

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance & Risk Management

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Agenda

- Why does BCP need AI Governance?
- BCPs AI Governance Framework
 - Desirability, Viability and Feasibility Assessment
 - AI Procurement Checklists
- The Role of Senior Leadership
- Current AI Initiatives
- Your Feedback and Questions

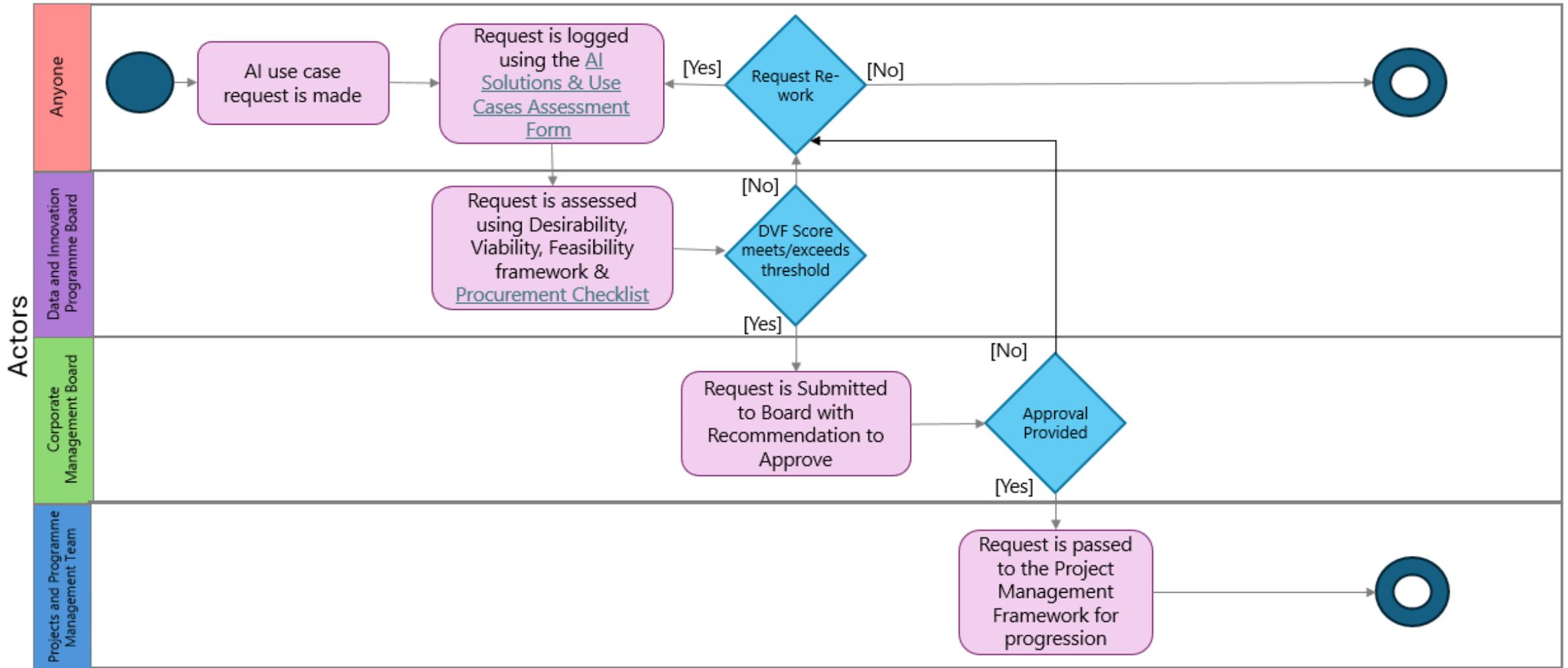


Why does BCP need AI Governance?

- **Ensures Responsible Innovation** - a structured approach to innovation ensures that AI solutions align with our Councils values, legal obligations and maintain public trust.
- **Protects Against Risk and Harm** – Provides corporate risk mitigations (CR26 & CR04). Governance helps us identify and mitigate risks such as algorithmic bias, data misuse, ethics and other unintended consequences of AI generated output.
- **Drives Strategic Alignment** – A governance framework ensures that progressed AI use cases are not only technically feasible but also strategically aligned and financially viable.
- **Supports Transparency and Accountability** - Clear governance processes make AI decisions explainable and traceable, which is essential for auditability, public scrutiny and ethical assurance.
- **Aligns with UK.GOVs best practice “[playbook](#)”** – This provides BCP with clear directives on how we should be selecting, buying and deploying AI solutions.



