4. A future approach to Risk Management in an Agile Environment in NSIs

It is clear that the Agile approach to delivery is being used more and more within NSIs and can prove challenging in some cases. During times of accelerated change in technology and data we need to find a way through the challenge of embracing Agile delivery while also managing in a risk filled environment and providing assurance and confidence around successful delivery.

Agile should not be seen as being at the expense of risk management but rather as an enabler for the more effective management of risk.

A mutual understanding across NSIs of the challenges we face in this area and how we can deal with them will help us all be more successful. There are clearly opportunities for the consideration of a risk management in an Agile environment. To achieve such benefits we should ask questions such as:

- How can we embrace Agile delivery while still maintaining the right level of assurance and confidence around successful delivery?
- How can risk management and Agile collaborate in order to ensure successful delivery?
- How can NSIs enhance their implementation of risk management best practice in a way which is suited to an Agile culture?
- Can we define principles for risk management in the Agile context so we know what the priority activities are when implementing an Agile project?

To address the questions above, the Task Team has built on experience from across NSIs to develop an approach. This approach is based on a series of principles which, if adopted, will help NSIs enhance their management of risk by taking advantage of Agile work practices and principles. The focus is on using risk management in an Agile environment in order to help the organisation deliver and to take decisions in line with risk appetite.