



**Exhibit 1.2**  
**Governance Structure**  
**Effective June 11, 2021**

VA-210517-NTT – Messaging Services

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**  
**VIRGINIA IT AGENCY (VITA)**  
**SUPPLIER STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE DIVISION**

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## Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	3
1.1	Purpose and Guiding Principles.....	3
2.0	Governance Policy and Approach.....	4
2.1	Governance Framework Overview .....	4
2.2	Governance Framework.....	5
2.3	Governance Forums .....	5
3.0	Relational Governance Forums.....	9
3.1	Platform Relationship Forums .....	9
3.2	Relationship Management Committee.....	9
3.3	Executive Alignment Meeting .....	11
3.4	Platform Relationship Review .....	12
4.0	Operational Governance Forums .....	12
4.1	Service Tower Operational Forums .....	13
4.2	Cross-Functional Operational Forums .....	14
4.3	Customer Operations Meetings.....	16
5.0	Decision Making.....	17
5.1	Escalation Process.....	18
5.2	Platform Decision Process .....	19
5.3	Documentation.....	19
5.3.1	Reports .....	19
5.3.2	Decision Documentation.....	19

## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose and Guiding Principles

VITA has built an Integrated Services Platform to achieve the following objectives:

- **Maintain and improve service quality:** Develop the capability to address evolving agency needs and create opportunities to improve service performance without impacting service reliability, security, and quality.
- **Ensure cost competitiveness** – both now and in the future: Structure service offerings so they can be more easily compared to market services at market rates. Continuously test the market, and enable the easy addition and deletion of services to the service catalog to create competition amongst suppliers and buying power for at-will agencies.
- **Create a platform view of service delivery that is highly visible and accountable:** Provide for Enterprise and Agency visibility of consumption, cost, performance, and supplier responsiveness. Establish a governance structure that promotes stakeholder engagement and improves the balance of Customer and enterprise needs.

The purpose of the Platform governance framework is to protect, enhance, and grow the Integrated Services Platform (Platform). The governance framework will manage the contractual requirements and performance of suppliers, maintain relationships with Customers, and monitor the ability of VITA and the suppliers to meet the objectives outlined above. This framework will provide forums for participants to understand each other's objectives, to ensure commitments are being met, and to implement changes as needed by the parties.

Guiding principles used to formulate the governance framework include:

- Strong and effective Customer engagement
- Resolving issues at lowest possible level
- Establishing representative groups to resolve issues
- Regularly validating and updating Operational Documents
- Monitoring contractual requirements
- Managing interparty relationships among all Integrated Suppliers
- Evolving service options and supporting innovation
- Formalizing roles and responsibilities for strategy and issue management among VITA, Customers, and Integrated Suppliers
- Aligning management of IT-related risk with overall risk management

VITA anticipates that all Integrated Suppliers will collaborate with VITA to establish and improve governance processes, particularly at the operational layer. This model will continue to evolve as the Parties identify opportunities to enhance and grow the Platform.

## 2.0 Governance Policy and Approach

Governance must include more than meetings and escalations, and stakeholders must understand the role they play within a governance framework. The Commonwealth has applied a framework consisting of Relational and Operational governance to help stakeholders understand their role within the Platform (Figure 1).

Relational Governance	Operational Governance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Client driven</li><li>• Oversees platform effectiveness</li><li>• Focuses on most critical aspects of the platform</li><li>• Unique to a client's situation and organizational focus</li><li>• Clients have a major role, with the specifics based on demarcation with Service Integration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provider driven</li><li>• Part of the provider solution</li><li>• Based on standard ITIL processes</li><li>• Makes the environment run</li><li>• Clients have a limited role, except where they have retained functional responsibility</li></ul>

Figure 1: Traits of Relational vs. Operational Governance

Simply put, Relational Forums will be led by VITA; they will provide strategic oversight and seek to resolve escalated issues. The Operational Forums noted below, and other such forums as needed, will be established and led by the Multisourcing Service Integrator (MSI) and overseen by VITA; they will be grounded in ITIL processes and align with the MSI's core functions.

