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Valcon G-Cloud Lot 3
Service Definition

Project & Programme Assurance

[Quality Assurance and Performance Testing | Operational readiness testing | Accessibility testing]

Version 1.0

1. About Us

Valcon is a leading European consultancy specialising in AI and data-driven business transformation, with a growing and established presence in the UK. A trusted partner to major organisations including multiple UK Government departments and public sector agencies. Valcon connects strategy and operations, helping organisations create value in their transformation programmes.

With over 1,750 consultants across Europe, Valcon brings deep expertise across data, AI, technology and consulting. In the UK, Valcon works with clients across financial services, public sector, retail, industrials and infrastructure. Valcon is backed by private equity firm Rivean Capital.

2. Service Description

Valcon recognise that Business leaders with accountability for change will seek assurance that their change programmes are in control and will achieve the intended outcomes. Our comprehensive independent assurance provides insight into issues and root causes, and practical recommendations; whether it be programme wide or targeted on specific concerns.

Features

- Focused on business outcomes and critical success factors
- Manage risk-based approach to target the scope effectively
- Conduct programme Health checks
- Implement formal assurance reviews, including Gateway preparation
- Guide targeted Deep Dives e.g. Benefits, Schedule
- Define and analyse ‘Proof Point’
- Development of Integrated Assurance and Approval Plans
- Experience of working with Non-Executive Directors, Regulators and external bodies
- Use of experienced change professionals applying rapid diagnostic tools
- Manage stakeholders understanding and validate the emerging conclusions and recommendations

Benefits

- Enhances executive oversight and confidence building
- Early warning of issues and development of specific recovery actions
- Can be targeted to support critical decision points
- Supports progressive reduction of the risk profile
- Provides independent assessment to satisfy the demands of key stakeholders
- Assurance increases the likelihood of successful delivery
- Methods that ensure residual effect is positive for the programme
- Findings can be shared widely to support other initiatives
- Assurance process embedded as part of the culture

3. Approach

Valcon understand that there are many reasons as to why organisations would want to assure their programme, which would include a lack of confidence in the schedule and budget estimates and managing project contingency. Valcon recognise that where client programmes have failed to deliver the expected outcomes and benefits, a review of the delivery capability and maturity is required. Our approach would cover our extensive experience in project and programme assurance and key risk areas including a lack of oversight of interdependencies and synergies across programmes and/or projects, early analysis, identification and treatment of complex risk and issues. Further risk areas could include preparation and readiness for business change, including the analysis of defects and cumulative impact of workarounds on business operations. Valcon have a long and well-established credibility in Programme Leadership, Governance, Design & Mobilisation and Delivery. With our extensive experience we are well placed to conduct assessments of your programmes.

Our approach for project and programme assurance will be to set up and provide an independent assessment, free from internal politics providing a balanced view. Our approach would enable your organisation to gain insights into its delivery effectiveness by comparing parts of the organisation with each other. We would provide an agreed process improvement roadmap to realise the full benefits of best practice and a benchmark from which improvements can be monitored and measured. We would clearly articulate opportunities for improvement, prioritised to achieve the required capability to deliver the programme and/or projects successfully.

4. Effort and Cost

Effort will be determined collaboratively between the Valcon and the client based on the skills mix and scope required.
Please refer to the Pricing Document for current rates.

- Rate card prices are exclusive of VAT.
- Expenses are recharged at cost and supported by receipts.
- Expenses may include reasonable travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs.
- The payment schedule will follow milestone completions as agreed in the Statement of Work.

5. Assumptions

The successful delivery of the engagement depends on assumptions and dependencies jointly agreed between the Valcon and the client.

- These may include (but are not limited to):
- Access to required stakeholders, systems, or information
- Timely decisions and approvals
- Availability of resources and infrastructure
- Defined governance and communication processes

All assumptions and dependencies will be recorded and validated as part of the Statement of Work (SoW).