

Alpine Resourcing Limited

G-Cloud 15

Service Definition

For

Assurance, Review and Support Services

(Lot 3 Cloud Support Service)

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Date: January 2026

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1 OVERVIEW OF ALPINE'S G-CLOUD SERVICE PORTFOLIO

Alpine Resourcing Limited has a proven record of providing exceptional resource solutions at strategic, transformational level across the UK Government and the wider Public Sector. Since our inception in 2003, we have gained a reputation across the Public Sector for integrity and transparency (Alpine is the only organisation of its kind to run an open-book policy). Our commitment is to skills transfer, ensuring that the "...customer is left better equipped" and that customers can tangibly realise the benefits of the service provided; are better equipped to deal with similar issues going forward and in using our service to rapidly upskill their own staff, are better positioned to decrease reliance on external resource going forward. We focus on achieving the most practical impact for our customers.

Our register of Alpine's working associates contains some 1,400 active, highly qualified, pre-vetted and directly referred service providers. They range from board level (including former senior civil servants) to deep operational and technical specialists. The group has unparalleled strategic and hands-on experience of large-scale transformation programmes, major outsourcing deals, complex multi-supplier delivery and new technology models.

Alpine provides for G-Cloud Services: Strategic Advisors, Specialists, Technical and Managerial consultancy, cloud experienced experts and ready-made delivery teams to customers, with a reputation for flexibility and collaboration which is second to none.

Alpine is ISO accredited with ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 27001 plus Cyber Essentials certified.

2 SERVICE DEFINITION FOR ASSURANCE, REVIEW AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Alpine's Assurance, Review and Support Services aims to ensure an IT, digital, cloud or transformation project is meeting expectations by providing an independent assessment or peer review. It provides the support to ensure the client's objects are being met. It includes how a project is progressing and ensuring it achieves the defined objectives, taking into account people, systems, controls and inspections.

2.1 Overview

Our "Assurance, Review and Support Services" are Lot 3 (SCS) Cloud Support Services.

Project assurance is aiming to ensure a project is meeting expectations by providing an independent assessment or peer review of how the project is progressing. The support offered is to ensure support capabilities are being met with incidents, reporting and analysis taking place. It also highlights any training requirements.

2.1.1 Functional Overview

The following table provides a high-level summary of the type of functions provided by our Assurance services:

Title	Summary
Business Analysis	Identify and analyse the Customer's current systems and fully understand all of the Customer's needs and requirements. Analysis of the existing systems and produce recommendations to transfer some or all systems to a Cloud solution. Highlight the benefits including cost and efficiency savings.
Business Assurance	Ensuring a project remains viable and that the costs and benefits expected in the project business case are still reasonable and achievable
User Assurance	Ensuring user needs will be/are met. This involves independently assessing that the requirements adequately match to what the user's actual needs are.
Technical/Systems Assurance	Ensuring that the business solution is technically appropriate, for example, that the architecture can scale as planned and provides for future flexibility as envisioned in the business case.
Peer Reviews	Wide ranging structured reviews by accredited reviewers with considerable experience.
Support Capabilities	Ensuring that the support capabilities are inline with what's required.
Support Analysis	Producing the required reports, results and analysis to meet the requirements
Training Needs	Highlighting any training requirements on both the client's and supplier's sides.

2.2 Service Management / Delivery

Assurance, Review and Support Services derive directly from Alpine, as the Prime contractor for this Framework Agreement. We work very closely with the customer to make sure we are able to optimise the use of the time spent – understanding the issues they are trying to resolve and ensuring the resource fully understands what the customer requires as an outcome.

A call-off contract up to twenty-four months duration reflects the briefing discussions and Terms of Reference with the customer, including a detailed outcome and delivery model.

Pricing may be either per unit, or fixed price, details of which are fully disclosed and broken down in the agreement.

During the course of the assignment, we encourage 1:1 reviews initially weekly and latterly at least once a month.

