

Discovery Services (GDS)

G-Cloud 15 service definition document



Hays project services portfolio accelerates the delivery of technology change and business transformation across Public Services in the UK.

We provide collaborative expertise to deliver change at pace and value for money.

Knowledge transfer is at the centre of what we do, enabling and up-skilling internal teams.

Hays has served the UK Public Sector for over 50 years.

Our experience

Hays has been operating in the Public Sector for over 56 years.

We have partnered with customers across NHS, Central & Local Government, Higher Education, Defence & Transformation

Sectors we cover



Healthcare & NHS



Central Government



Higher & Further Education



**Local Government &
Combined Authorities**



**Housing, Charity &
Not for Profit**



Defence, Security & Bluelight

Collaboration by design

Accelerate delivery, share knowledge

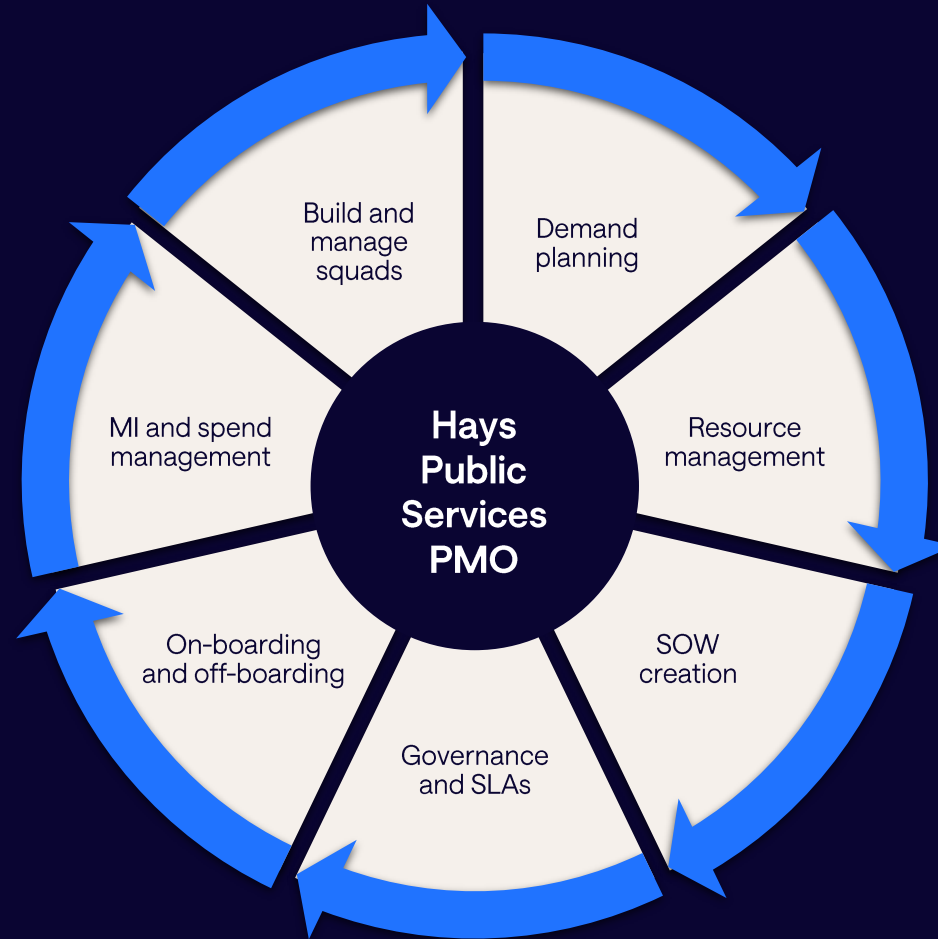
We accelerate technology and change delivery across Public Services with high calibre Cloud consulting talent delivered through flexible SOW services. Knowledge transfer is embedded in our contracts.

Increase delivery management capacity

PMO support is embedded into each service and Hays PMO can be utilised to add flexible capacity to your in-house teams

Productive and transparent

Our SOW contracts deliver high levels of productivity from day 1 and give you visibility over every aspect of the delivery status and progress of the project.



Agile capacity

Rapidly define your requirements and deploy SME's and teams across your technology stack and change programs. Scale up/ down or change the mix of skills to meet the demands of your projects and products

Value for money

Outsourced overheads, competitive commercial models, knowledge transfer, PMO support and agile resourcing deliver value for money for Public Services buyers.

Flexible delivery models

Customer can own project delivery with Hays augmenting internal capacity or outsource project management and delivery to Hays.

Discovery Services (GDS)

Hays enhances digital products through user experience services, focusing on usability, accessibility, and engagement. We conduct research, design interfaces, and test solutions to ensure your users have a seamless and satisfying experience.