### 2.1 Governance Framework Overview

To ensure accountability and to preserve the decision rights of the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO), VITA sits at the center of the governance model. VITA's Platform Governance establishes and leads the Relational Governance forums, and participates with the MSI in the Operational Governance forums. Because decision rights are retained by VITA, the Platform Governance serves as the primary focal point for issue escalation and resolution. Relational Governance focuses on strategic issues, including the relationships among stakeholders, the ability of the Platform to meet changing customer needs, risk management, and support from the enterprise for changes to the Platform.

Operational governance will be provided by the MSI and the Service Tower Suppliers as part of service delivery. Operational components will be defined by the Customers together with suppliers, and are aligned with the processes as defined in the Service Management Manual (SMM). This includes processes such as issue resolution, service level management, change management, risk management, and reporting. The Commonwealth expects the MSI to manage operational governance forums, coordinate across forums, and drive the decisions made in those forums.

Figure 2 provides a framework for the governance model. The application of this framework to the Commonwealth's future state is discussed in the next section. The governance model described in this Exhibit 1.2 reflects the current governance model. Supplier recognizes that the



governance model has evolved and will evolve by necessity and choice. Supplier agrees that changes to the governance model will be reflected in the Service Management Manual without the need for future amendments to this Exhibit 1.2.

## 2.2 Governance Framework

The Platform Governance structure is depicted in Figure 3. It is designed to balance VITA's need to manage the daily outcomes of the Managed Environment, with the Customers' need to understand the effectiveness of the Platform and provide input into its future development.

## 2.3 Governance Forums

Each forum has a purpose and scope that is defined in this Exhibit.

As depicted in Table 1 and 2 below, each forum fits into one of two levels: relational or operational. Each level is distinguished by the level of focus: overall strategy, or platform-centric engagement and accountability. The operational level reflects the initial Operational Governance Forums.

Although each forum has its own unique purpose and scope, there are interrelationships among them, including information sharing and escalation. In general, information sharing and escalation begins at the operational level, then to the management level and finally to the strategic level. The specific information sharing and escalation relationships will be defined in a more detailed governance processes in the Service Management Manual.

