



## CONSUMER GUIDE

### Government Package - Microsoft Azure

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#### Australian Government use of PROTECTED public cloud services

The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) has certified the storage, communication and processing of government data at PROTECTED in specified cloud services in Microsoft's Australian-based public cloud. Additional compensating controls are to be implemented on a risk-managed basis by individual agencies prior to agency accreditation and subsequent use of these cloud services. The ACSC is working with Microsoft to ensure general compensating security control blueprints are made available in the coming weeks.

The ACSC encourages adoption of a risk-managed approach with respect to the controls listed in the *Australian Government Information Security Manual (ISM)* and *Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF)*.

Residual risks attached to this delivery model can be reduced through agency implementation of additional configuration and security controls to be developed by Microsoft in conjunction with the ACSC. This will provide agencies with a pragmatic level of assurance and confidence in Microsoft's public cloud offering to the Australian Government. More technical detail will also be provided in the ACSC's finalised certification report of the services on offer.

The ACSC advises that as part of pre-existing accreditation activities, agencies consult the ACSC before moving PROTECTED information into public cloud services. The ACSC intends to regularly update this Consumer Guide to communicate considerations when contemplating the use of individual Azure services.

#### Certification Scope

The Azure certification for PROTECTED information is currently limited to specific services and regions. Further information will be made available shortly.

#### Further information

Australian Government customers with questions regarding this advice should contact ASD Advice and Assistance at [asd.assist@defence.gov.au](mailto:asd.assist@defence.gov.au) or by calling 1300 CYBER1 (1300 292 371).