

G-Cloud 15 Service Description

Virtual Chief Information Security Officer - VCISO-as-a-Service (VCISOaaS)

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Methods' Virtual Chief Information Security Officer (VCISOaaS) can provide independent NCSC certified leadership, experience, and guidance in collaboration with business leaders. Providing CISOaaS 'as needed' without overheads of a full time CISO will harness top-level expertise on a subscription basis which can flex to scale, reviewing requirements and defining security roadmaps.

What is the Service

Methods is an NCSC Assured Cyber Consultancy who has been assured to the highest standards as defined by NCSC and professional bodies such as UK Cyber Security Council. With a proven track record of delivering cyber security consultancy expertise, we pride ourselves on working closely with our clients - often augmenting in-house capability.

A Cyber Security Essentials Plus certified company, the services provided by the Cyber Portfolio align with ISO/IEC 20700 family of information security management standards, ensuring work is appropriately scoped, planned and delivered to the highest standards.

Methods provides a holistic approach to the provision of security services with work undertaken by industry qualified Cyber security experts, many holding CCP Lead Practitioner else qualified to Chartered status, able to offer approved guidance and support to both public and private sector clients, covering the entirety of the Security organisation.

We understand that not all organisations have the in-house expertise to tackle security and compliance strategies to maintain their longevity as a competitive business. Our VCISO as a Service (VCISOaaS) allows your organisation specific access to expert knowledge of the latest technologies, solutions, and experience without the capital expenditure of a board level executive, identifying and outlining key steps necessary to manage your organisation's risk-appropriate security posture. This can be as a dedicated CISO 'as needed'; as an interim measure, for example during recruitment of a permanent CISO; or as a virtual CISO network.



We provide pragmatic and proportionate guidance for compliance, architecture and design assurance; system accreditation across Public Sector Network (PSN) and MOD DefCon standards. Our experienced industry recognised consultant's proficiency work on a variety of government projects with Central Government and Local Authorities, Government Digital Services, Education, Defence, Policing, Justice, Healthcare, Border control, and Critical National Infrastructure (CNI).

As an NCSC Certified Consultancy our services are scoped, planned and delivered in line with ISO 20700; the delivery of Management Consultancy services. This requires us to engage and work closely with our clients to ensure that the services we provide have been correctly scoped, planned and delivered. Methods provide advice and guidance to a diverse range of clients, helping them identify, assess and manage their security risks,

In line with HMG requirements, Methods is certified to Cyber Essentials Plus, ISO/IEC 27001, ISO 27017 and ISO 9001 standards, to provide customers with robust, consistent assurance in our quality processes and the protection of our systems and customer-related data. We adopt certified frameworks for HMG where data is classified OFFICIAL through to SECRET and above. Methods has a large pool of SC and DV cleared UK personnel and has experience of designing, building and maintaining governance and security to deliver service offerings at OFFICIAL, SECRET and ABOVE SECRET classifications.

What it can do for you

As an NCSC Assured Cyber Consultancy, Methods has a proved track record of delivering cyber security expertise, undertaken by industry qualified experts as defined by NCSC and the UK Cyber Security Council. We can provide you with your preferred level of CISO integration relevant to your business need - a dedicated CISO 'as needed'; Interim CISO; or a Virtual CISO network, guaranteeing you a security maturity model which is focused on your specific business objectives

One of our core tenets is collaboration, which lays out how our team works with the client.

We adopt the principles of openness and knowledge transfer to empower your people and build sustainable governance, whilst directing and steering, we encourage thought leadership with our industry specialists on hand to guide. We work closely with your key stakeholders and programme teams to devise a bespoke solution that meets the needs and demands of your business, through strategic business objectives, technical solutions, processes, and regulatory requirements. Our CISO, supported by a pool of senior qualified subject matter experts, can integrate seamlessly with your working groups providing professional insight into the latest security topics, with practical advice to design innovative and pragmatic risk-based solutions.

The CISO will facilitate and identify your current information security maturity and threat landscape, alongside what needs protecting, as well as the level of protection required. This will be overlayed with relevant security frameworks, regulatory and legal requirements, to provide a comprehensive security strategy, ensuring basics are implemented and maintained, appropriate risks are considered, and the security posture is raised relevant to your organisational need. Regular engagement will assure and refine strategy, policy and processes, with practical deployment of technology as part of the technical elements of your security roadmap.

Contact details

Service description details



Our VCISO and Subject Matter Experts are a cross-disciplined team made up from Methods' most experienced portfolio members working alongside our partner network. This allows you access to highly qualified cyber security professionals who have a wide range of skills and expertise. With vast experience in establishing digital transformation and risk management programmes, having worked on multiple large platforms and project engagements in both public and private sector. These include risk management and assessment, cloud security and technical security architecture, security operations (SOC), data privacy, compliance and regulatory requirements as part of a project lifecycle.