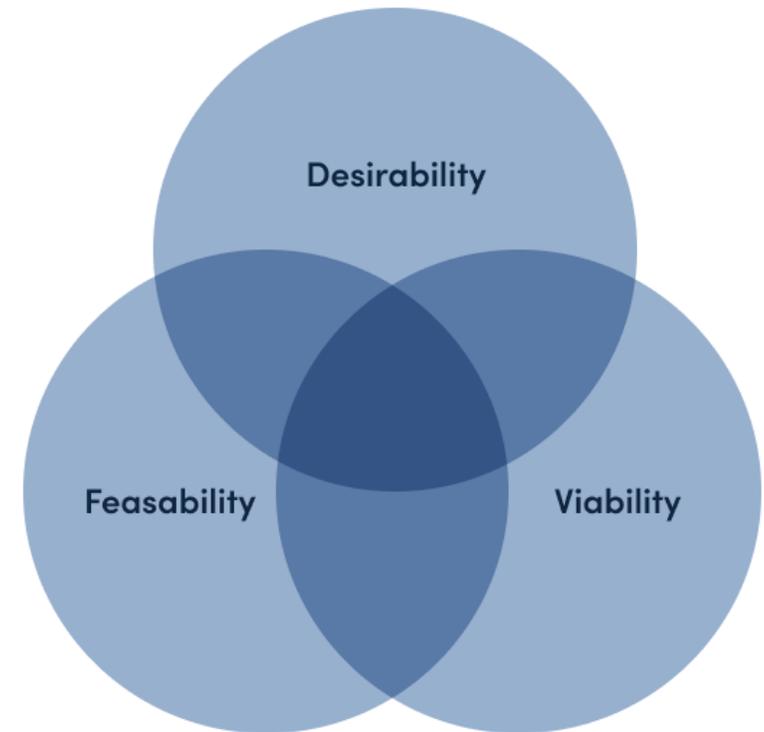
Our AI Use Case Assessment Framework



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The **Desirability, Viability and Feasibility (DVF) Framework** – *helps assess whether an AI use case is worth pursuing by evaluating it across three dimensions:*

- **Desirability – Is it wanted?**
 - Does it solve a real problem or solve a genuine need?
 - Is it supported by Senior stakeholders within the department?
- **Viability – Is it worth it?**
 - Assesses the business case and financial sustainability
 - Is there a clear, demonstrated ROI?
 - Can the Council afford it (or afford not to!)?
- **Feasibility – Can we do it?**
 - Is the required data available, accessible, and of good quality?
 - Do we have the required technical expertise and infrastructure?
 - Are there legal, regulatory or ethical constraints?



The AI Use Case Assessment Framework

The AI Procurement Checklist - ensures that all AI-enabled software meets our standards for fairness, accountability, transparency and performance before purchase:

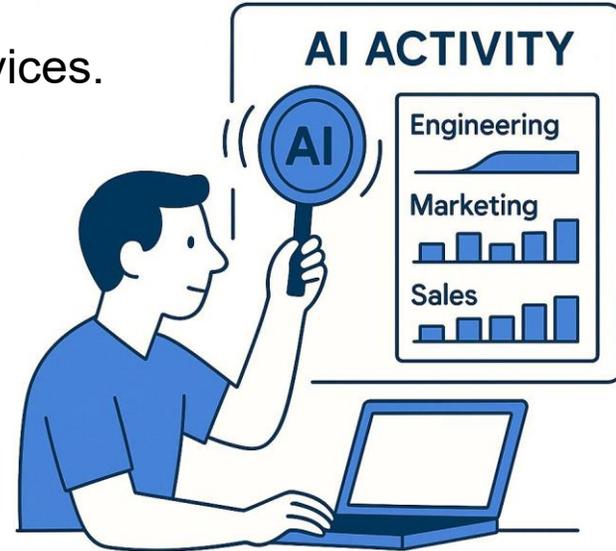
- **Protects Against Bias and Harm** - Requires potential suppliers to demonstrate how their models are tested for bias across protected characteristics and how they mitigate discriminatory outcomes.
- **Clarifies Accountability and Oversight** - Mandates clear identification of responsible roles (e.g. AI Lead, Cybersecurity Lead etc) and processes for addressing harmful or incorrect outputs.
- **Safeguards Privacy and Data Use** - Demands transparency on data usage, privacy protections, and whether council data will be used to train models—ensuring compliance with UK data protection laws.
- **Ensures Explainability and Human Control** - Requires suppliers to provide accessible explanations of how the AI works and guarantees that human judgement can override automated decisions.
- **Validates Performance and Security** - Calls for evidence of model accuracy, benchmarking, and robustness against cyber threats like adversarial attacks or data poisoning.
- **Supports Informed Procurement Decisions** - Acts as a structured evaluation tool for procurement teams to assess AI solutions consistently and responsibly.

The Role of Senior Leadership

- **Final Approval Authority** – Corporate Management Board acts as the final decision-making body that approves or rejects AI use case proposals, and only once they've passed the DVF (Desirability, Viability, Feasibility) assessment and technical checks.
- **Strategic Oversight** – Corporate Management Board will confirm that these AI initiatives align with our corporate priorities, Digital Strategy and long-term goals, before they are progressed into prioritisation & delivery.
- **Funding Approval and 'Return on Investment' Accountability** – Corporate Management Board will still approve all funding for these AI initiatives and ensure that Directors remain accountable for delivering expected return on investment and/or service efficiencies.

Current AI Initiatives

- **MagicNotes** – AI powered meeting summarisation in Adult Social Care.
- **RepairSense** - Housing Repairs Analysis within Housing and Communities using AI.
- **EHCP Writer** – Using AI to support the drafting of EHCPs within SEND Teams.
- **Family Information Directory Chat bot (NIA)** – AI powered search retrieval on the [FID website](#).
- **Digital Translation** – Using AI (CoPilot) to provide inhouse document translation services.
- **RoadMetrics** – Road network analysis using AI for quicker identification of defects.
- **CoPilot (Premium and Free)** – Driving widespread adoption of generic AI assistant.
- **Learning and Continuous Improvement** – Internal development and capacity



Your Feedback & Questions

- From what you have seen what questions, challenge or suggestions do you have around the assessment framework and governance?
- Are there any questions or suggestions re the role of Audit & Governance in that process?
- **What would you like to see next?**

