



Crown
Commercial
Service



DESIGNING AND DEVELOPING CLOUD ARCHITECTURE - TECHNICAL DELIVERY PARTNER

GCloud Service Description Document

Bringing Ingenuity to Life.
paconsulting.com

Corporate Headquarters

10 Bressenden Place

London

SW1E 5DN

+44 20 7730 9000

paconsulting.com

Prepared by: PA Consulting

Reference: PA RM1557.15

Version: 1.0

Contents

DESIGNING AND DEVELOPING CLOUD ARCHITECTURE - TECHNICAL DELIVERY PARTNER	4
1.1 Short Service Description	4
1.2 Key Service Features	4
1.3 Key Service Benefits	4
1.4 Service Definition	5
1.5 Why PA Consulting Group (PA)? A trusted partner for cloud, AI, and digital technologies	6
1.5.1 Why PA for cloud, data and AI	6
1.5.2 Cloud capability (assess, design, build, assure, run)	6
1.5.3 AI, ML and data (from strategy to scale)	7
1.5.3.1 Quantum and emerging technologies	7
1.5.4 Cyber security and digital trust	7
1.5.5 What PA will bring	8
1.5.6 PA is fully equipped to manage any challenges or requirements you may present	9
1.6 A Genuine commitment to Social Value	9
1.7 Security Clearance	10
1.8 Next Steps	10



DESIGNING AND DEVELOPING CLOUD ARCHITECTURE - TECHNICAL DELIVERY PARTNER

1.1 Short Service Description

Cloud projects demand specialist expertise to successfully deliver. PA's enterprise and solution architects will draw on their SaaS, PaaS and IaaS cloud design and expertise including Workday, Salesforce.com, GCP, Azure and Amazon Web Services to oversee and own technical design and delivery to reduce costs, and accelerate successful project delivery.

1.2 Key Service Features

1. Experts: business, application, information, data, security, and integration architects
2. Requirements definition: helping to identify and articulate business requirements
3. Delivery planning ensuring timelines are challenging yet achievable
4. Solution building integrating architecture, development and test for cloud
5. Design authority to specify, assure and integrate technical deliverables
6. Strategic partnerships providing insight into AWS, Azure and GCP
7. Methodologies: delivering cloud ready, cloud native solutions through agile/waterfall
8. Standards-based: Cloud-certified architects, tailoring implementation to your need
9. Technical Leadership: managing mixed technical teams
10. Managing suppliers: from evaluation and selection through to delivery

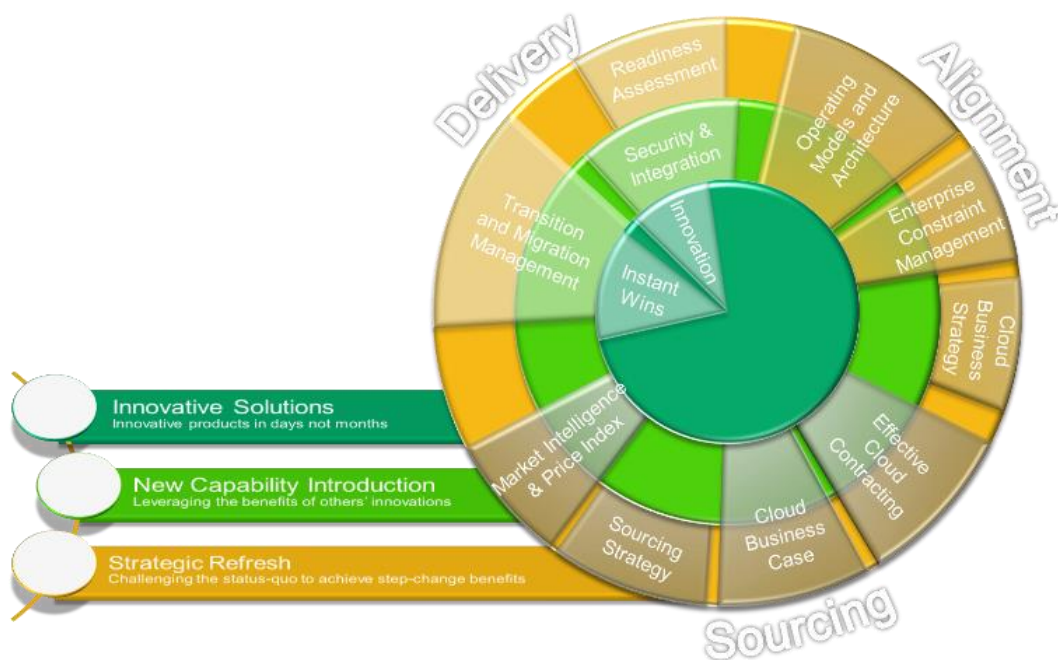
1.3 Key Service Benefits

1. Proven approach using PA's Driving and Releasing Change framework
2. Design authority services and robust monitoring and control
3. Independence by delivering the solutions through our vendor neutral approach
4. Client-side service working for successful cloud project delivery
5. Business alignment: integrating cloud solutions into your wider enterprise
6. Insight: blending expertise and experience to deliver the solution
7. Collaboration: dovetailing with client and supplier architects
8. Flexibility: tailoring our delivery to fit with your methodology
9. Expertise: providing architecture professionals with hands on cloud experience
10. Experience: an awarding winning cloud delivery portfolio across leading industries

