# Transforming UK SBS capability, capacity and culture

Learning, development and skills July 2021



### Business Plan on a page

## Organisational imperatives

- · Relentless focus on service quality
- Enable the Government Shared Services (GSS) strategy as the BPO for the Matrix cluster
- Enabling separate new systems to effectively and efficiently support BEIS / Matrix cluster and UKRI future requirements

## Strategic themes for change

- Simplifying processes (aligned to GSS objective 'Standardised processes and data')
- Maintaining and improving operational efficiency (aligned to GSS objective 'Efficiency and value for money')
- Enhancing user experience (aligned to GSS objective 'Better experience for all users')
- Growing the skills and capability of our people (UK SBS transformation / strategic workforce plan)
- Resilient infrastructure and security (securely maintain current and future capabilities)

#### The longer term

- · A transformed organisation with enhanced capacity and capability
- · A reputation built on quality
- Ready for further harmonisation of client services and systems to drive efficiency and effectiveness
- · Ready to offer new services to current clients and / or support further clients

## The Company

#### History

- 2011 Research Councils create SSC
- 2013 BIS join and UK SBS born
- 2015 Owners consider alternatives
- 2017 Owners commit to joint working and investment
- 2020 Stable services delivered throughout pandemic

#### Governance

- Regulation 12 "Teckal", non-profit making entity
- Strategic decisions require unanimous agreement of owners who are represented on the Board
- Operate to break-even with service and change costs agreed with partners
- A limited company requiring compliance with Companies Act 2006





#### **Current Partners and Services**

**Finance** HR & Payroll **Procurement** Additional Additional **Standard Standard** Customer Treasury Customer Recruitment Services Services Forecasting Low Value Order to Cash Joining Work Reward & Procurement Building the Purchase to Recognition EU & UN Pay Workforce **Immigration** Project **Leaving Work** Cash Accounting Complex Management Payroll Case Specialist VAT Non Current Management Advice & Managing Services Overpayment Service Record to Recovery Transparency Report Reporting Tax Two Oracle platforms for our Partners: ROE: UKRI, UK SBS BOE: BEIS, DIT, INSS, UKSA, ACAS

#### **Business IT**

Commercial Procurement services compliant with all public sector and legal requirements

Category and Framework Management

Supplier and Contract Management

IT & Telecom Business Services for UKRI

Research grants platform for **UKRI** 

**EPM Hosting for BEIS** 



Supported by a range of on site and cloud based managed application services

## Our Board agreed 2025 Ambition:

#### growth based on enduring service quality

By 2025 UK SBS will have a track record of relentless focus on quality service delivery and have successfully delivered new systems, transforming capacity and capability.

UK SBS will be a very different organisation, efficiently managing multiple platforms and delivering a great user experience underpinned by simple processes and modern business IT.

Growth brings efficiency with potential for new services to current and future partners

### Vision

The leading UK public sector business services provider, actively sought by government bodies

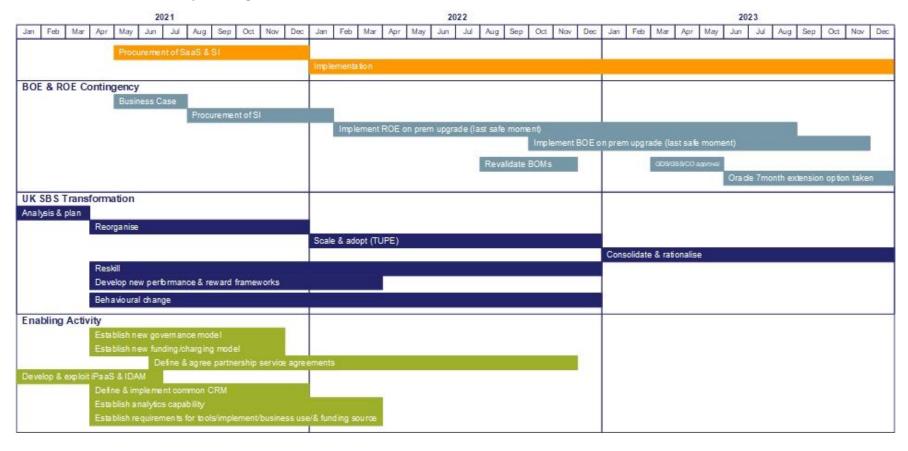
## Mission

To provide high quality and easy to use business services that add value to our partners, so they can focus on achieving the best outcomes for the British people and the UK economy

