Secure By Design (SbD)

Service description details

Secure By Design

Methods leverage extensive NCSC expertise in Secure By Design, particularly in high-threat sectors like MOD and Finance. We design against probable risks with pragmatic realistic solutions, working with your team to foster a long-term strategic shift. Aligned with NIST, NCSC, OWASP, and MOD DEFSTAN 05-138 for dynamic security solutions.

What is the Service

Methods is an NCSC Assured Cyber Consultancy, demonstrating a proven track record of delivering cyber security consultancy expertise, undertaken by industry qualified and proficient experts, as defined by NCSC and the UK Cyber Security Council.

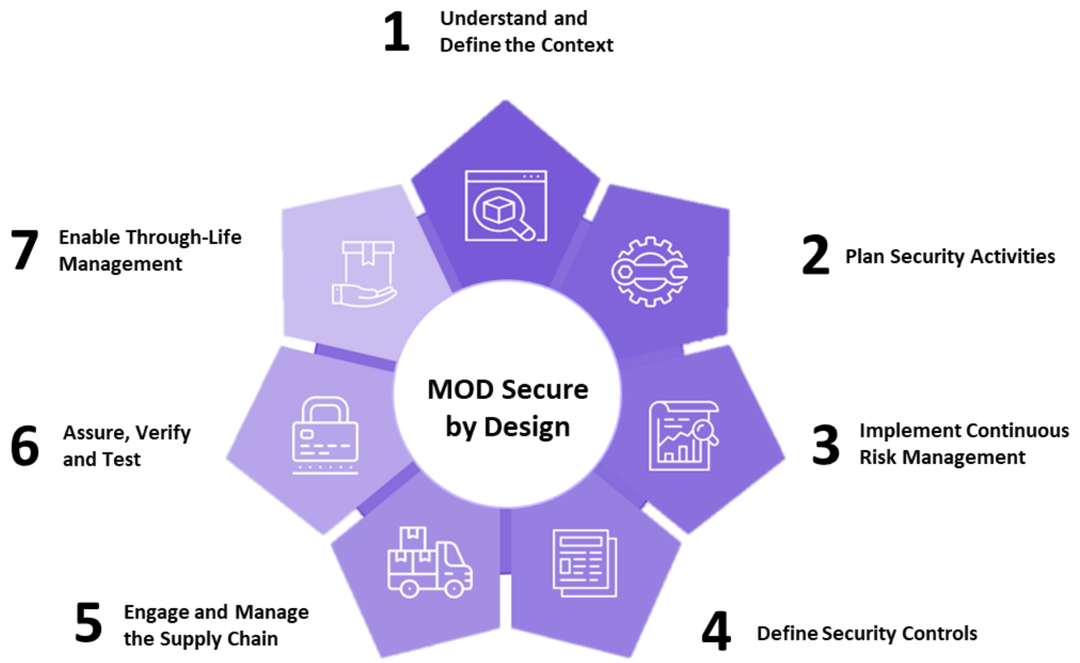
Methods follow industry best practice in managing engagements, that satisfy NCSC requirements for certified professional cyber services companies, adhering to a code of conduct, and keeping their cyber security expertise for CNI customers, Government and the wider public sector.

Methods has extensive experience from across public, private sector and defence to help Secure by Design implementation, or delivery into existing mature businesses. We collaborate closely with all stakeholders in the system/service/product life cycle to ensure all parties know their roles and work practically to reduce or eliminate vulnerabilities in the architecture, development or processes which leads to highly resilient outcomes.

Our approach is to supplement existing team and adjust our work to match a client way of working. We have created a project level implementation playbooks and tooling to ensure that all areas of the project/product understand how to apply the new standards and guidance in a more sensible and easy way. This has been based on our expertise, and tested with partners and clients in defence, along with our team experience in finance and CNI. Our expertise can cover across the range of standards and guidance that describe secure by design principles, whether it be NCSC, MOD Defstan 05-138, OWASP or NIST 800-160.