2.2.1 SLA

To be defined in further detail with customer to ensure it is tailored to customer requirement, but as a minimum:

- Enquiries will be responded to within 24 hours, confirming receipt and to clarify the required outcomes in detail.
- Suggested solutions will be provided between 48-72 hours after initial receipt of requirement.
- All arrangements regarding initial briefing to be arranged by Alpine within 24 hours of request.
- Briefing meeting to take place within 48 hours of request, unless directed otherwise.
- Resource available to commence services within 7 days of request for services, unless directed otherwise.
- Review meetings to be undertaken regularly – our preference is for monthly reviews, but to be tailored to customer preference.
- In the unlikely event of dissatisfaction with service, replacement offered within 48 hours of notification.

2.2.2 Constraints

Support is available Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm

2.3 On-Boarding and Off-Boarding Processes / Scope

We take great care to engage with the relevant stakeholders to define the requirements and the key challenges clearly and unambiguously, creating an understanding of what is expected in the course of the assignment/engagement.

In relation to the transition to cloud computing services, we are of course able to support customers in successfully on boarding and off boarding our other services and those of other providers.

2.3.1 Customer Responsibilities

With regard to Technical Requirements and due to data security the customer may prefer to provide their own laptop/desktop or other device. Otherwise necessary equipment will be provided as part of the service.

Access to any information as required with agreement in advance if necessary by the customer.

Access to the building as required.

A full and clear description of the services required and the required outcomes to be provided in advance.

A complete handover process to be agreed in advance.

Any training requirements for customer staff to be agreed in advance.

A Purchase Order and signed G-Cloud Order to be in place prior to service commencing.

Any other approvals required for invoice processing to be completed in advance of service commencing.

Notification of dissatisfaction with service to be made to Account Manager immediately, with up to 5 working days allowed for the Provider to resolve.

2.4 Training

During the course of the engagement we undertake to transfer the skills brought by us to the customer, to their staff. This includes knowledge transfer relevant to the work undertaken by us. This service is integral to our approach and processes. We also provide coaching and mentoring services. Agreement is reached with the customer at the outset of the engagement outlining the capabilities he/she would like staff provided with – and as appropriate, on-the-job training is provided. During the reviews, we cover the requirement for knowledge transfer and ensure this is tied into the deliverables schedule.

2.5 Pricing

We price on a “per use” basis – customers do not pay for time not utilised by the consultancy resource.

It is usual for this pricing (and more cost efficient) to be based on a “per day” basis but it can be adjusted to a “per hour” basis to help customers manage precisely usage per resource. Other forms of pricing (including “fixed price” or “project pricing”) are available.

Please refer to the separate pricing rate card document.

2.6 Financial Recompense

In the unlikely event that the service provided is not to the customers satisfaction, no fee margin will be chargeable for the disputed service between the point of notification of dissatisfaction and the replacement of the service offered.

2.7 Ordering and Invoicing

Ordering from customers within public sector is generally done via the presentation of a Purchase Order following confirmation of the purchase of a service.

Once we are in receipt of a Purchase Order/framework Call-Off Order, we invoice at the end of every calendar month, giving a precise breakdown of the services purchased, including unit pricing, units charged and VAT/other expenses (other expenses are only charged with prior agreement with the customer).

Each invoice is accompanied by an authorised statement by the customer confirming the number of units worked/charged for and confirmation of satisfaction with the work undertaken and delivered.

2.8 Termination

Our standard terms and conditions provide termination by either party. Termination can commence without notice in the event of a customer citing dissatisfaction with the service provided and the issue not being rectified within three working days, or upon the event of a material breach of contract.

Please see a copy of our standard terms and conditions.

2.8.1 By Customers

Our standard terms and conditions provide termination by either party. Termination can commence without notice in the event of a customer citing dissatisfaction with the service provided and the issue not being rectified within three working days, or upon the event of a material breach of contract.

2.8.2 By Supplier

30 days notice would be the minimum given in the unlikely event that we were to withdraw from providing G-Cloud Services. Ongoing assignment commitments would be maintained through to their completion.

2.9 Trial Services Available

Should the customer wish to engage on a trial basis we would be happy to undertake an appropriate trial period. The acceptable norm for a trial period is generally 2 days whereby half fee is charged to cover costs and no margin fee is charged by us. In some cases, this trial period may be extended if we are assured that a successful trial period will lead to a full engagement.