### Roadmap

UK SBS is committed to Transformation whilst facing the challenge of delivering quality business as usual for current clients and supporting a number of complex and interdependent programmes, illustrated below:

#### **UK SBS Sub-Portfolio of Major Change**





### **Business Plan Strategic Themes**

The multi-year plan pursues five strategic themes, the first three focus on service quality, user experience and client change. The other two underpin UK SBS outputs and outcomes through internal changes.

Drivers of client originated change



Additional drivers of UK SBS change

Simplifying processes

GSS objective 'Standardised processes and data' Maintaining and improving operational efficiency

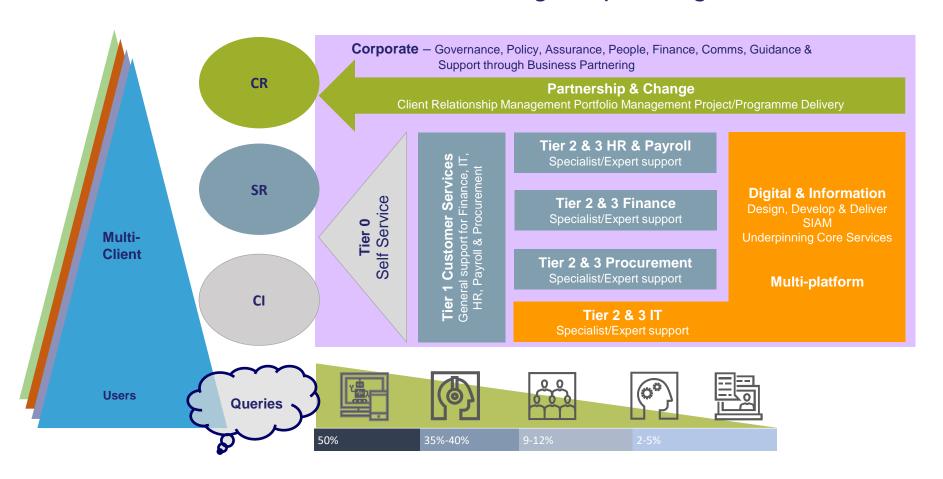
GSS objective 'Efficiency and value for money' Enhancing user experience

GSS objective 'Better experience for all users'

