

Cloud Gap Analysis service definition

Overview

Our Cloud Gap Assessment service is specifically designed for local authorities in the public sector, delivering a targeted evaluation of an organisation's current IT estate against cloud adoption best practices and target operating models. This service identifies critical gaps, risks, dependencies and prioritisation opportunities to enable safe, efficient and compliant cloud migrations. It fully aligns with UK government standards, including the Government Digital Service (GDS) Cloud First policy and National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) Cloud Security Principles. By providing a clear, evidence-based view of cloud readiness, we empower clients to minimise migration risks, optimise costs, avoid vendor lock-in, and achieve faster realisation of public sector benefits such as improved service resilience, scalability, and citizen-focused digital delivery.

Service Scope and Approach

The service starts with a structured discovery and data-gathering phase, working closely with IT, security, procurement, and service owner stakeholders to build an accurate picture of the existing environment. This includes reviewing application inventories, infrastructure configurations, security controls, data classifications and operational processes.

Key elements of our approach include:

- **Gap Identification:** Systematic comparison of the current state against cloud target models and public cloud provider capabilities (e.g., AWS, Azure, Microsoft 365, Google Cloud), using structured assessment frameworks and maturity models.
- **Risk and Dependency Analysis:** Detailed mapping of technical, security, compliance, and operational risks, including integration dependencies, legacy constraints and potential disruption points. Risks are scored by likelihood and impact to inform mitigation planning.
- **Prioritisation and Roadmap Support:** Categorisation of gaps by urgency, effort, and value, with clear recommendations on sequencing (e.g. quick wins via lift-and-shift versus longer-term re-platforming).

Our methodology is pragmatic and public-sector focused, incorporating GDS service assessment criteria, NCSC principles and lessons learned from previous local authority migrations. We use vendor-neutral approaches to ensure objectivity and flexibility across multi-cloud or hybrid strategies.

Deliverables

Clients receive a comprehensive set of outputs, including:

- A detailed gap assessment report with aids such as risk registers, dependency diagrams and prioritised gap matrices.
- Actionable recommendations with estimated effort, cost implications, risk reduction benefits and alignment to strategic objectives.
- Executive summary and presentation pack suitable for senior leadership, governance boards and spending control submissions.
- Reusable artefacts such as assessment templates, risk scoring models, and decision frameworks for ongoing use.

All deliverables are supplied in accessible digital formats compliant with WCAG standards and can feed directly into business cases or procurement documentation.

Engagement Model

Engagements typically span 4-10 weeks, depending on complexity, data availability and stakeholder access, with delivery available remotely, on-site, or hybrid to suit operational needs. We emphasise collaborative workshops and review gates to validate findings and to build an internal consensus. Pricing is fixed fee based on scoping, with options for phased delivery aligned to budget cycles.

Value Proposition

This service significantly de-risks cloud migration programmes by providing early visibility of blockers and enablers, enabling informed decision-making and more accurate planning. Local authorities benefit from reduced likelihood of costly rework, improved compliance confidence and accelerated time-to-value from cloud services. Our experience across public sector clients consistently delivers outcomes such as a significant reduction in identified migration risks, clearer investment prioritisation and stronger governance for cloud spend. The assessment supports sustainable digital transformation while maintaining focus on public value, data protection under GDPR and adherence to government cloud policy.

This service is advisory in nature, concentrating on analysis, risk highlighting, and prioritisation without including remediation, implementation, or technical migration execution, enabling seamless integration with complementary G-Cloud services for end-to-end programmes.