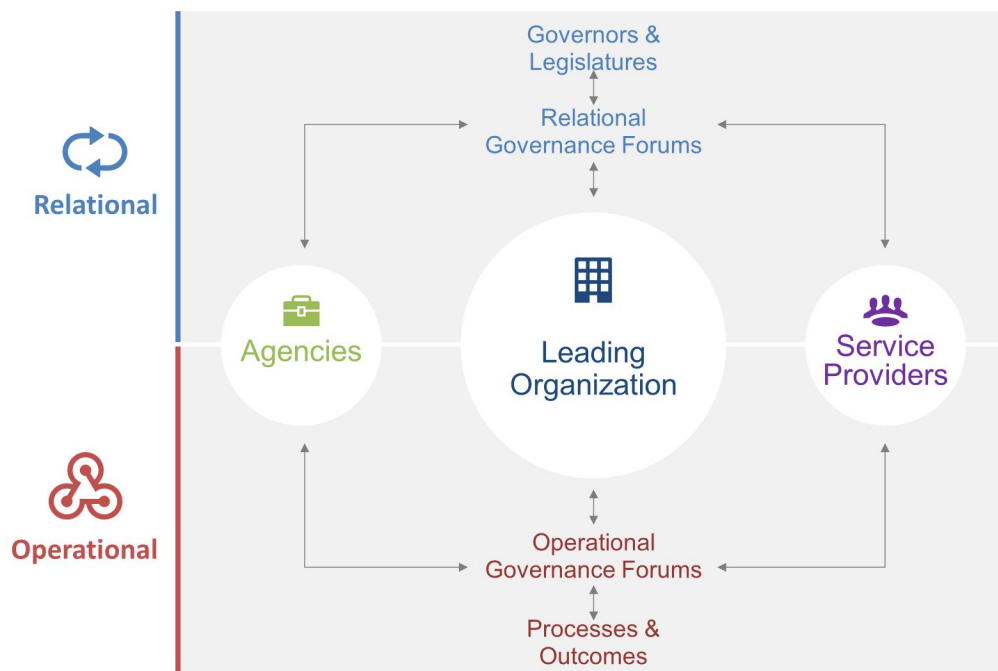


Figure 2: Framework for Governance model

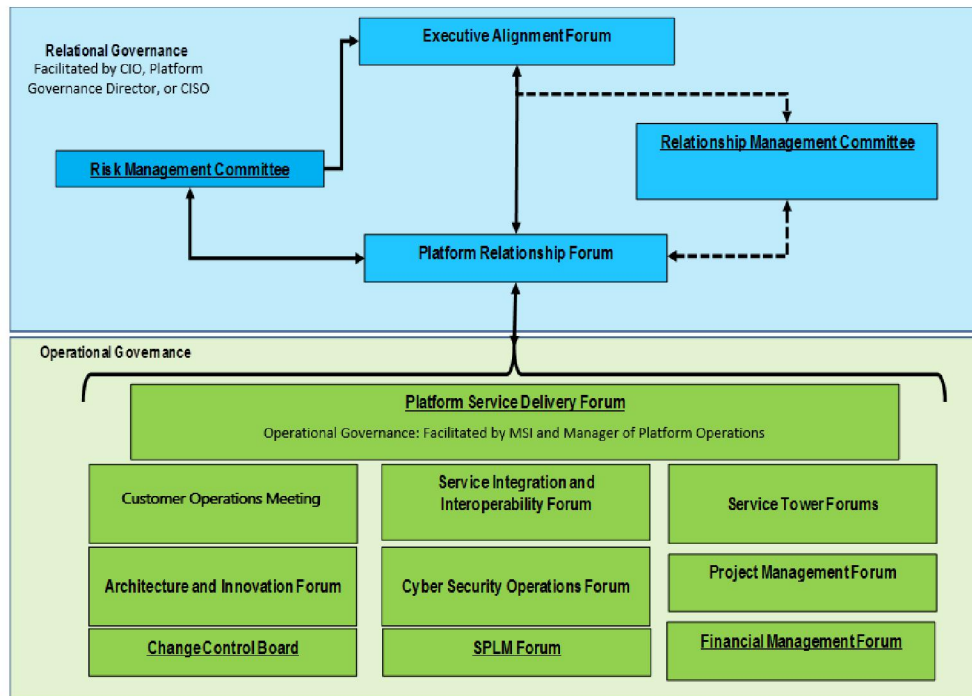


Figure 3: Existing Governance Structure

Table 1: Relational Governance			
Meeting	Purpose	Participants	Frequency
<b>Executive Alignment Meeting</b>	Strategic oversight and alignment of the VITA program to the VITA and Customer business needs. Chaired by CIO, meets quarterly or as needed; supplier executives are primary participants. Customers attend as invited.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CIO</li> <li>Supplier Executives</li> </ul>	Quarterly, or as needed
<b>Platform Relationship Review</b>	Assessment performed by an independent advisor designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create transparency for Customer engagement, service delivery and competing interests</li> <li>Independent enterprise review of ITISP Governance framework</li> <li>Protect the platform by validating service delivery, governance effectiveness and Customer engagement</li> <li>Identify systemic issues often missed by “normal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CIO</li> <li>Independent Advisor</li> </ul>	Biennially

	<p>governance”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify strategic-level and portfolio-level risk to IT achieving its objectives</li> </ul> <p>Assessment is delivered to the CIO</p>		
<b>Relationship Management Committee</b>	<p>Meeting chaired by VITA Platform Governance Director with participation defined by the Customer Advisory Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote broad and effective Customer and Supplier engagement</li> <li>Ensure quality of service and cross functional integration</li> <li>Foster Customer and Supplier accountability</li> <li>Identify new services to address enterprise and Customer needs</li> <li>Manage and resolve escalated issues</li> <li>Provide oversight of organizational change management and transition activities</li> </ul> <p>Meeting topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Escalated issue resolution</li> <li>Identification of new services</li> <li>Communication with customer groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VITA Platform Governance representatives</li> <li>Agency representatives</li> <li>MSI and Service Tower Suppliers</li> </ul>	Monthly
<b>Risk Management Committee</b>	<p>Meeting Chaired by the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) of the Commonwealth and comprised of a cross section of business and IT leaders to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote enterprise risk management comprised of business and IT risks</li> <li>Maintain risk register including mitigation and compensating controls,</li> <li>Review and approve risk level and impact of identified changes</li> <li>Review risk mitigation progress and estimated resources</li> <li>Review Key Risk Indicators</li> <li>Foster integrated risk management at the agency level</li> <li>Opportunity to communicate back to agencies on risks that affect them</li> <li>Evaluate new technology risks</li> <li>Report risks and impacts to governance committees</li> <li>Raise issues to the CIO as needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CISO</li> <li>Commonwealth business and IT leaders as identify by CISO</li> <li>Suppliers as required</li> </ul>	Monthly
<b>Platform</b>	All Supplier Meetings chaired by the VITA Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platform</li> </ul>	Monthly