The VCISOaaS key capabilities are:

- Strategist – Provide independent and objective prioritisation of business operations and information assets for your organisation, ensuring security, resources and budgets are fully aligned to your Target Operating Model (TOM) and strategic risk priorities.
- Obtain independent, objective insight and credibility, by reinforcing the organisations cross-business support and achieving information security goals.
- Advisor - Understands the implications of new or emerging threats to better develop your risk-based strategic roadmap, aligning cyber security efforts with corporate risk appetite. This includes educating key stakeholders, board members and non-technical senior staff.
- Technology integrator - Selects and implements threat detection and monitoring solutions, integrating services delivered by third parties into a seamless framework, with maximum transparency to the business.
- Threat prevention - Monitors processes that safeguard the Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability (CIA) of your network and assets, driving your overall security programme.

This service also enables you to build and maintain an Information Security Management System (ISMS), by developing, implementing, and maintaining a risk-driven approach.

Our methodology is agile and designed to integrate seamlessly into your organisation, complementing and innovating alongside your current working practices. Whether the organisation is looking for ad-hoc support, or a long-term partner, our team can help identify and implement best-in-class solutions.

Service Features

1. Independent CISO leadership insight on maturing your security posture
2. Continued availability to assure and advise
3. Alignment, direction setting, management of budgets to provide cost optimisation
4. Validation of security metric effectiveness for CISO C-suite leadership focus
5. Insight of latest technologies and security frameworks to roadmap integrations
6. Security reviews for Cloud, Infrastructure, Network, Perimeter, Endpoint, Data controls
7. Align standards with regulations alongside governance, risk, audit and assurance
8. Establish effective business continuity disaster recovery plans including security response

Service Benefits

1. Provides professional CISO service without capital expenditure of board executive
2. Pool of senior qualified IT Security Subject Matter Experts
3. Streamline organisation security program to align with your risk appetite
4. Insight on Initiatives, Corporate Strategies, Business Partners, Supply Chain Assurance
5. Guidance on managing vulnerabilities, threat management architecture to safeguard assets
6. Access to threat detection remediation planning, security assessments, pen testers
7. Advise on implementing Secure by Design and Privacy by Design
8. Guidance on cyber security education, policy, process and technology

Contact details

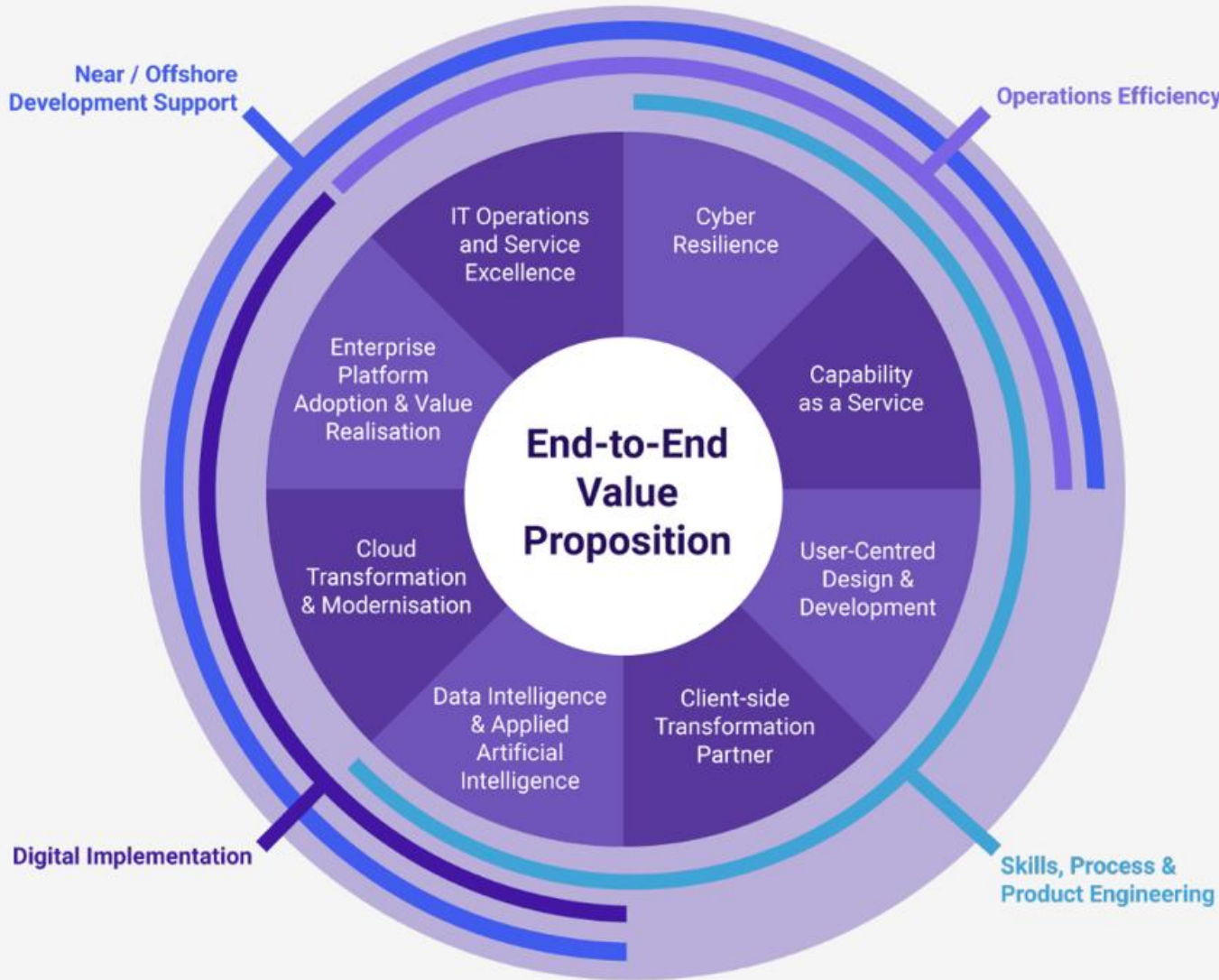
End-to-end transformation and innovation experts

