



BDC

BUILDING DELIVERY CAPABILITY

AN OVERVIEW

The BDC Method™

The approach and the assessment — the building blocks of a successful portfolio, programme and project, and how to form, assess and fix them.

The idea

Infrastructure programmes rarely fail for exotic reasons. They fail at the basics — unclear accountability, a schedule no one trusts, risks logged but not managed, change arriving uncontrolled. The root cause is usually formation: the programme was never properly set up. The building blocks that would have prevented the failure are known and ordinary. The BDC Method™ names them so they are laid deliberately, to a known standard — at the start, or while delivery is already under way.

The building blocks

The things a programme needs are organised as 52 **themes**, each a building block the programme must have in place and be able to evidence. They fall into four groups:

Core

The foundations every organisation needs — governance, reporting, risk, change, resource, assurance, capability and the leadership behind them.

Level

The capabilities specific to a portfolio, a programme, or a project, including the ten project basics every project must meet.

Domain

The specialist and regulated capabilities that apply only where the work carries that exposure — safety, planning, environment, design, commercial, data, quality.

Formation

What is needed when standing up a new programme or turning round one in trouble — the delivery vehicle, client and controls functions, and the operating model.

The Core comes first, because everything else rests on it. One standard runs through all three levels — portfolio, programme and project — and only the way it shows up changes.

Three ways of working, one standard

Formation

Builds a programme to the standard — putting the building blocks in place on purpose, in dependency order, built to evidence and scaled to the size and risk of the programme.

Assessment

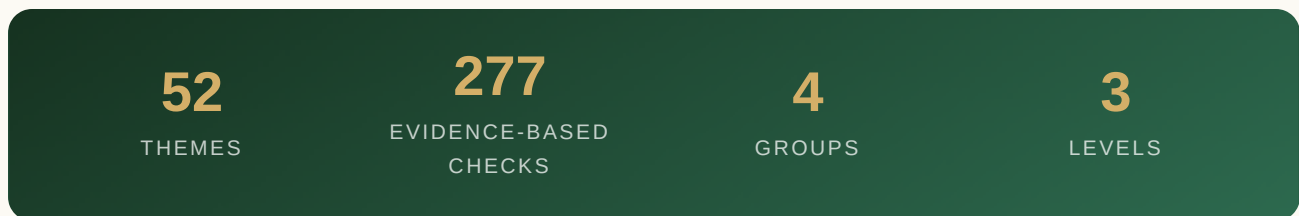
Measures a programme against the standard, theme by theme, on evidence — each check Met, Partial, Not Met or Not Applicable, weighted by severity and rolled up to a single Programme Health Score and a Red / Amber / Green heatmap.

Remediation

Closes the gaps the assessment finds without stopping delivery — foundations first, then most serious first, each gap closed to evidence and re-measured.

Formation applies in two directions. The organisation that **owns** the work forms the capability to deliver it; the supplier that **wins** the work — a design consultant or delivery contractor mobilising onto a commission — forms the capability to deliver against it. The same standard, the same evidence-based measurement; only the lens changes. This supplier **mobilisation standard** is set out in section 7 of the BDC Method™ v1.1.

The standard, at a glance



Mapped to IPA · NAO · NEC4 · HM Treasury Green Book good practice

Made workable by the BDC Workbench™

A standard is only as useful as the means to apply it. The BDC Workbench™ is the instrument that carries the Method: the 52 themes and 277 checks become a live assessment, scoring is applied consistently to produce the Programme Health Score and heatmap, and the form, assess and fix workflow is built in across all three levels. It is designed to be applied from within the organisation that owns the work — owned, run and re-run on demand — so visibility is continuous rather than a one-off report. It carries supplier formations too: a design consultant or delivery contractor runs the

mobilisation standard in the same Workbench™, with the same phased, evidence-based measurement against the award, ramp-up, pre-go-live and post-go-live gates.

The detailed instrument — the checks, criteria and scoring engine — is BDC's intellectual property, protected by copyright and database right. This overview describes its **shape**, not its content.

Work with BDC — see where your programme really stands.
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