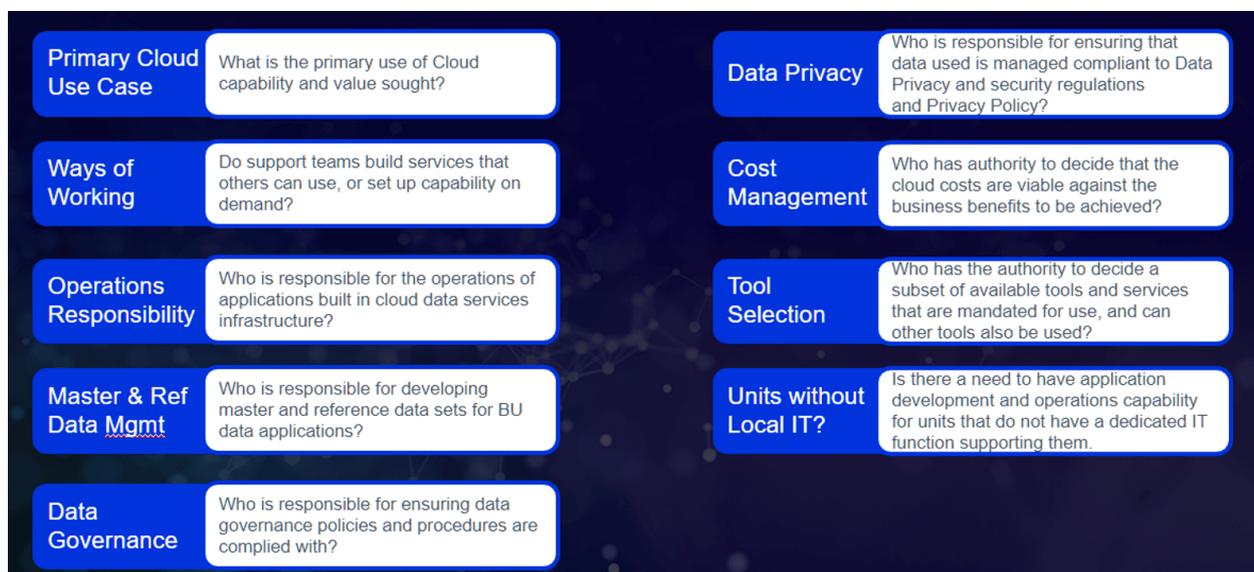# How embracing Azure might impact your operating model

If your organisation has decided that a cloud architecture will form the base of your future data strategy, it will be on the basis that there are significant benefits to be had in:

- Allowing easy accessibility
- Leveraging the security features of cloud datacentres
- Quickly scaling resources up and down
- Reducing the cost of infrastructure

It is important to consider that realising these benefits is dependent on making changes to your operating model, in particular:

- Organisation Roles & Responsibilities
- Operational Processes
- Ways of Working and Performance Measurement

Microsoft's Cloud Adoption Framework provides a good starting point, but as you might expect, is quite focused on the technology and takes the 'one size fits all' approach. Our experience is that there are some key decisions that are likely to have already been made within your organisation that will largely shape the operating model:

Primary Cloud Use Case	What is the primary use of Cloud capability and value sought?	**Data Privacy**	Who is responsible for ensuring that data used is managed compliant to Data Privacy and security regulations and Privacy Policy?
Ways of Working	Do support teams build services that others can use, or set up capability on demand?	**Cost Management**	Who has authority to decide that the cloud costs are viable against the business benefits to be achieved?
Operations Responsibility	Who is responsible for the operations of applications built in cloud data services infrastructure?	**Tool Selection**	Who has the authority to decide a subset of available tools and services that are mandated for use, and can other tools also be used?
Master & Ref Data Mgmt	Who is responsible for developing master and reference data sets for BU data applications?	**Units without Local IT?**	Is there a need to have application development and operations capability for units that do not have a dedicated IT function supporting them.
Data Governance	Who is responsible for ensuring data governance policies and procedures are complied with?		

The answers to these questions inform the allocation of responsibilities and subsequently allow for an assessment of what skills each business unit needs to acquire. From this base, key processes can be designed to be efficient and effective. A Cloud Data Services Operating Model should provide guidance on processes such as:

- Data Services Package Creation and Use
- Support Data Governance
- Provision CI/CD capability
- Monitor Data Services Platforms (Cost Management)
- Provide Data Services best practices
- Perform Tool Evaluation and Selection
- Fix Data Services Platform Issues
- Request Custom Data Services Infrastructure Design
- Operate and Maintain BU Applications built in Data Services Infrastructure

Having these processes agreed and documented is a proof point that enterprise leadership, line managers and operational teams are aligned around cloud data strategy. In our experience, this is a necessary condition to maximizing the value of moving your data to the cloud.

Fujitsu Data & AI advise many leading companies in Australia and New Zealand on designing and implementing bespoke Data Governance solutions based on best practice. If you need assistance, please contact a Fujitsu Data & AI specialist now.

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