



G-Cloud 15 | Lot 3 – Cloud Support Services

AI Labs – AI Discovery, Experimentation & Validation

Service Description

Structured AI innovation service for rapid, time-boxed exploration of artificial intelligence opportunities. We facilitate use-case discovery, assess technical feasibility, build working prototypes using generative AI and large language models, and deliver evidence-based business cases—de-risking AI investment before committing to full-scale development and ensuring responsible, ethical experimentation throughout.

Service Overview

The AI Labs service provides a structured approach to AI innovation that balances the need for speed and experimentation with the rigour required for public sector decision-making. By validating AI opportunities through practical prototyping before committing to full-scale development, organisations can make confident investment decisions while minimising waste.

The challenge many organisations face is bridging the gap between AI excitement and practical value delivery. Use cases that seem promising on paper may prove technically infeasible, deliver less value than expected, or create unforeseen risks. Traditional project approaches often don't surface these issues until significant investment has been made.

Our AI Labs methodology addresses this through time-boxed experimentation that rapidly tests hypotheses and generates evidence. Rather than extensive planning followed by big-bang delivery, we run focused innovation sprints that answer critical questions about value, feasibility, and risk.

Key elements of the AI Labs approach include:

Use Case Discovery: We facilitate structured workshops that help stakeholders identify and articulate potential AI applications. This includes opportunity horizon scanning to ensure you're aware of emerging possibilities enabled by technologies like generative AI.

Feasibility Assessment: Not every idea that sounds promising is technically achievable or practically viable. We evaluate use cases against criteria including data availability, technical complexity, integration requirements, and regulatory constraints.

Rapid Prototyping: Working prototypes communicate possibilities far more effectively than documentation. Using the latest AI technologies—including GPT, Claude, Gemini, and open-source models—we build demonstrators that stakeholders can experience directly.

Responsible AI Review: Even at the experimentation stage, we apply responsible AI thinking. This includes considering potential biases, transparency requirements, and ethical implications before solutions are scaled.

Business Case Development: Each validated opportunity is accompanied by a robust business case that supports investment decision-making. This includes cost-benefit analysis, implementation considerations, and risk assessment.

Service Features

- Use-case discovery workshops and AI opportunity horizon scanning
- Feasibility assessment evaluating impact, viability, and technical complexity
- Rapid prototyping using GPT, Claude, Gemini, Llama, and Copilot
- RAG pipelines, vector databases, embeddings, and semantic search experimentation
- Agentic AI and multi-agent orchestration proof-of-concept development
- Responsible AI review including bias detection and transparency assessment
- Data readiness evaluation for AI and machine learning initiatives
- Investment readiness assessment with evidence-based scaling recommendations
- Time-boxed innovation sprints with clear success measures
- AI Lab training enabling internal teams to run experiments

Service Benefits

- De-risked AI investment through validation before full commitment
- Rapid evidence gathering accelerating AI decision making
- Tested portfolio of opportunities ready for production scaling
- Reduced waste by stopping low-value ideas early
- Stakeholder confidence built through tangible working prototypes
- Responsible experimentation ensuring ethical and compliant AI development
- Clear business cases supporting spend control and investment approval
- Accelerated innovation through structured, repeatable methodology
- Informed go/no-go decisions based on real evidence
- Internal experimentation capability through AI Lab enablement

Our Approach

AI Labs engagements are structured around time-boxed sprints:

Sprint 0 - Discovery: We work with stakeholders to identify and prioritise potential AI use cases. This includes understanding strategic context, current pain points, available data, and organisational constraints. The output is a prioritised backlog of opportunities to explore.

Innovation Sprints: Each use case is explored through a focused sprint typically lasting 2-4 days. The sprint begins with clear hypotheses to test, follows a structured

experimentation approach, and concludes with demonstration of findings and recommendations.

Technology Selection: We maintain expertise across the rapidly evolving AI technology landscape. This enables us to recommend appropriate tools and approaches for each use case, whether that's commercial APIs, open-source models, or custom development.

Responsible AI Integration: Throughout experimentation, we apply responsible AI principles. This includes considering bias, fairness, transparency, and accountability even at the prototype stage.

Evidence Synthesis: At the conclusion of the Labs phase, we synthesise findings into actionable recommendations. This includes a prioritised portfolio of validated opportunities, business cases for investment decisions, and an implementation roadmap.

Available through G-Cloud 15 Framework | Lot 3 – Cloud Support Services