1.4 Service Definition

The range and choice of cloud products continue to grow as the underlying technical capabilities and business models mature and vendors increasingly exploit economies of scale to commoditise IT services which previously had to be provided on premise. PA's Designing and Developing Cloud Architecture – Technical Delivery Partner service can help you with the learning curve imposed by the rapidly developing cloud marketplace, placing our architects alongside you to provide knowledge and experience, shape your IT vision, and lead technical delivery throughout the project lifecycle.

Our architects will work with your business from the outset, helping to establish your requirements and ensuring you are aware of the limitations and capabilities of software as a service (SaaS), platform as a service (PaaS) and infrastructure as a service (IaaS) cloud products and solutions. We will operate across all of the business, application, data / information, security and technology / infrastructure architecture domains as required, evaluating products and defining and delivering the right cloud solutions for your business. Our service enables seamless AI/ML integration and supports cloud-native AI workloads, incorporates FinOps practices for effective cloud financial management and sustainability, and achieves agility and scalability via serverless and container orchestration technologies such as Kubernetes.



We have an approach that we have used to deliver cloud services underpinned by tools and templates

- **Innovative solutions** – a proven approach to providing rapid movement from initial idea to beta minimal viable product (MVP) developed and delivered via cloud services
- **New capability introduction** – to identify the key steps, from both a technical and people perspective, to source, plan and transition them into your organisation
- **Strategic refresh** – using our experience to analyse and review your current architecture and contracts to produce a roadmap of solution building blocks with a solid delivery plan to align with your target-operating model (TOM)

PA's underpins its cloud delivery capability by strategic partnerships with Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure and Google Cloud (GCP), and we have hands-on delivery experience with leading vendors, including, for example, Workday and Salesforce.com.

Our architects have experience in architecture frameworks and cloud technologies, covering TOGAF, SAFE as well as AWS, Azure and GCP accreditation and tailor their approach to fit with yours. We can work with you to identify and evaluate cloud vendors and services to meet your needs and will work closely with your own and supplier architecture, development and test teams as necessary to ensure smooth delivery of your cloud projects and release the cost and agility benefits of cloud technology for your business.

1.5 Why PA Consulting Group (PA)?

A trusted partner for cloud, AI, and digital technologies

PA Consulting Group (PA) is a leading technology and innovation consultancy and one of the UK government's most trusted advisors, combining strategy, delivery assurance and deep engineering to turn complex ambition into assured outcomes. We bring end-to-end capability across cloud architecture, data and AI, cyber, and advanced technology R&D, backed by a track record of scaling innovation in the public and private sectors.

Our UK work is anchored by secure, standards-led delivery. PA maintains ISO/IEC 27001 certification across global operations, demonstrating disciplined information security and operational control, and applies UK government good practice (GDS, NCSC CAF) across cloud and digital programmes.

We combine consultancy with real engineering. At our Global Innovation & Technology Centre (Cambridge), 300+ scientists, designers and engineers operate extensive labs and studios to prototype and industrialise solutions, bridging physical and digital from concept to production.

1.5.1 Why PA for cloud, data and AI

- **Hyperscaler alliances without vendor lock-in.** PA is Premier Tier with **Google Cloud** (13+ years; 150+ certifications; specialisations in infrastructure, data analytics, app dev and security) and holds deep **AWS** and **Microsoft** credentials, accelerating secure data foundations and generative AI at scale while keeping advice independent and outcome-led.
- **Responsible AI you can trust.** Our Responsible AI framework, governance toolkits, and risk policy make AI adoption transparent, auditable, and compliant, embedding lifecycle controls, model documentation, and human-in-the-loop safeguards aligned to evolving regulation.
- **Impact beyond pilots.** We help organisations become *intelligent enterprises*, using data and agentic AI to create and protect value, with pragmatic roadmaps from use-case selection to scaled operations.
- **Proof through delivery.** Our client stories span enterprise data platforms, IoT and analytics (e.g., Rentokil Initial), and product innovation at scale (e.g., Unilever) where PA has put data and AI at the heart of continuous, market-leading improvement.