Growing the skills and capability of our people

Resilient infrastructure and security

#### Transformation will deliver a new Target Operating Model

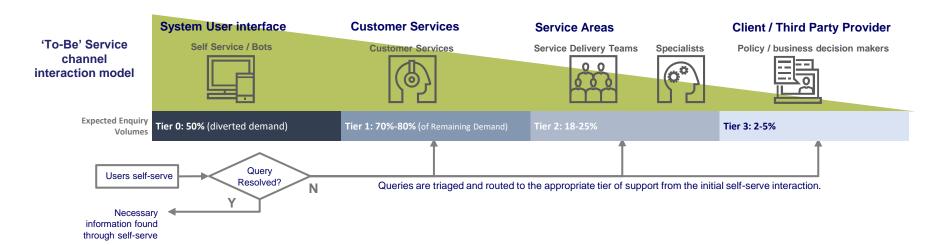


## Intended Future Contact and Query Resolution Model, enabled by Transformation and new technology

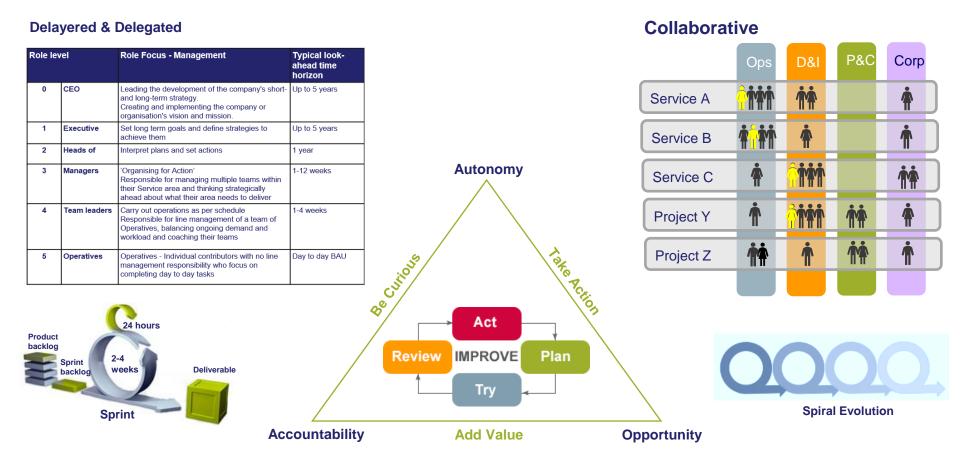
#### **Users:**

Employees
People Managers
Budget Holders
Applicants
Third Parties
including suppliers

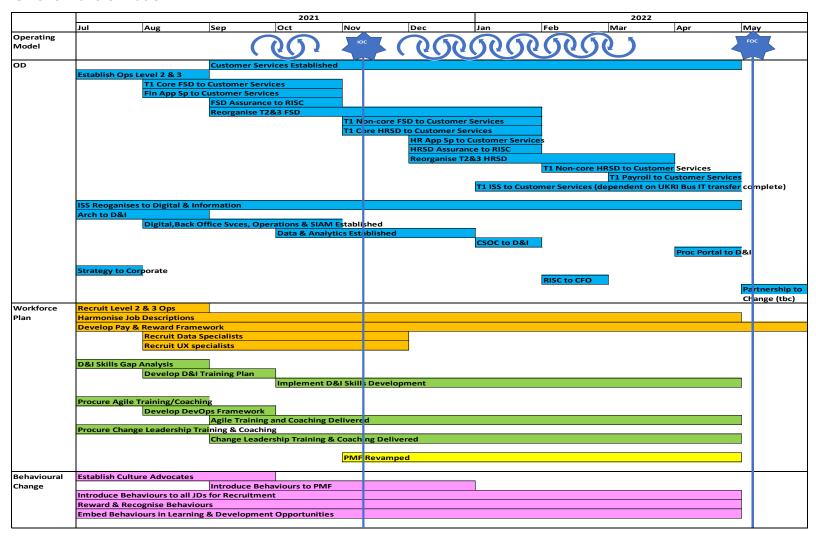
Tier 0 Tier 1 Tier 3 **Direct Access General Support Specialist Support Experts** Self-Help / Self Serve Telephone / service requests / live More complex query resolution Policy interpretation Online information & FAOs Transactional activity and support **Exception handling** Self service transactions Resolution of gueries Business insight and understanding Solve issues Chatbots Basic transactional activity Provide SME advice control Digital assistants Complex advice & specialised activity High frequency Low complexity Low frequency, low repeatability Highly repeatable Low risk activity Medium frequency



#### Transforming the way we work - Greater Agility



#### **UK SBS Transformation**



#### Recommended critical few behaviours

Below are the three recommended behaviours; these harness the existing positive behaviours and cultural traits within UK SBS and will support the business in: **providing high quality and easy to use business services that add value to our partners, so they can focus on achieving the best outcomes for the British people and the UK economy.** 

#### **Be Curious**

Bring curiosity and constructive challenge to not only what you do, but how you do it.