Key Principles: (From across the Industry)

- Appoint a business risk owner
- Clean source principle, extending to third parties and supply chain
- Usable security to avoid workarounds
- Layered Defence
- Attack Surface reduction
- Secure Configuration
- Continuous Monitoring
- Continuous Assurance and Testing
- SQEP responsible for cyber security risk
- Continuous risk-driven security
- Zero Trust
- Secure by Default
- Separation of duties
- Secure transmission
- Secure deployment and change management
- Resilience



These **guiding principles** will serve as the **foundation** for **future MOD system security**

Contact details

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What it can do for you

Secure by Design bring systematic change to the way products and services are developed, ensuring security is built from the start, with threat and risk being the key drivers to controls and testing. Methods work closely with stakeholder and developers allowing a risk-based tailoring of controls and improved understanding across projects. Our team have depths across the public and private sector, allowing a better dialogue between stakeholders of differing backgrounds and seniority.

It reduces the risk of security breaches and incidents, which could result in financial losses, reputational damage, legal liabilities, and customer dissatisfaction.

It improves the quality and reliability of the software, as security issues are often related to bugs, errors, and poor performance.

It saves time and money, as security issues are easier and cheaper to prevent than to fix.

It enhances the trust and confidence of the users, customers, and stakeholders, who expect the software to be secure and protect their data and privacy.

It can provide confidence that products and services are compliant and fit for purpose in a constantly changing threat environment, reducing the boardroom bandwidth spent on Cyber.

Service Features

1. Adoption of secure by design principles into working practices
2. Strong understanding of compliance landscape/security requirement throughout Project life-cycle
3. Security controls and requirements embedded at project initialisation.
4. Tailored hardening, balancing Threat Intelligence with business need
5. Review/implement secure coding into dev. pipelines, mitigating error/vulnerabilities with tooling
6. Security testing identifying realistic, probable key threats before deployment
7. Tracking of security posture/maturity within the evolving threat context

Service Benefits

1. Respond to evolving cyber threats
2. Reduce cost of deployment/rework/incidents through proactive early security management
3. Reduced security risk by raising awareness and rigour in assurance
4. Create compliant and audit ready products/services and environments
5. Faster deployment of change
6. Improved customer satisfaction, brand reputation and trust
7. Enhanced through life secure capabilities, that accrue less security debt

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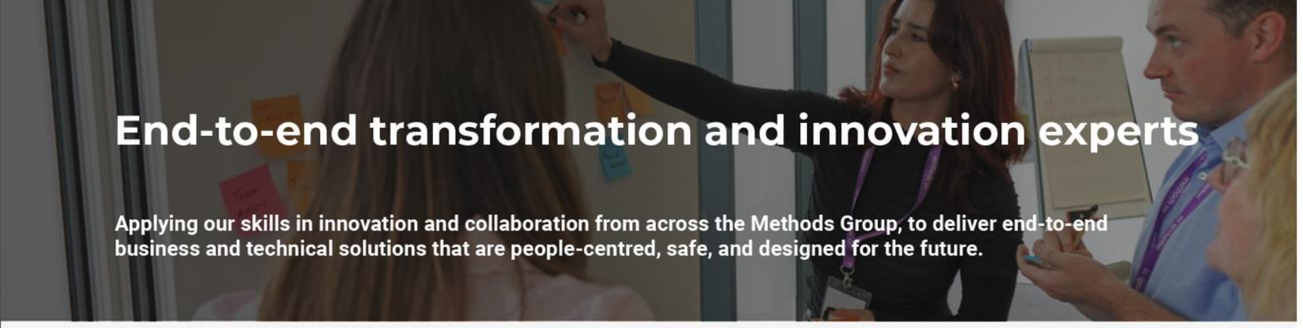


End-to-end transformation and innovation experts

Applying our skills in innovation and collaboration from across the Methods Group, to deliver end-to-end business and technical solutions that are people-centred, safe, and designed for the future.

Methods provide collaborative and innovative solutions to help Central Government adapt to the changing landscape and deliver better outcomes for citizens.

With a focus on driving interoperability and innovation in UK Central Government, we have helped multiple organisations in the sector modernise their IT architecture, systems, strategy, and operating models to improve organisational resilience and service delivery.

