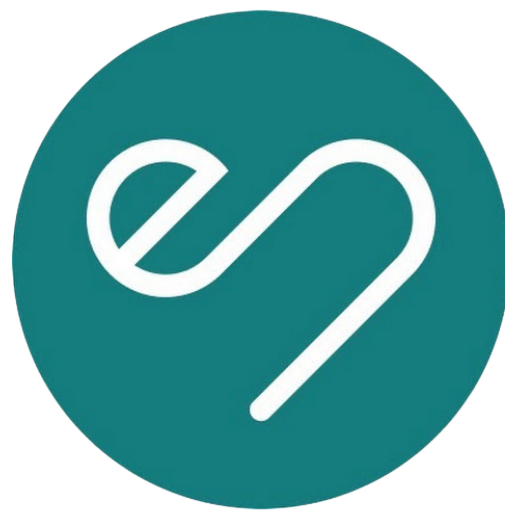


**EMRYS HEALTH - Afon:
G-Cloud 15 Lot 3 Cloud Support
Service Description**



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Afon: Service Definition

Service Description:

Afon is the Emrys Health implementation of a vendor and cloud agnostic data fabric, clean room and zero trust research environment that enables secure, privacy-preserving analytics across datasets held in different cloud environments

This open-source pattern leverages open data formats and open-source catalogs in a cross-cloud configuration using ephemeral private networking deployed through containerised infrastructure as code. This approach will provide a minimal research environment that runs distributed processing for machine learning and data analytics, minimising data movement while allowing direct access through governance at the data layer.

The service is delivered as a cloud-hosted infrastructure that provides governance as code, infrastructure as code and software defined networking that can be rapidly instantiated, configured, scaled, and decommissioned to support time-bound or recurring analytical use cases. It is designed to operate across Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud Platform, enabling interoperability between cloud environments commonly used across the public sector.

The platform enforces technical and governance controls to ensure that data owners retain control of their data at all times. Queries are executed within secure execution environments and outputs are restricted to pre-approved, non-disclosive results

How Services are Delivered:

Services are delivered through expert engineering capability working directly with IT, data science and information governance teams. Engagements are led by senior practitioners with experience developing, maintaining and scaling data intensive cloud services.

Our service team collaborates closely with partners to provide real-time advice, support governance and oversight. This approach enables rapid progress while maintaining clear accountability within public sector organisational structures.

Delivery can be remote, on-site or hybrid, depending on needs and security requirements.

We provide a core support package with the option for additional support depending on your organisation's requirements. The packages we offer are detailed below. We would be happy to discuss your specific requirements to tailor the best support we can offer. The three levels of support we offer are detailed below:

Core

The core package includes technical support for mobilisation, infrastructure onboarding, information governance, set up, training and ongoing maintenance.

The support package (optional)

We offer three different optional consultancy support packages to choose from in year 1 and beyond:

Bronze: Two weeks of initial support to develop demonstrator environments specific to your own use cases and workloads.

Silver: Four to six weeks of support to scope and automate bespoke configurations that can be deployed by non-technical staff.

Gold: As Silver, but with additional ad-hoc support to projects over a year to provide additional resource and bespoke development as projects are scoped.

Benefits of Afon Services:

- Faster federation between health research data assets;
- Simpler multi-site collaboration
- Accelerating commercialisation
- Simple migration from clouds or vendors
- Reducing research costs through minimising data transfer;
- Data custodians retain access and control as data locally processed;
- Automated information governance and commercial documentation
- Automatic indexing and data linkage in federated research environments
- Semi-automation of software package security management
- Strong security isolation of project environments

Who the service is for:

This service is suitable for researchers, funders of research and research performing organisations (including trusted research environments or secure data environments), central government departments, arm's-length bodies & regulators, NHS organisations & integrated care systems, local authorities & combined authorities, and other public sector bodies that require linked data for analysis.

Service Constraints:

Scope, duration and resourcing are agreed with the client prior to commencement. Delivery is subject to client governance, security and access arrangements.

All services are provided in accordance with public sector confidentiality and security requirements.

Information Security:

Emrys Health operates an ISO 27001:2022-aligned information security approach and applies this to the support of inter-cloud data clean-room environments. We support the implementation of least-privilege access controls, encryption in transit and at rest, secure firewall and network configurations, and regular patch and vulnerability management.

We maintain documented incident response and escalation processes and support buyer organisations in applying these processes to clean-room environments. Security controls and operational decisions are documented to support assurance and audit requirements.

Data Protection:

The service is designed to support public sector organisations' obligations under UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. Clean-room operation is supported using data minimisation principles, with controls that limit access to data and restrict outputs to approved, non-disclosive results.

We support organisations with data-flow mapping, Data Protection Impact Assessment inputs, retention and deletion controls, and governance documentation that demonstrates compliance and accountability. The service is well suited to environments using synthetic or pseudonymised data to reduce confidentiality risk while enabling meaningful analysis.

Supplier:

Emrys Health Limited is a UK-registered company incorporated in England and Wales.