Be bold and explore, asking questions and inviting questions to deepen your understanding, and grow knowledge both within teams and across teams.

#### **Take Action**

Follow curiosity through with an actionable step, thinking about how you can do things differently across all areas of the organisation.

Take pride and ownership over your work, the work of your team and the work of the business - collaborate, share knowledge and work as one team to deliver high-quality activities and outcomes.

#### **Add Value**

Think about the value, purpose, quality and impact of what you do.

Make the time to reflect on the value that you bring to the task at hand, to your team and ultimately to the customer.
Constructively challenge the task at hand to ensure that quality and value is at the heart of what you do.

## We worked with PwC to plan our transformation – key capability & organisation gaps were highlighted

Capability & Organisation

UK SBS have significant strengths in business as usual delivery. However there is not putting the same focus on identifying and implementing opportunities for improvement

Lack of people management capability and prioritisation, exacerbated by capacity challenges have drawn leaders into doing rather than coaching and looking forwards

The leadership group has the potential to be a **key vehicle for culture change but needs to be reformed** to be a smaller cadre of change leaders with the necessary leadership skills

Career pathways at middle management level need to recognise both technical and managerial options to help manage situations where individuals are promoted to line management roles based on technical skills

How services are organised within UK SBS is **reflective of the legacy of the organisation** rather than a coherent strategy taking cognisance of the strengths of all three sites

There has been mixed feedback from clients on the level of service quality and delivery provided. A theme has been the need to **improve supplier management** 

The Executive Committee is recognised at being skilled in delivering business as usual rather than transformation

There is **low level change fatigue** throughout UK SBS. Future transformation needs to be exceptionally well planned to involve employees from all grades in designing their future

#### Today's capability gaps

The following common themes emerged from PwC workshops and interviews:

People Management People management gap: difficult conversations on performance are avoided internally at all levels which ultimately undermines customer delivery

Relationships

Client relationship building: challenges in building working relationships which clients believe are effective

Problem Solving

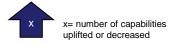
Problem solving: clients do not feel there are the problem solving skills to address their service concerns

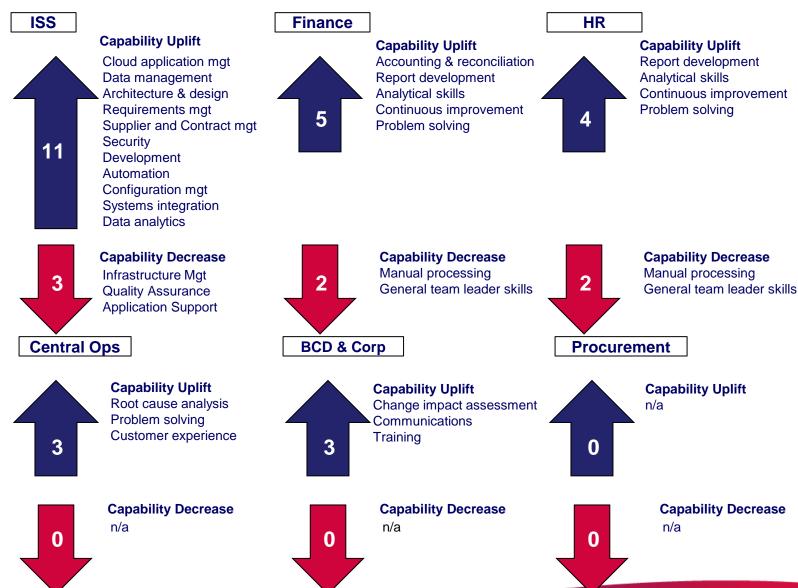
Continuous Improvement Continuous improvement: focus on following the processes rather than looking for better ways of doing things to improve effectiveness and efficiency

Customer Service

Customer service: challenges in delivering the level and quality of customer service required

