**CLOUD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

This chart summarises the procedure for completing the [*Requirements for Cloud Computing*](http://www.ict.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/information-management/requirements-for-cloud-computing/). The requirements are designed to provide assurance that cloud service risks are managed. The extent of assurance required depends on the sensitivity of the information the cloud service will contain.

**For all cloud services including continuations of existing services and contract renewals:**

**Additional requirements:**

**Common Capabilities:** Agencies are expected to adopt [Government ICT Common Capabilities](https://www.ict.govt.nz/services/available-now/) where available instead of sourcing their own cloud solutions. Agencies using Common Capability cloud providers can leverage the assessment done by the lead agency in many areas of the [*Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)*.* However, agencies **MUST** complete any additional sections of the [*Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)and [*Cloud Endorsement by Agency*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Endorsement-Agency-FINAL-protected.docx) (or similar) specific to the agency and submit them to the GCIO.

Agencies **MUST** contact GCIO via email or phone for guidance. GCIO will maintain a register of agency cloud service reviews, principally to facilitate information sharing among agencies. Ask us for details. We may have an example from another agency you can use.

Agencies **MUST** apply the relevant guidance in [*Cloud Computing: Information Security and Privacy Considerations.*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/ICT-System-Assurance/Cloud-Computing-Information-Security-and-Privacy-Considerations-FINAL2.pdf)Not all questions may be relevant to every initiative. The GCIO has developed the [*Cloud Risk Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)to assist agencies in collecting information that will be required in risk assessment evaluations. [Please see guidance on ict.govt.nz.](https://www.ict.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/information-management/requirements-for-cloud-computing/)

Agencies **MUST** have the Chief Information Officer, the Chief Executive (or delegate for the acceptance of business risk) and either the Chief Security Officer or the Chief Information Security Officer sign-off on the risks and mitigations. The GCIO has developed a [*Cloud Endorsement by Agency1*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Endorsement-Agency-FINAL-protected.docx)form as an example.

**Apply appropriate expertise:** Agencies **MUST** apply the appropriate expertise in completing the [*Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)*.* If there is insufficient in-house expertise*,* agencies should obtain assistance from an [All-of-Government (AoG) Security and Related Services panel provider](https://www.ict.govt.nz/services/show/SRS-Panel).

**Classification of the *Assessment Tool:***[*Assessment Tools*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)and [*Cloud Endorsements by Agency*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Endorsement-Agency-FINAL-protected.docx) (or similar) **MUST** be classified to the appropriate security classification. This may not necessarily be the same classification as the information the cloud service will contain.

Agencies **MUST** submit the following to the GCIO:

1. The [*Cloud Risk* *Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx) with relevant sections completed.
2. A [*Cloud Endorsement by Agency1*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Endorsement-Agency-FINAL-protected.docx) or similar

GCIO staff will review the submission to ensure appropriate sign-off by the agency. They will not assess the underlying risk assessment.

Agencies **MUST NOT** adopt new cloud services until the sign-offs have been obtained and the above documentation has been forwarded to the GCIO.

**Information sharing:** Agencies **SHOULD** ensure that third-party contracts related to cloud solutions (including those relating to assistance completing the [*Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)) contain clauses allowing the sharing of the results of the [*Assessment Tool*](https://www.ict.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-and-Resources/Cloud-ICT-Assurance/Cloud-Risk-Assessment-Tool-v1.xlsx)within the NZ Public Sector.

**Re-use of *Assessment Tool* responses and assessment materials:** GCIO will encourage and facilitate the sharing and re-use of existing cloud assessment materials among agencies.

Agencies **SHOULD** ensure any information received in this manner, including re-used vendor responses, is current and applicable to their own risk assessment.

Email submissions to ICTAssurance@dia.govt.nz

**For queries email ICTAssurance@dia.govt.nz**