<b>Relationship Meeting</b>	<p>Governance Director. MSI Platform Governance forum is chaired by the VITA Enterprise Technology Services and Solutions Director</p> <p>Platform Relationship Forum includes the enterprise review of the Platform in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSI and Tower Service Provider Performance Management, Review and Resolve Service Level Management Issues</li> <li>Relationship Management (VITA and all Suppliers)</li> <li>Resolve escalated issues (operational, financial, etc.)</li> <li>Review and mitigate risks that would impact agencies technology roadmap</li> <li>Prioritize proposals and review updates from major/transformational projects</li> <li>Prioritize proposals and review updates from Service Portfolio Life Cycle Management (SPLM) process for new services and service changes</li> <li>Review top priorities from Supplier Relationship Management</li> <li>Prioritize and charter services improvements that could enhance agency operations - CSI Register</li> </ul> <p>Participants are VITA staff, suppliers and (by invitation and as necessary) Customers</p>	<p>Governance Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprise Technology Services and Solutions Director</li> <li>VITA representatives as required</li> <li>Supplier representatives</li> </ul>	
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**Table 2:**  
**Operational Governance Forums**

Meeting	Purpose	Participants	Frequency
<b>Operational Forums</b>	<p>Meetings chaired by the MSI and co-chaired by VITA representatives except for the VITA/MSI-specific forums where the roles are reversed. Designed in consultation with the MSI and based on ITIL processes, operational metrics and VITA reporting requirements.</p> <p>Operational Forums will serve as the key meetings for service delivery oversight and issue resolution. If issues cannot be resolved at this level in the timeframes established in the SMM then they will be escalated to the Platform Relationship Meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSI</li> <li>VITA Platform Governance representatives</li> <li>Service Tower Suppliers as needed</li> <li>Customer representatives as needed</li> </ul>	Bi-Weekly

## **3.0 Relational Governance Forums**

### **3.1 Platform Relationship Forums**

Platform Relationship Forums are chaired by VITA and are a component of VITA's standard operating cadence. Participants in this meeting are responsible for reviewing the platform operations and customers experience for the VITA services program for all Customers. They are the first point of escalation for issues that cannot be resolved in the operational forums and will include participation of all Suppliers in the integrated platform. In addition to the topics outlined in Table 2 above, Platform Relationship Forums topics will address:

- Issue escalation and resolutions
- Risks and Risk Management
- Contract and Finance
- Integration of new suppliers and services into the platform
- Reporting across SLAs and operational metrics
- OLA status
- Technology Roadmap
- SLAs and Service performance
- Customer experience
- Services consumption
- Opportunities / potential new projects
- Working relationship among Customers, VITA, the MSI and the Service Tower Suppliers

On a monthly basis, a month in review will be conducted and shared with the Relationship Management Committee. The VITA Platform Governance Director in consultation with the MSI, Service Tower Suppliers and Customers will identify issues and escalations for the Relationship Management Committee. Agendas for the Relationship Management Committee will be distributed to Committee participants at least 3 days prior to any scheduled meeting.

