Data Architecture Assessment and Design

Service description details

methods
AN ALTEN COMPANY

Data Architecture Assessment and Design

Methods technical consultancy team have the development skills and experience to help you develop a new data architecture to service your needs, extending the power of data use across your organisation.

What is the Service

Our data architecture service evaluates and helps you to enhance existing on-premise or cloud based data warehouses to enable utilisation of advanced analytics including machine learning, predictive analytics, Geo-Spatial and Graph Databases where required. We do this through the development of use cases into a Minimum Viable Product or Proof of Concept and where required run a formal market test to assess the options and costs for migrating to a cloud provider.

We can design a cloud migration strategy that includes a significant transitionary period between vendor selection and termination, to minimise risks and ensure preparedness across the organisation. We architect and engineer a fit-for-purpose platform that provides the foundations for progressive, exploratory, and innovative use of data and select and rollout an appropriate data presentation layer that empowers greater use of data and supports data-driven decision making.

What can it do for you

We help you to develop a data architecture that can service the demands of your data ingestion and consumption, aligned with your data strategy. We assess and design a data architecture that will allow you to transform and optimise the way your data is collected, processed and stored. We also specialise in creating progressive, exploratory, and innovative environments that are fit for purpose in organisations that require systems integration and interoperability.

Service Features

1. Review and assess existing architecture documentation
2. Review best practice across the public sector
3. Gather requirements for market test, in conjunction with Commercial team
4. Undertake early engagement with cloud providers
5. Produce to-be platform-agnostic architecture designs and reference architecture
6. Design market test and prepare final documentation
7. Begin work on cloud migration strategy, including principles and roadmap
8. Engineering to-be architecture and implement Data Lifecycle Management
9. Use cases prioritised and lessons learnt documented informing future delivery
10. Platform cost and performance optimisation

Service Benefits

1. Design and development from experienced developers and software engineers
2. Access to Methods library of prebuilt reference architectures
3. Use of service patterns, and open-source libraries to expedite delivery
4. Experience of integrating with back-office systems and emerging technologies
5. Embedded data ethics and stewardship principles

Contact details

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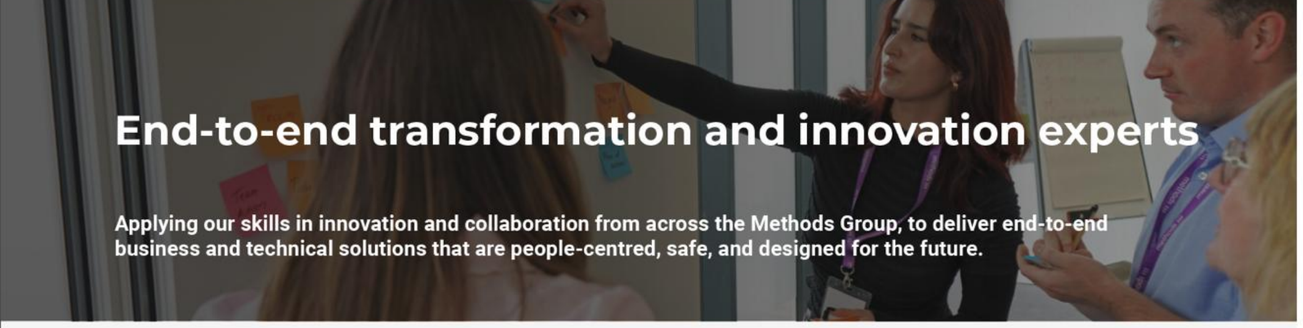


End-to-end transformation and innovation experts

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

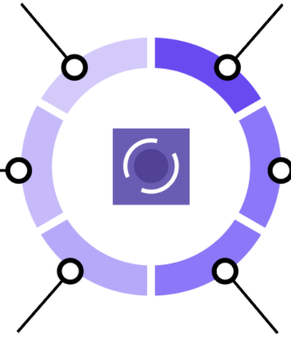
The work we do each day is focused on delivering a positive difference for the public sector for the benefit of society as a whole.

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.