Methods deliver wide-ranging services and thought leadership to support delivery including:

Onboarding and offboarding process

1. **Understand Requirements**

   It is essential that we work with you to understand the requirement so that we provide the right resources with directly relevant experience at an appropriate level of seniority

2. **Protect Team Availability**

   Having the right team on board from the start and maintaining continuity throughout the project ensures timely delivery of desired outputs

3. **Work Synergistically and Innovatively**

   Drawing from our past experiences, we can frequently recommend optimal delivery methods and/or alternative solutions which will deliver benefits (or cost-savings) over time

4. **Service Scope**

   Ensuring that the scope of the service to be delivered is properly quantified involves agreeing on logistics (e.g., deliverables, timelines, quality criteria, etc.) and understanding your constraints, sensitivities, and key drivers to match your expectations accurately

5. **Review/Agree Engagement**

   After initial discussions and planning, you'll review and amend a draft Statement of Work(s)/Services to ensure mutual agreement and alignment of objectives before starting the assignment. We may iterate the Statement of Work(s) with you to finalise the requirements

Ordering and Invoicing

Once we have agreed a Statement of Work(s) we will sign the appropriate agreement and complete a Call Off contract with an attached Statement of Work(s), and submission of a Purchase Order. We will then set up a mutually acceptable start date and commence work.

Payment terms are 30 days or less as may be agreed.

Please note - we are unable to accept Government Procurement Card (GPC) payments.

Customer Responsibilities

For any given requirement, we will identify any dependencies on the customer (e.g. access to key stakeholders, facilities, documentation, etc.) and agree these at the start of the work.

Making a difference

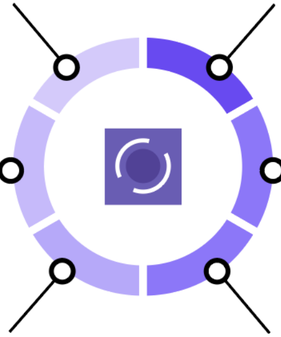
The work we do each day is focused on delivering a positive difference for the public sector for the benefit of society as a whole.

Environment

We use the 'recycle, reuse, repair, refuse' approach to waste reduction to minimise landfill waste, support climate initiatives, and enhance biodiversity, creating a sustainable environment for our colleagues and community

Volunteering

We continue to support charitable causes that align with and support our values including our charity partner and VCSE initiatives



Investment in Talent

We cultivate young talent through our GRAVITATE programme, championing vibrant apprenticeship and graduate schemes while aiding tech career exploration for individuals aged 14-24

Diversifying our Supply Chains

We diversify our local supply chains, promoting small business enterprise and engaging local people, SME, and micro-business suppliers

Staff Wellbeing

We support colleague wellbeing through clear career pathways, strengthened PDPs, and our continued commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant, including achieving Gold Employer Status. Moreover, we continue to support our colleagues holistically, considering them as complete individuals at every career stage with Methods

Safeguarding Services

We continue to provide insightful thought leadership on leveraging modern technology to secure our public services for future generations. This involves speaking at industry events, educating youth on tech career paths, and offering pro-bono advice to senior policymakers

Customer stories

Cloud Hosting & Service Modernisation
Modernised digital services using secure cloud hosting, streamlined legacy workflows, and improved data insights. Delivered faster decisions, reduced manual effort, and a more transparent, **user-friendly experience** for internal teams and external users.

Cloud-Based ITSM Consolidation
Unified multiple service desks onto a cloud-based ITSM platform, standardising processes and automating workflows. Improved incident, change, and problem management, **boosting** overall **service reliability, efficiency, and organisational visibility**.

Large-Scale Cloud Migration (100+ Apps / 120TB)
Delivered cloud migration of **100+ legacy applications** and **120TB of** data with **100% availability**. Strengthened compliance, improved transparency, and significantly enhanced operational resilience across critical digital services.

Azure Migration & Modern Workplace Enablement
Migrated data centres to Azure and deployed modern workplace cloud services, delivering secure, scalable infrastructure. Achieved improved user experience, strengthened security posture, and **£1m savings** - all with zero service disruption.

Cloud ITSM Migration (ServiceNow SaaS)
Successfully migrated from a legacy ITSM tool to a modern, cloud-based ServiceNow platform. Delivered scalable, robust service operations, strengthened governance, and enabled faster, more consistent digital service delivery across the organisation.

Cloud-Native Data Pipelines (Azure Integration)
Built automated Azure Data Factory pipelines into a Lakehouse architecture, using Bronze/Silver/Gold layers and Delta with CI/CD. Delivered secure daily refreshes, improved data quality, lower manual effort, and more efficient reporting.