

Valcon G-Cloud Lot 3 Service Definition

Cloud Architecture

[Cloud Migration Planning | Capability analysis, Enterprise architecture, Cloud gap assessment,
Architecture options analysis, Delivery Road-mapping, Other]

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 designs robust cloud environments tailored to complex business needs. We optimize IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS tooling to ensure maximum scalability, reliability, and cost efficiency. Our technical architects build future-proof structures that streamline operations, enhance security, and provide a high-performance foundation for your organization's digital evolution and growth.

Features

- On-demand access to computing resources
- Scalability and elasticity to handle varying workloads
- Multi-tenancy for efficient resource utilisation
- Abstraction of infrastructure complexity
- Network connectivity and communication
- Security measures for data protection
- Service-oriented architecture for modular design
- Monitoring and management capabilities
- Automation for resource provisioning and management
- Cost optimisation through pay-as-you-go pricing

Benefits

- Scalability: Easily scale resources up or down based on demand.
- Cost Efficiency: Pay for what you use, reducing capital expenditure.
- Flexibility: Adapt quickly to changing business needs and market conditions.
- Accessibility: Access cloud resources from anywhere with an internet connection.
- Reliability: Built-in redundancy and failover mechanisms ensure high availability.
- Security: Robust security and compliance controls protect data and applications.
- Innovation: Rapid deployment of new services and applications fosters innovation.
- Collaboration: Facilitates collaboration among distributed teams through shared resources.
- Disaster Recovery: Provides built-in disaster recovery capabilities for business continuity.
- Simplified Management: Centralised management tools streamline administration tasks.

3. Approach

Delivering Cloud Architecture to a client as a project typically follows a structured approach. Below are the phases commonly used, along with tasks under each phase.

Initiation Phase:

- Define project objectives, scope, and success criteria.
- Identify key stakeholders and establish communication channels.
- Conduct a kickoff meeting to align expectations and goals.
- Develop a project charter outlining roles, responsibilities, and timelines.

Assessment Phase:

- Assess the client's current IT infrastructure, applications, and business requirements.
- Identify the client's goals and objectives for moving to the cloud.
- Conduct a cloud readiness assessment to evaluate the client's readiness for cloud adoption.
- Perform a cost-benefit analysis to determine the potential return on investment (ROI) of migrating to the cloud.

Design Phase:

- Develop a high-level cloud architecture design based on the assessment findings and client requirements.
- Define the cloud service models (IaaS, PaaS, SaaS) and deployment models (public, private, hybrid) that best meet the client's needs.
- Design the network architecture, including virtual private clouds (VPCs), subnets, and connectivity options.
- Define security and compliance requirements and design appropriate security controls and measures.

Planning Phase:

- Develop a detailed migration plan outlining the steps, dependencies, and timeline for migrating applications and data to the cloud.
- Identify migration tools and methodologies that will be used during the migration process.
- Define roles and responsibilities for the client's team and any external partners involved in the migration.
- Develop a communication plan to keep stakeholders informed throughout the migration process.

Implementation Phase:

- Provision cloud resources and configure the cloud environment according to the design specifications.
- Migrate applications, data, and workloads to the cloud using the migration plan and tools defined in the planning phase.
- Implement security controls, monitoring, and logging mechanisms to ensure the security and compliance of the cloud environment.
- Test the migrated applications and workloads to ensure they perform as expected in the cloud environment.

Optimisation Phase:

- Monitor the performance, scalability, and cost of the cloud environment and make adjustments as needed to optimise performance and cost efficiency.
- Implement best practices for cloud resource management, including rightsizing instances, optimising storage usage, and leveraging reserved instances for cost savings.
- Continuously review and refine security measures to address emerging threats and vulnerabilities.
- Provide training and support to the client's team to ensure they can effectively manage and operate the cloud environment.

Closure Phase:

- Conduct a post-implementation review to evaluate the success of the project against the project objectives and success criteria.
- Document lessons learned and best practices for future reference.
- Obtain client sign-off on the completed project deliverables.
- Celebrate project success and formally close out the project.

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).