Service features

- Sectors: Healthcare & NHS, Defence/Security & Bluelight, Local Government & Combined Authorities, Central Government, Higher & Further Education, Housing/Charity/Not-for-Profit
- Delivery via T&M, work packages, managed services, or milestone-based engagements
- Alignment to Government Digital Service (GDS) Discovery and Service Assessment Standards
- Collaborative definition of objectives, scope, milestones, deliverables, and timelines
- Identification and engagement of users, stakeholders, and service owners across the organisation
- Facilitation of Discovery workshops to gather insights, validate assumptions, and shape problem statements
- Analysis of current systems, processes, policies, platforms, and architecture to understand constraints and opportunities
- User research across Discovery, Alpha, and Beta including interviews, observation, surveys, and testing
- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis to inform evidence-driven decisions
- Prototyping, concept exploration, and early change-impact planning to support future delivery phases

Service benefits

- Fully aligned with GDS Discovery and Service Design standards, ensuring compliance with government expectations
- Clear, practical roadmaps to move from Discovery into Alpha/Beta with defined next steps
- Concise, well-documented user insights that directly inform service improvement and policy decisions
- Transformation of complex research findings into actionable design and service recommendations
- Embedded change readiness and risk-mitigation support to prepare organisations for delivery phases
- Strong delivery planning, including prioritisation, resource considerations, and critical-path identification
- Access to SC and DV-cleared user researchers, service designers, business analysts, and technical specialists
- Detailed evidence packs supporting business cases, options assessments, and downstream programme approval

Our service delivery approach

Engage

Connections with clients are established, landscapes are understood, and goals are aligned to set the tone and build trust for the partnership.

Plan

Intent is transformed into a structured and actionable roadmap, with scope, timelines, resourcing, and measures of success clearly defined.

Deliver

Services are executed hands-on, value is demonstrated, and outcomes are tracked against the established plan.

Transition

A controlled handover into steady-state operations and project closure is executed, with knowledge transferred and a clean, confident landing ensured for the client.

PMO assurance

- Governance, Assurance and regulatory alignment check
- Initial risk, dependency and stakeholder mapping
- Entry-gate approval and compliance sign off

- Delivery plans confirmed against organisational and public sector standards
- Financial, resourcing and benefits baseline validation
- Risk, issue and control framework set up

- Progress, cost and benefits tracking
- Risk, issue and dependency assurance
- Quality controls and audit-readiness checks

- Handover and acceptance criteria
- Knowledge transfer and documentation completeness
- Benefits realisation and accountability sign-off

Social value



Our core social purpose pillars – Social, Environmental, Commercial and operations, and Measurement and governance – define our interactions with society and all those we work with, ensuring we’re always doing the right thing.

Social	Environmental	Commercial and operations	Measurement and governance
We actively benefit society by investing in partnerships that empower people and organisations to succeed, creating opportunities and improving lives. Our Social pillar encompasses the wide range of charitable giving and volunteering we provide our communities, along with our dedication to uplifting employability and removing barriers to work across the UK.	By approaching sustainability in its widest sense, we’re addressing the most pertinent environmental issues that are a priority for our business, customers and communities, while providing organisations the people and insights needed to drive sustainable performance.	We take our corporate governance seriously and owe our customers and stakeholders a responsible and transparent approach to business where we remain focused on doing the right thing. We’ll always ensure our commercial operations are closely aligned with the best interests of all those we work with and constantly challenge ourselves to be even better.	It’s important that we can calculate and measure the social impact generated through our various initiatives, showcasing the value for our customers and partners. We partnered with Social Value Portal to deliver a transparent social value strategy, joining as a member to measure, validate and report on the social value generated by our combined fundraising, operations and societal initiatives.

Our impact

£1.2m+ Social Value generated across the UK&I	£400k raised for EveryYouth	£154k worth of Social Value created through Project Flourish	£116k of financial impact generated through Neighbourly	16.5k hours of volunteering time from UK&I staff	£275k+ in Social Value generated through volunteering
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Ordering, on-boarding and off-boarding

Enquiries

For enquiries, work requirements or to book a no obligation discovery session, please email: David.elliott-smith@hays.com

We will contact you to arrange a requirement confirmation meeting with our Project Services Team and as required prepare and agree a costed service quotation for you.

Ordering

We will issue you with the required G-Cloud documentation and request a purchase order. Once the PO is received the services will be initiated as per our service delivery model.

Each SOW engagement/work phase will be subject to agreement with the customer.

For ongoing services a stage-gate review and approval process will apply to each phase/increment of work. All SOW/work phases are subject to formal review and lessons learned sessions.

Onboarding

Services will be initiated as per our service delivery model.

On a monthly basis, we will complete the mandated management information reports to Government Procurement.

Ongoing engagements are managed via individual statements of work which are governed by the framework agreement.

Offboarding

We embed knowledge transfer into our standard service levels assuring that our customers retain all required documentation and knowledge sources from initiation to service transition to BAU at the completion of each engagement, assuring business continuity.

Full project/service closure processes are included in our standard contracted service levels.

Contact us at:

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