

Enterprise Architecture service definition

Overview

Our Enterprise Architecture service is tailored for local authorities in the public sector, offering a detailed mapping of applications, data and infrastructure to develop a unified architectural blueprint. This service addresses the complexities of legacy systems and fragmented IT environments common in public sector organisations, facilitating seamless cloud integration and digital modernisation. It aligns with key UK frameworks, including the Government Digital Service (GDS) standards and the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) guidelines. By creating a holistic view of the IT landscape, we help clients optimise resource utilisation, enhance interoperability between systems, bolster security measures, and support scalable transformations that prioritise citizen services, cost efficiency and regulatory compliance in an evolving digital ecosystem.

Service Scope and Approach

The service commences with an in-depth discovery phase, engaging stakeholders such as IT architects, data managers, and business leaders to collect comprehensive data on existing assets. This involves inventory audits, system documentation reviews, and collaborative sessions to understand operational workflows and dependencies.

Key elements of our approach include:

- **Application Mapping:** We catalogue and analyse the portfolio of applications, identifying redundancies, integration points and modernisation opportunities. This includes assessing cloud-native compatibility and recommending microservices or API-based architectures where appropriate.
- **Data Mapping:** A focused evaluation of data assets, including flows, storage mechanisms, ensures data integrity, governance and compliance with standards like GDPR. We model data architectures to support analytics, AI integration and secure sharing across departments.
- **Infrastructure Mapping:** We examine physical and virtual infrastructure, from on-premises servers to hybrid cloud setups, highlighting scalability needs, security vulnerabilities and efficiency gaps. This incorporates assessments of network topologies, hardware dependencies and cloud provider alignments.

Deliverables

Clients receive a range of practical outputs, including:

- A detailed enterprise architecture report with visual representations such as application landscapes, data flow diagrams, infrastructure topologies, and dependency matrices.
- Prioritised architecture recommendations, outlining transition strategies, cost-benefit analyses and implementation considerations for cloud migration.
- Stakeholder workshop outputs, including feedback summaries and alignment matrices to promote organisational buy-in.
- Reusable architecture artefacts, such as modelling templates and governance frameworks, for ongoing maintenance and evolution.

All deliverables are provided in accessible, digital formats compliant with WCAG standards, enabling easy integration into strategic planning documents.

Engagement Model

Engagements generally last 6-12 weeks, scaled to the organisation's size and IT complexity, with flexible delivery options including remote, on-site, or hybrid formats to minimise disruption to public services. We prioritise knowledge transfer through interactive workshops and joint modelling sessions, empowering internal teams to sustain the architecture post-engagement. Pricing follows a fixed-fee structure, determined during scoping calls, with phased options to align with financial planning cycles.

Value Proposition

This service delivers transformative value by providing a clear, actionable blueprint that reduces IT silos, lowers long-term costs through optimised infrastructure and accelerates cloud adoption while mitigating risks like data breaches or system downtime. For local authorities, it translates to improved service delivery, such as faster response times for citizen queries or more efficient resource sharing across councils, potentially yielding savings in operational expenses. Our proven expertise in public sector projects ensures resilient, future-proof architectures that support innovation, such as integrating AI for predictive analytics, all while upholding stringent data protection and compliance standards.

This service is advisory and consultative, emphasising mapping and design without encompassing development, procurement, or deployment activities, allowing for complementary use with other G-Cloud offerings for comprehensive solutions.

