORE practices for the chosen hosting model; formal numerical availability SLAs are normally defined in separate managed-service or platform agreements, not this build-focused engagement.

11. Support model and service desk (hours, channels, response/resolve targets)

Support during the engagement is focused on agile delivery and collaboration rather than a generic, ticket-based helpdesk.

- Primary support is provided by the named Skyral team (Product Owner, SME, Applied Scientist, Engineers), through agreed channels such as email, collaboration tools and scheduled ceremonies/workshops.
- Coverage is typically during UK business hours, with response and resolution expectations aligned to iteration cadence and key milestones, and defined in the engagement plan.
- Any issues affecting temporary Skyral-hosted environments used during development are triaged and resolved by the Skyral team using CORE/SPORE operational practices; formal incident and SLA frameworks, if required, are handled under separate platform/managed-service agreements.

12. Security model and accreditations (including any ISO, Cyber Essentials, data protection)

Security is engineered into the work from the outset, whether building on Skyral platforms or integrating Skyral assets into other systems.

- Development follows secure-by-design and DevSecOps practices, including controlled environments, access management, automated testing and monitoring appropriate to the sensitivity of each deployment.



- Skyral platforms support deployment into secure cloud, on-premises, sovereign and air-gapped environments, up to SECRET in defence contexts, with consistent SPORE-based controls.

- Skyral holds Cyber Essentials, Cyber Essentials Plus, ISO 9001 and ISO 27001 certifications, with evidence available on request.

- Any processing of personal, operational or commercially sensitive data follows applicable data-protection law and customer policies, with roles and responsibilities defined in contracts and data-processing agreements.

13. Data management (location, retention, backup, restore, portability)

Data management is aligned to the customer's regulatory and governance needs and the chosen hosting model.

- **Location** – Environments can run in cloud, on-premises or sovereign infrastructures via SPORE, allowing data residency and classification requirements to be met.

- **Retention and backup** – Working data and artefacts are typically retained for the duration of the engagement plus an agreed period to support handover and follow-on work, unless customer policies require otherwise; backup and restore characteristics follow the underlying hosting platform's capabilities.

- **Portability and export** – Final outputs and agreed artefacts (e.g. models at suitable granularity, configuration sets, documentation) are provided in commonly used formats to support reuse by customer teams and partners; further export and documentation support can be provided subject to licensing and IP terms.

14. Business continuity and disaster recovery approach

For this build-focused service, continuity is about sustaining momentum towards the north star despite issues affecting people, tools or environments.

- Plans allow resequencing of work so that design, modelling, analysis or documentation can proceed while specific systems or datasets are restored.

- DR metrics and obligations for any enduring environments or platforms are normally covered under separate platform or managed-service agreements;



they are not typically defined at the agile development engagement level.

15. Service usage limits and constraints

This is a scoped, fixed-term agile development service rather than an open-ended modelling or support arrangement.

Typical constraints:

- Duration: standard 3- or 6-month engagements, with scope planned to deliver the highest-value increments within that window; larger ambitions may be staged across multiple phases.

- Scope and fidelity: emphasis on delivering valuable, usable capabilities aligned to the north star, rather than exhaustive coverage of every scenario, system or feature in a single phase.

- Data availability: where data is limited or incomplete, some features or metrics may remain indicative; assumptions and limitations are documented so that later phases can refine or extend them.

16. Pricing model and units (linking to framework pricing rules)

Pricing reflects a fixed-term agile delivery engagement with a defined team mix and timeframe, aligned to framework rules.

- Core 3- or 6-month engagements are priced as fixed-scope work packages based on agreed outcomes, team composition and cadence.

- Additional phases or scope extensions (e.g. extra features, integrations, domains or environments) are handled through agreed change processes and may be priced as further fixed-price packages or time-and-materials under the relevant rate card.

- Any ongoing platform hosting, managed service or extended support is priced and contracted separately from this development engagement.

17. Change management (how changes to scope or volumes are handled)

Change is managed within an agile framework, preserving the north star while allowing backlog reprioritisation.



- The initial backlog and high-level scope are agreed at kick-off; within that, priorities and details are adjusted via regular backlog reviews with the customer product owner.

- Where new requirements would materially alter scope, cost or timelines (e.g. major additional integrations, domains, or fidelity changes), they are assessed jointly and, if accepted, incorporated via formal change notes or follow-on phases.

- Minor changes and refinements are handled through normal agile backlog management, making trade-offs within the fixed engagement duration.

18. Exit and offboarding (including data export and handover)

Exit ensures the customer can use, operate and extend what has been built, with clarity on data and IP.

- Final iterations focus on stabilisation, documentation and handover of agreed outputs (environments, models, configurations, integrations, documentation, insights).

- Handover sessions are run for nominated users and technical staff, covering operation, basic configuration and how to work within Skyral CORE governance or integration patterns.

- Customer data in Skyral-controlled environments is removed or anonymised in line with contractual retention and security requirements, and access to temporary environments can be wound down or transitioned under separate arrangements.

- Background IP in Skyral platforms and generic components remains with Skyral; customer-specific code, configurations or models are owned and licensed as set out in the contract.

19. Key assumptions and exclusions

Key assumptions:

- The customer provides timely access to people and data, participates in agile ceremonies and is able to make prioritisation decisions to keep delivery on track.
- The engagement focuses on design, build, integration and validation of models and environments, not on long-term operations or full organisational change and implementation.

Key exclusions (unless explicitly added to scope):

- Ongoing 24×7 operational support and incident management for live environments (covered by separate managed-service or platform agreements).
- Large-scale re-engineering of legacy systems, extensive third-party product customisations or activities outside the agreed backlog and acceptance criteria.
- Formal regulatory or safety cases: outputs can inform them but do not replace formal assurance processes.

20. Related services and optional add-ons

These agile build services sit alongside other Skyral offerings that can be combined as needed across defence, healthcare, mobility and infrastructure, and business optimisation.

Typical related services:

- Problem Solving / Decision Support as a Service – upstream discovery and framing to define levers, metrics and scope for Synthetics Development phases.
- Domain-specific Synthetics Development or digital-twin programmes (e.g. defence and national security, health, mobility and infrastructure, networks, business optimisation) that extend or industrialise the capabilities created in this engagement.

Optional add-ons:

- Additional deep-dive modules, extra integrations or extended experimentation/analysis packages delivered as further agile phases.
- Transition and managed-service options for long-term hosting, operation, enhancement and support of Skyral-based capabilities.

21. Contacts

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