N4STACK
PART OF NODE4

Governance Managed Service
Key Features

Governance Managed Service
Our tailored Governance Managed Service for Azure
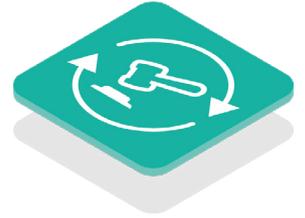
The Governance Managed Service sits at the heart of any operating model for Azure. This service provides best practise expertise focused on minimising risks, controlling budgets, accelerating deployments and getting the best experience from the Azure platform.

Managing governance within Azure requires in-depth experience and understanding of best practices. In addition to creating a tailored governance model at the outset, it is essential to ensure that the governance guardrails are proactively managed and in a continual state of improvement.

N4Stack's Governance Managed Service addresses security baselines, cost management, identity management, resource consistency, and deployment acceleration. We begin by implementing the minimum viable product (MVP) policies recommended in Azure's Cloud Adoption Framework and on a monthly basis we review operations, spend and policies to drive improvement and maturity.

N4Stack's Governance Managed Service provides:

✓	**Unlimited support for the basics:** unlimited access to the Azure Engineering team for basic services
✓	**Work to best practices:** N4Stack will be on hand to advise on best practices & answer any questions. If we spot any issues or configuration errors, we'll be in touch to assist
✓	**Create a Cloud Governance Team:** we'll form part of your team & provide monthly audit reports & review calls to discuss issues & proposed improvements
✓	**Accelerate deployments:** access & an allowance to utilise our DevOps team, meaning we can script & automate infrastructure as part of your deployments
✓	**Azure discounts:** access to unlimited CSP subscriptions that provide discounts for customers based on spend
✓	**Constant improvement:** this service will mature week-by-week as we bring new suggestions to your team. Every month we will formally meet to track actions & improvement initiatives
✓	**Control costs:** set up spend alerts, gain forecasts & get monthly recommendations on how to optimise your spend
✓	**Implement seamless policies:** we'll create policies that measure & track adherence to your goals. If there is a breach of policy we'll advise & support the resolution
✓	**Gain access to tools:** access to cost management tools & a monthly audit capability. We'll also configure several features within Azure
✓	**Envision new projects:** priority access to our Azure Architects - we'll be on hand to validate & assist with new projects & requirements

For more information on our Governance Managed Service for Azure or other products and services we offer please call our team today on 0115 933 8474 or email us at hello@n4stack.co.uk

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CSP Subscriptions

We will provide you with CSP subscriptions from N4Stack in line with the governance design which provides a greater level of flexibility and management than other methods. There is no upfront commitment and you can benefit from discounts based on the consumption of services within Azure. A CSP includes:

- True cloud pay-as-you-go economics
- Ability to license hybrid and cloud services
- A simple single bill that combines Support, Security, Management and Cloud
- Management of Microsoft relationship and administration of any SLA refunds
- Discount based on total consumption across N4Stack CSP subscriptions

Billing Management & Analytics

We will provide access to our Billing Analytics Platform which provides you with a wealth of information on Azure best practices including Cost Management, Right Sizing and Security Advisories. This analytics platform will continually review your deployment and feedback vital information to the management teams. This service can also integrate into the N4Stack Service Desk team triggering and triaging alerts on spend threshold breaches and new advisories.

Monthly Azure Audit Report & Review

The continued governance of the Azure environment is key to ensuring best practices are followed and audited. We will provide a monthly audit report on the Hub and x1 Project Subscription containing the following information:

- Data Centre Location/Data Residency
- Deployed Azure Components
- Best Practice Adherence
- Storage Account Review: Configuration & Advisories
- Virtual Machines: Configuration & Advisories
- Containers: Configuration & Advisories
- Azure Data Platforms: Configuration & Advisories
- Networking: Configuration & Advisories

Architecture Guidance & Validation

Get access to our accredited Azure Engineers who will provide hands-on validation and design guidance for Azure deployments. We will also provide a best practice, reference architecture through the use of Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) and Serverless constructs.

We understand that a key requirement of an infrastructure partner is to work closely with customers to help to define the optimal infrastructure and automation options for your applications. N4Stack have a track record of successfully delivering this level of consultancy, designing, deploying and managing end-to-end infrastructure projects.

DevOps Automation Scripting

The N4Stack DevOps team are able to support projects wanting to drive greater levels of automation and support a desire to operate an Infrastructure as Code (IaC) model. An IaC model is our preferred default for customers and to encourage this behaviour we have included 12 hours per annum development time, which can be invested in creating new automation scripts to improve the speed of delivery for projects. Our DevOps team will leverage services within Azure and typically use a combination of Terraform and Ansible to build new automated workflows.

Governance Model Improvement

As project teams deliver change at increasing velocity, new resources are being launched, changes are constant and numerous Azure service updates are released every day. Therefore, customers Azure environments are subject to constant flux and with new service updates comes new opportunities. Ensuring the initial Governance MVP develops and improves to a matured model is key for success.

The Governance Managed Service aims to drive this improvement with monthly reports and in-flight policy changes to adapt the framework as issues and opportunities arise.

Foundation Basic Support

This Azure package is designed for customers who need minimal day-to-day support from N4Stack either because they are yet to deploy production services or have considerable experience and resources in house.

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