



Modern data platform navigator process.



ANS

Think Bigger.



What is the modern data navigator process.

Our modern data platform navigator is a packaged engagement designed to help you overcome the challenges of modernising your current data platform while demystifying the complexities of adopting cloud data services.

By looking at your current state vs desired future state, we can help you define and build your data strategy to help unlock the potential of your data and increase its value to your organisation.



The navigator will provide you with:

01 Business case

We'll work with you to help you understand and quantify the commercial benefits of your strategic objectives and produce a TCO and ROI.

02 Operations roadmap

We'll define your modern data platform requirements in line with best practice reference architectures.

03 High-level transition plan

We'll determine the steps, resources and timescales required to transition to the target modern data platform architecture.

04 Benefits breakdown

We'll show you exactly what you can expect to gain from your project, whether it will help to make cost savings, deliver a better service to your customers, improve efficiencies or increase your uptime and performance.

05 Clear options

We know that understanding your options from a commercial perspective is crucial so we'll show you if a modern data platform could be more efficient than your current operating model or any alternatives you may be considering.

06 Defined operating model

We'll help you to establish your needs moving forwards, whether you need training, support in restructuring your teams or help in building out your capability to develop, manage and operate your new environment.

What to expect from the navigator process.

The process is broken down into 3 key phases:

01

Business case



02

Operations roadmap



03

High-level transition plan

Navigators are available across the following practices:

Please note all engagements can be combined.

- ✓ Cloud platforms
- ✓ Data and integration
- ✓ Low code platforms
- ✓ Business applications
- ✓ Cloud integrated dev

Phase 01: Kick off workshop

The navigator process begins with our kick off workshop.

The purpose of the kick-off workshop is to align all stakeholders, identify requirements and determine the future vision. During this workshop, you will be introduced to your dedicated Data Architect who will explain their role, knowledge and experience.

Your specific business objectives and outcomes may range from modernising a traditional data warehouse to developing a new modern data platform capability within cloud. Whatever your goal, we'll work with you to understand these and also determine what format you need to see these outputs in, for instance you may want the output to be more business case focused, or technically focused.



Workshop 1 : Current state

We'll ask you several questions to help us get a clear understanding of your current data landscape. We'll want to know what problems or limitations you're currently experiencing as well as taking a look into your current architecture. We'll ask you questions like what servers you have and what upstream data sources are feeding data into your data warehouse.

Prior to the workshop, we will ask for some pre-request information which will help us to direct and shape our questions during the workshop.

By the end of this workshop, we should have a detailed understanding of your current data architecture as well as size and complexity of your environment.

Fact file

- ✓ **Target audience:**
Data owners.
- ✓ **Duration:**
1-3 hours depending on environment size.
- ✓ **Likelihood of follow-up questions:**
Medium.
- ✓ **Commercial impact and importance:**
High.
- ✓ **Prerequisite information required:**
Completed business case questionnaire, data collection spreadsheet, architecture documents such as diagrams. You will also be issued with scripts to run on your SQL servers.

Workshop 1 : Current state



Stage 01 Prerequisite information gathering

Our first action will be to send you a business case questionnaire and data collection spreadsheet for you to complete before the workshop. We'll be happy to provide support and answer any questions you may have on completing the required information.



Stage 02 The workshop

We'll then schedule a 1-3 hour workshop with you to delve deeper into your current data landscape to understand what you have currently, as well as the size and complexity of your environment.



Stage 03 Iterate and follow up

We understand that your time is precious, so we take an iterative approach to follow up with you on necessary additional information.



Workshop 2 : Future state

The second workshop is designed to help us understand the drivers behind your desire to adopt a modern data platform. We also need to clearly establish what you're trying to achieve. It might be that your hardware is approaching end of life and you just need to move to cloud, or you might be embarking on an ambitious digital transformation project and want to ensure your modern data platform is as cloud native as possible. Once we've established your drivers and intentions, we'll use the rest of the workshop to present the target architecture in Azure so you can get an idea of how the platform may look.

During the workshop, you'll have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have around the cloud environment.

By the end of this workshop, we'll have a clear understanding of your desired future state. This will enable us to conduct a gap analysis by taking our findings from the current state workshop and comparing this alongside your desired future state.

Fact file

- ✓ **Target audience:**
C-level/business users and consumers of the data.
- ✓ **Duration:**
1.5- 3 hours.
- ✓ **Likelihood of follow-up questions:**
Low/Medium.
- ✓ **Commercial impact and importance:**
High.
- ✓ **Prerequisite information required:**
No additional pre-requests needed at this stage, unless additional information was agreed off the back of workshop 1.

Workshop 2 : Future state



Stage 01 **Prerequisite information gathering**

Depending on what was discussed and agreed in your first workshop, we may require you to provide some additional information for workshop 2.



Stage 02 **The workshop**

During this workshop we will look to understand the reasons for you moving to a modern data platform as well as what you're trying to achieve.



Stage 03 **Create first iteration of target architecture**

We will design a data platform that aligns to vendor best practices while also incorporating your desired operational tooling and processes.



Stage 04 **Present and follow up**

We'll present the Target Architecture and Operating Model to your technical team to ensure they're comfortable with the design principles and confirm that it meets the organisation's needs.



Phase 02:

Assessment workshops

Workshop 3 : Business case

The Business Case workshop is designed to ensure your business objectives are clearly measured, defined and realised as part of the project. We will build the business case from a business outcomes perspective, ensuring we have tangible benefits and a method to realise the benefits. We know that understanding your options from a commercial perspective is crucial, so we'll provide you with a TCO comparison against your existing data warehouse platform vs adopting a modern data warehouse in the cloud.

We'll also be able to show you how you can improve your data quality, increase efficiencies and reduce time wasted on specific processes.

Fact file

- ✓ **Target audience:**
Key stakeholders, decision makers and budget holders.
- ✓ **Duration:**
1.5 – 3 hours.
- ✓ **Likelihood of follow-up questions:**
Medium.
- ✓ **Commercial impact and importance:**
High.
- ✓ **Prerequisite information required:**
Operational challenges, strategic objectives, business drivers, current platform run and support costs and anticipated renewal dates.

Workshop 3 : Assessment workshops



Stage 01 **Prerequisite information gathering**

We will need to know your current run costs of your existing data infrastructure, an understanding of your drivers behind the project and the specific outcomes you are hoping to achieve.



Stage 02 **The workshop**

We'll develop the case for change over a 1.5 to 3 hour workshop, using our extensive experience in developing business cases that senior executives can understand.



Stage 03 **Map data to the desired outcomes**

We will then map the data and information we have gathered to the target architecture to size and scope the transformation.



Stage 04 **Iterate and follow up**

We understand that your time is precious, so we take an iterative approach to follow up with you on necessary additional information.



Phase 03: Refine and transform

Your data architect will work with your business stakeholders and technical management to refine the adoption plan to get you into a position where you are ready to go straight into project.

Our goal is to help you get to project sign off as quickly and easily as possible. To help you do this, we will need to establish if there are any workloads you'd like to accelerate and if you have any immediate use cases to help you map out your next steps. We'll then break the project down into manageable milestones and determine what should be considered for tender and procurement requirements.

We'll then refine the output documentation and present it to you in your format of choice to arm you with all the required information to assist you in getting your project off the ground quickly and effectively. To help you do this, we have developed a number of accelerators to get you to project faster, more reliably and at scale. We can also work alongside the Microsoft team to give you access to key funding programmes.



Want to find out more?



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