### **3.2 Relationship Management Committee**

While Customers are engaged at each level of the Commonwealth's governance framework, the Relationship Management Committee (RMC) is the cornerstone of Customer involvement. Customer participation in this Committee has been defined by VITA's Customer Advisory Council based on groupings of Customers sharing common business functions. The RMC is a leadership body providing general management and oversight to ensure the VITA program services, processes and practices are meeting Customer IT and business requirements. It will conduct a monthly Customer-oriented review of the performance of the Services, customer experience and related governance program activities across the ITISP. In addition, plans and status of active Integrated Services Platform initiatives and on-going programs will be reviewed.



The RMC's scope is to ensure quality of service and cross functional integration , foster Customer and Supplier accountability, Identify new services to address enterprise and Customer needs and manage and resolve escalated issues.

The Committee reflects (6) groups of (10) executive branch agency Customers grouped by common business functions. The Customer Advisory Council aligned the names of the groups and the common business functions with the COV Enterprise Business Architecture Line of Business Report. The six groups will facilitate a small group environment, and encourage collaboration and candid feedback on service delivery concerns. Each agency selects their advocate for their agency to participate in the group. **Each group will also select one representative to represent their group of agencies on the RMC.** The composition of the RMC is depicted in Figure 4.

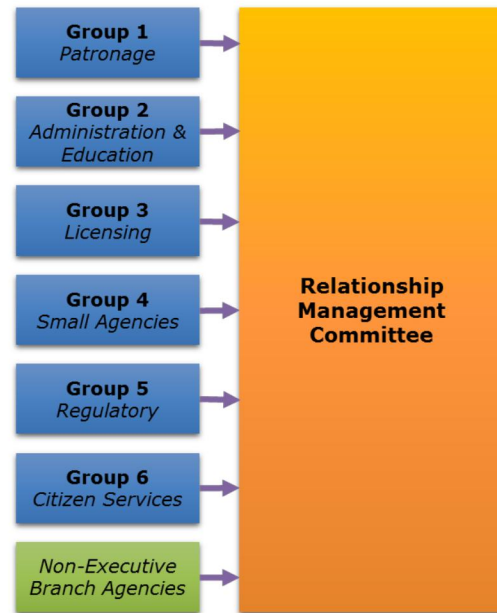


Figure 3: Customer representatives on the Relationship Management Committee

The RMC's responsibilities include:

- Promote broad and effective agency and service provider engagement
- Foster agency and service provider accountability
- Manage and resolve escalated issues
- Provide oversight of organizational change management and transition activities
- Ensure quality of service and cross functional integration
- Review the Integrated Services Platform's performance from Customer perspective, including:
  - Service performance
  - Financial management
  - Risk management
  - Services consumption
  - Customer experience
  - Projects
- Review Integrated Services Platform initiatives
- Identify new services to address enterprise and agency needs

The topics to be addressed by the Relationship Management Committee include:

- Service performance
- Customer satisfaction and experience
- Financial and services consumption summaries
- Project performance
- Issues, risks, and resolutions
- VITA program initiatives
- Identification of new services
- Communication with agency groups

VITA will chair the Committee, and the MSI and all Service Tower Suppliers will be required to attend as needed. The RMC will meet monthly.

### 3.3 Executive Alignment Meeting

The Executive Alignment Meeting is the forum through which the CIO will conduct formal engagements with integrated Supplier executives on issues important to the overall health of the Platform. This Meeting, to be held separately with each supplier, will provide business oversight, ensure that the Commonwealth's Service delivery objectives are achieved and serve as the final point of escalation for issues unresolved at lower levels. Ultimately the CIO has responsibility for oversight of the strategic direction of the Platform.

The Executive Alignment Meeting supports:

- Strategic business alignment between the CIO and supplier executives
- Strategic relationship and executive contractual agreements with service providers
- Oversight and formal CIO escalation with service providers
- Optimal use of the VITA program and its alignment to broader strategic initiatives.
- Alignment of the strategic direction of the VITA Program to the VITA customer's business outcomes
- Fostering of strategic partnerships that are aligned to the contractual agreements and meet customer experience expectations
- Strategic decisions for the VITA Program
- Strategic risk management for VITA program
- The topics to be addressed by the Executive Alignment Meeting include:
- Business alignment among VITA, Customer and Supplier business plans, and oversight of new or modified Services during the Term
- 
- Strategic requirements and plans associated with the Services or New Services during the Term
- VITA program overview
- Quality; Service Level performance
- Innovation, continuous improvement and quality assurance measures
- Reset of Critical Service Levels
- Financial performance
- Customer Experience including customer satisfaction surveys
- Audit results
- Escalated unresolved issues
- Changes to the Agreement
- Quarterly review and outlook
- Overall health of the various Service Tower Supplier and VITA relationships