#### Identified capability changes by function

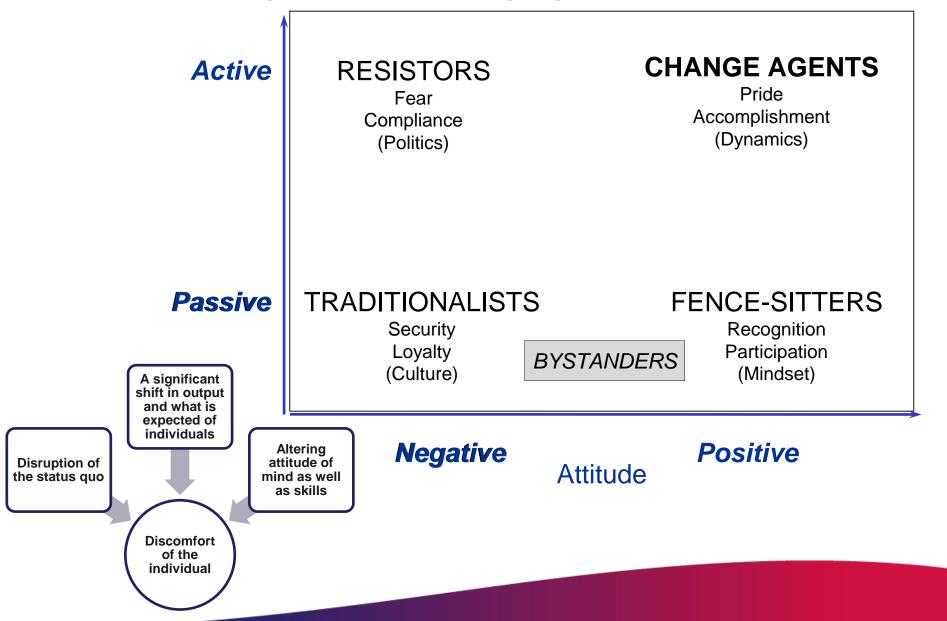




## Skills List – a lexicon

| Skill                       | s           | Definition  |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| Seeing the Big Picture      | t<br>S<br>k | Understand how your role fits with and supports organisational objectives. Recognise the wider priorities and ensure work is in the company interest                              |
| Changing & Improving        |             | Seek out opportunities to create effective change and suggest innovative ideas for improvement. Review ways of working, including seeking and providing feedback.                 |
| Making Effective Decisions  |             | Use evidence and knowledge to support accurate, expert decisions and advice. Carefully consider alternative options, implications and risks of decisions.                         |
| Leadership                  | I<br>I      | Show pride and passion for service. Create and engage others in delivering a shared vision. Value difference, diversity and inclusion, ensuring fairness and opportunity for all. |
| Communicating & Influencing | S           | Communicate purpose and direction with clarity, integrity and enthusiasm. Respect the needs, responses and opinions of others.  |
| Working Together            |             | Form effective partnerships and relationships with people both internally and externally, from a range of diverse backgrounds, sharing information, resources and support.        |
| Developing Self & Others    | -           | Focus on continuous learning and development for self, others and the organisation as a whole.  |
| Managing a Quality Service  |             | Deliver service objectives with professional excellence, expertise and efficiency, taking account of diverse customer needs.  |
| Delivering at Pace          |             | Take responsibility for delivering timely and quality results with focus and drive.   |

## We recognise we are creating discomfort for some and expecting discomforted managers to become change agents



## The process of personal change

Familiar, and probably applies to those we need to be change agents

Actions to enable individual behaviour Vision clarity at a personal level Individual behaviour reflecting desired competencies and culture Hearts and minds committed; supported by targets and objectives that are understood Organisational capability to support goals Reallocate, hire, import, borrow, fire resources Specific business goals to achieve the vision More than metrics - bring it to life Organisation's strategic vision Continued sponsorship and all stakeholders aligned