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.

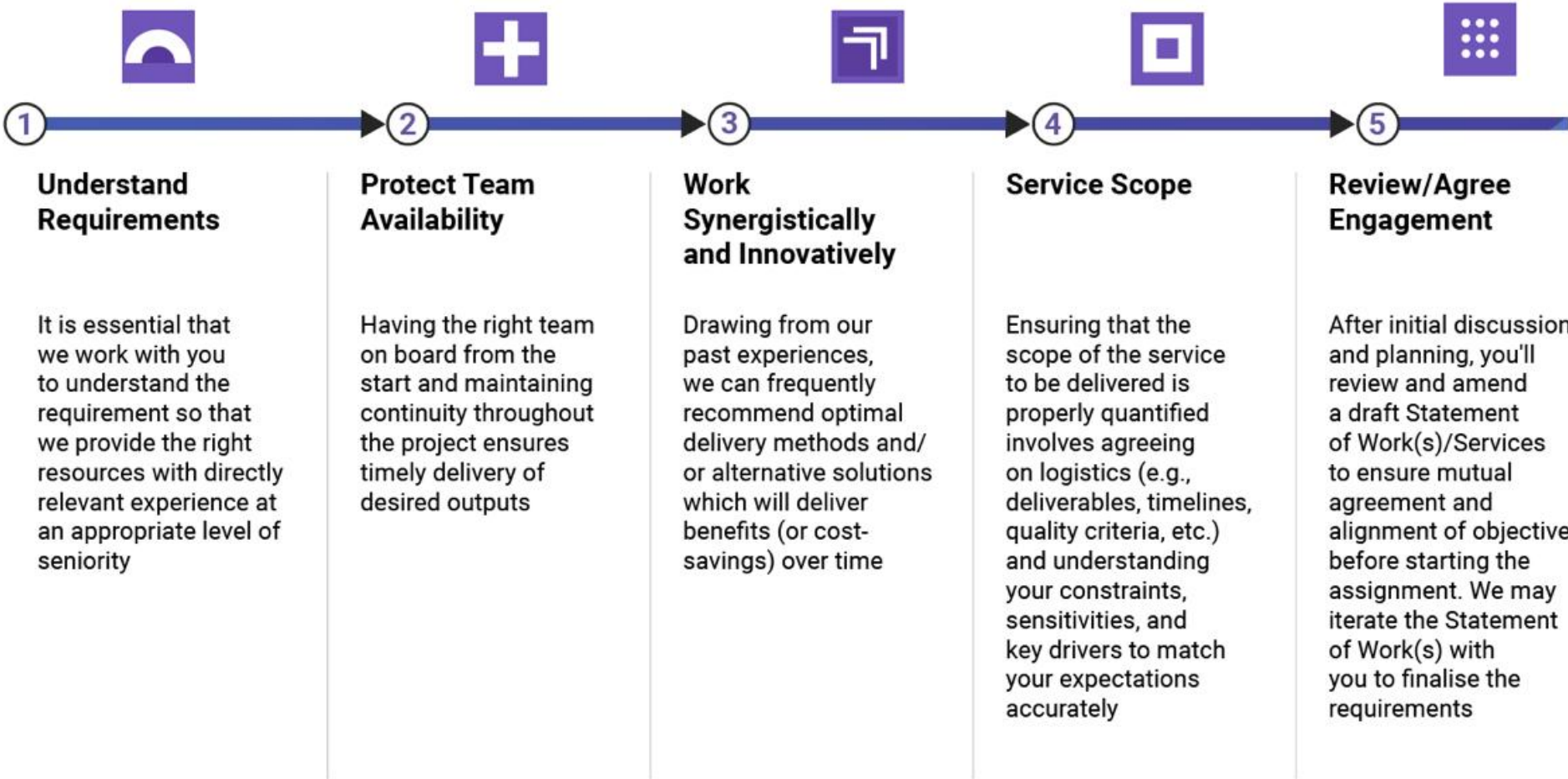
Methods provide collaborative and innovative solutions to help Central Government adapt to the changing landscape and deliver better outcomes for citizens.