1.5.2 Cloud capability (assess, design, build, assure, run)

PA applies an assured cloud delivery approach to complex government and regulated environments, blending client-side delivery assurance, multi-cloud architecture, and resilient operations:

- **Strategy & readiness.** Maturity assessments, target operating models for hybrid/multi-cloud, and cost/benefit modelling; proportionate GDS compliance and ISO 27001 controls embedded upfront.
- **Design & architecture.** Secure, well-architected patterns across Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud; data platforms, identity and access, and cross-domain solutions for sensitive estates.
- **Build & deploy.** Cloud-native engineering, DevSecOps (CALMR), CI/CD, infrastructure-as-code; automated testing and quality assurance to accelerate safe release.
- **Migration & modernisation.** Legacy transformation, platform reviews, and workload migration tuned to resilience and cost; pragmatic FinOps to keep spend predictable and efficient.

- **Operate & optimise.** Observability, incident management, performance tuning, backup/restore, and change management, maintaining business continuity and reducing total cost.
- **Client-side delivery assurance.** Forward-looking, risk-based assurance that keeps complex programmes on track, covering governance, architecture, testing, migration, service readiness and cutover. See our *IT Delivery Assurance* service.

1.5.3 AI, ML and data (from strategy to scale)

- **Strategy & governance.** AI blueprints, operating models, and policy; enterprise data governance; regulatory readiness; centre-of-excellence setup and change adoption.
- **Engineering & MLOps.** Data platforms on Azure/AWS/GCP, pipelines and feature stores; robust ML lifecycle with monitoring, drift detection and auditability.
- **Generative & agentic AI.** Secure integration of LLMs (including Copilot) into workflows for measurable productivity and quality gains, using guardrails, system cards and ROI framing.
- **Responsible AI.** Lifecycle controls and assurance tooling to manage bias, security and transparency.

1.5.3.1 Quantum and emerging technologies

PA's applied physics and quantum engineering teams help clients unlock near-term value, combining quantum techniques with classical systems for decision support, advanced sensing and secure communications:

- **Decision support & optimisation.** Hybrid quantum/classical algorithms to accelerate complex planning, routing and resource allocation where speed and quality of decisions matter.
- **Quantum sensing & RF.** Novel quantum radio and Rydberg-based sensing to enhance spectrum use, detection sensitivity and resilience in contested environments.
- **Commercialisation insight.** Advisory at the “whole-stack” level, hardware, supply chain, interfaces, and ethics, to move from lab to market within national strategies.

These capabilities are industrialised at our Cambridge centre, turning concepts into robust prototypes and pre-production systems across sectors like defence, energy and transport.

1.5.4 Cyber security and digital trust

Digital trust is central to PA's approach. We design security into architecture, operations and culture, aligning to NCSC CAF and GovAssure, and delivering testing, red-team, SOC design and OT/IoT security:

- **Transformation & architecture.** Secure-by-design patterns, cloud security, identity, and cross-domain data protection (including NCSC-approved Oakdoor data diode products).
- **Assurance & regulation.** CAF/GovAssure alignment and pragmatic remediation plans for government organisations.
- **Testing & resilience.** CREST-aligned penetration testing, red-teaming, incident readiness, and operational resilience.

1.5.5 What PA will bring

Ideation & Strategy

- Cloud strategy and advisory services
- Cloud readiness assessments
- Cost/benefit and ROI modelling
- Security and compliance by design.
- AI/ML and data strategy (blueprints, operating model, governance) with Responsible AI policy and guardrails.
- Quantum opportunity framing and whole-stack commercialisation roadmaps.

Design & Architecture

- Bespoke enterprise and cloud architectures
- Integration with existing IT infrastructures
- Hybrid/multi-cloud design
- Continuity and disaster recovery
- Data platforms and MLOps patterns
- Security, privacy and resilience embedded by design in technical designs
- User-centred-design
- Secure cross-domain solutions and high-side/low-side integration where required.

Development & Deployment

- Cloud-native engineering
- Containerisation, microservices and serverless
- DevSecOps (CALMR) with CI/CD and automated testing
- Generative AI and Copilot enablement with measurable productivity outcomes and run-controls.

Implementation & Migration

- Data migration and legacy modernisation
- Vendor selection and management
- Infrastructure-as-code with progressive, low-risk cutover.

Operations & Management

- Observability, incident management, SIEM/SOC design
- Performance optimisation and cost management (FinOps)
- Backup/restore
- User training and change adoption.

Innovation & Scaling

- Scalable cloud infrastructure to support growth
- AI/ML implementation and scaling
- IoT integration
- Ongoing innovation sprints and R&D, supported by our Cambridge engineering labs for rapid prototyping and pre-production.

1.5.6 PA is fully equipped to manage any challenges or requirements you may present

Across strategy, design, build and run, PA blends independent advice with hands-on engineering, operating to ISO 27001 and UK government standards, and backed by hyperscaler partnership depth. Whether the brief is modernising a sensitive cloud estate, industrialising AI responsibly, or de-risking a quantum-adjacent programme, we bring the multidisciplinary team to get from idea to reality, safely, quickly, and at scale.