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



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.

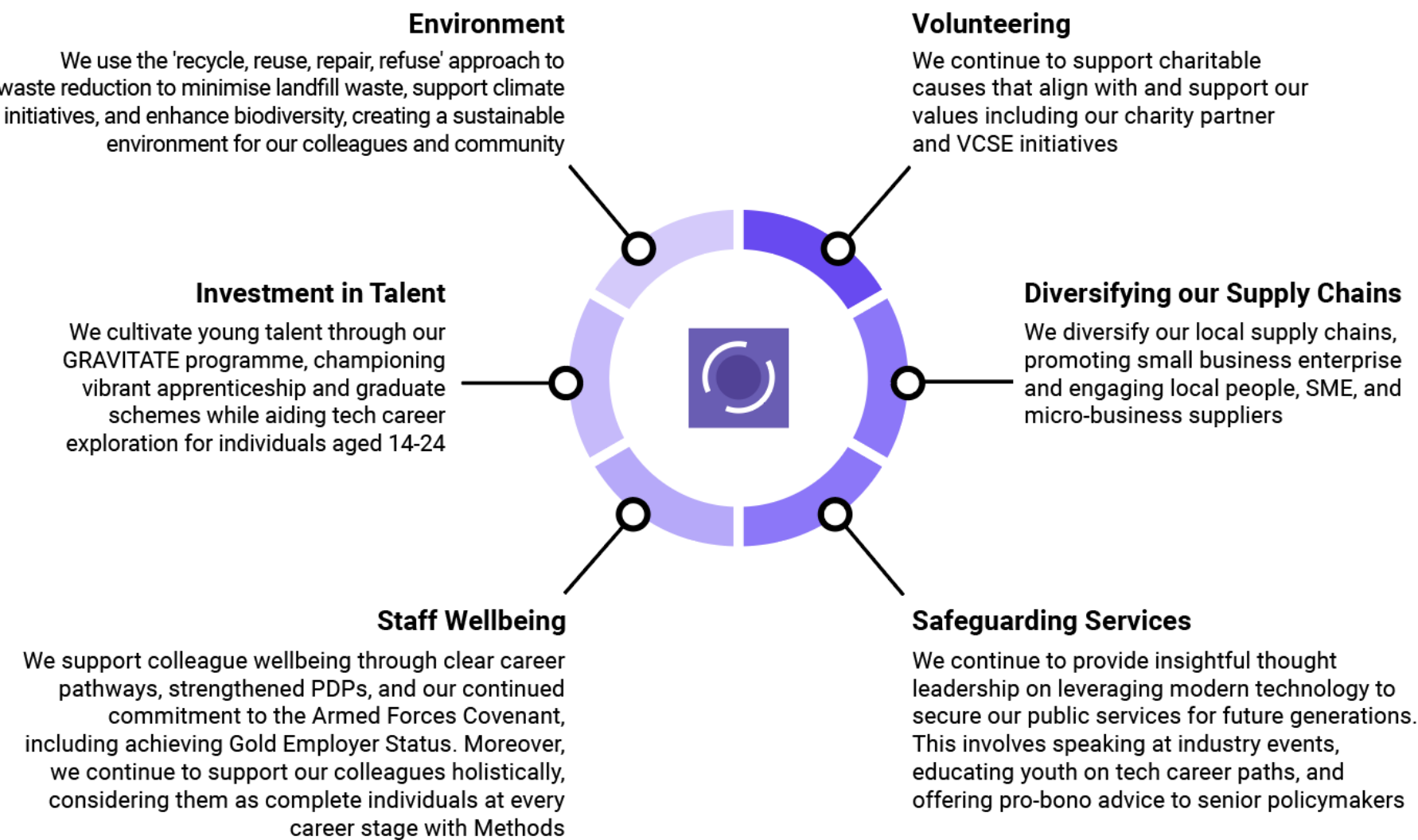


Customer Responsibilities

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.



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.