1.6 A Genuine commitment to Social Value

At PA, we believe in the power of ingenuity to create a positive human future. Central to this ambition is our commitment to developing high-quality opportunities that enable individuals to acquire leading-edge skills, all within an environment that supports personal wellbeing and growth. We invest in our people through comprehensive training and development, ensuring they are fully prepared to tackle our clients' most complex challenges and advance their own careers.

We recognise that diversity drives innovation. Therefore, our recruitment practices are inclusive, welcoming individuals from all backgrounds. Every member of our team is empowered to reach their full potential through inclusive policies, processes, and a culture that is continuously improved using robust data.

We are passionate about creating genuine opportunities for those facing significant barriers to employment. Since 2023, our Digital Apprenticeship Programme has offered a Digital and Technology Solutions Degree through the University of Roehampton or Northumbria University. Our apprentices typically include first-generation professionals, college leavers, and individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds, many living in deprived areas. Additionally, we offer summer internships for undergraduates entering their final year, hosted at both our central London office and the Global Innovation and Technology Centre in Cambridge.

Economic responsibility is integral to our purpose. PA is accredited as a Living Wage employer, and where relevant, we ensure that our suppliers and subcontractors are paid at least the minimum living wage. We are also a signatory to the Prompt Payment Code, demonstrating our commitment to fair and responsible payments to suppliers.

Our carbon reduction targets have been validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). We have a published carbon reduction plan and are committed to achieving carbon net zero by 2040, in alignment with PPN 06/21 criteria for UK public sector contracts exceeding £5 million. In 2024, we achieved a silver EcoVadis rating, reflecting our ongoing progress in sustainability.

We are dedicated to delivering targeted social value and will collaborate with you to determine the most effective approach for you, ensuring our efforts have the greatest possible impact.

1.7 Security Clearance

PA are fully compliant with industry best practices for information security, which includes compliance with the UK MOD Industry Personnel Security Assurance (IPSA) standard, against which we are independently audited every three years. PA also has multiple sites with FSC (previously List X) where our dedicated in-house Security Vetting team are based. This allows PA to achieve security vetting of its employees in a time effective manner ensuring the correct processes are always followed (In accordance with the Security Policy Framework/GS007). As a matter of standard process, PA puts all its eligible employees through the Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS), set out by the Cabinet Office. Those employees working on, or planning to work on, government projects are automatically put forward for SC clearance which are processed via UK-SV (formally the Defence Business Services – National Security Vetting). PA also process DV vetting through the UK-SV and other agencies, these are generally client sponsored.

PA currently have a large pool of cleared individuals (80% of UK Staff). Should a resource be identified where clearance is needed, the PA Security Vetting team will then process the individual through the relevant clearance procedure. The team will also be able to validate all existing clearances held by PA employees when requested.

1.8 Next Steps

This service is intended to help customers develop and deliver successful outcomes regardless of the life cycle stage they are at. PA prides itself on working with clients and helping them to deliver outcomes whilst also providing them the ability to 'stand on their own' so that they can move their solutions forward without future involvement. Please contact us on GCloudFramework@paconsulting.com to discuss your needs further.



About PA.

We believe in the power of ingenuity to build a positive human future.

As strategies, technologies, and innovation collide, we create opportunity from complexity.

Our diverse teams of experts combine innovative thinking and breakthrough technologies to progress further, faster. Our clients adapt and transform, and together we achieve enduring results.

We are over 4,000 strategists, innovators, designers, consultants, digital experts, scientists, engineers, and technologists. And we have deep expertise in consumer and manufacturing, defence and security, energy and utilities, financial services, government and public services, health and life sciences, and transport.

Our teams operate globally from offices across the UK, Ireland, US, Nordics, and Netherlands.

PA. Bringing Ingenuity to Life.

Discover more at paconsulting.com and connect with PA on [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#).

Corporate Headquarters

10 Bressenden Place

London

SW1E 5DN

+44 20 7730 9000

This proposal has been prepared by PA Consulting Group on the basis of information supplied by the client, third parties (if appropriate) and that which is available in the public domain. No representation or warranty is given as to the achievability or reasonableness of future projections or the assumptions underlying them, targets, valuations, opinions, prospects or returns, if any, which have not been independently verified. Except where otherwise indicated, the proposal speaks as at the date indicated within the proposal.

paconsulting.com

All rights reserved

© PA Knowledge Limited 2026

This proposal is confidential to the organisation named herein and may not be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical or otherwise, without the prior written permission of PA Consulting Group. In the event that you receive this document in error, you should return it to PA Consulting Group, 10 Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DN. PA Consulting Group accepts no liability whatsoever should an unauthorised recipient of this proposal act on its contents.