While the Executive Alignment Meeting is a critical element of the Commonwealth's governance framework, it is not intended to serve as the only forum in which the Commonwealth CIO engages with Supplier executives. It is expected that the Commonwealth CIO will have clear



lines of escalation within Supplier organizations and will establish and maintain relationships with Supplier executives with responsibility for their respective accounts and lines of business.

### **3.4 Platform Relationship Review**

The Platform Relationship Review is a biennial independent assessment of the platform, which will:

- Create transparency for Customer engagement, service delivery and competing interests
- Independent enterprise review of ITISP Governance as documented in the Service Management Manual and implemented
- Protect the Platform by validating service delivery, governance effectiveness and Customer engagement
- Identify systemic issues often missed by "normal governance"
- Risk management of platform

The Platform Relationship Review will be conducted biennially (i.e., every other year) by an independent advisor or consultant, delivered to the Commonwealth CIO.

## **4.0 Operational Governance Forums**

Operational governance consists of day-to-day management of the Services, issue resolution, and Customer-specific technology decisions. Success of the governance model rests largely on managing operational governance, including resolving issues and making decisions, at the lowest possible level. Thus, the vast majority of issues are resolved through interaction among VITA, the MSI, and the Service Tower Suppliers; Customers are included as appropriate. This approach provides for good management practice, with individuals who have the greatest knowledge of the situation empowered to act, and enables the governance committees to focus on escalated issues and strategic decision-making. These forums will provide transparency into Platform operations, provide VITA with insight into issues that require escalation, and provide the MSI and Service Tower Suppliers with needed information about agency business operations and requirements.

To enable VITA's role in overseeing the Agreement, VITA interfaces with Customers and Integrated Suppliers on a variety of enterprise issues. On a daily basis, VITA management and technical staff interface with VITA Customers and Integrated Suppliers to answer questions about services, understand and resolve issues, and facilitate communication and coordination. VITA will also have regular enterprise operations meetings with the MSI and appropriate Service Tower Supplier staff to manage the Agreement. The meeting topics will include the following topic areas:

- Service delivery and operations performance
- Problem Management
- Availability and Capacity Management
- Finance, invoices, and chargeback

- Contract administration and Deliverables
- On-Going Programs
- Service Portfolio Review
- Process Evaluation and Currency
- Service Management Manual (SMM) and Operating Level Agreement (OLA) Currency
- Continual Service Improvement
- Technical Currency and Innovation
- Knowledge Management
- Technology standards and long-range planning
- Service level and performance management
- Security and disaster recovery management
- Transition management
- Stabilization management
- Consolidation management
- Customer Satisfaction
- Customer Relationship management
- Issues Management and Governance
- Complaint Management
- Risk Management
- Asset Management and License Compliance
- Services Management Manual currency
- Solution Request management

The MSI will be responsible for managing the cadence and reporting of these forums as documented in the SMM, unless directed otherwise by VITA. Operational Governance Forums are described below.

#### **4.1 Service Tower Operational Forums**

The Service Tower Operational Forums will perform a Service Tower-specific review of the performance of the Integrated Services Platform. There will be a separate meeting for each Service Tower Supplier (for the purposes of these meetings, MSI services are considered a separate "Service Tower").

The overall scope of the Service Tower Operational Forums is defined as the oversight, review, and management of service operations for each Service Tower.

The overall purpose of the Service Tower Meetings may be defined as:

- Provide general management, oversight, and review of the service delivery for each individual Service Tower (and separately, the MSI)
- Manage operational and customer experience risks and issues
- Monitor in flight projects
- Review proposed project activity
- Review resource consumption, as applicable
- Review proposed and planned technology changes

The topics to be addressed by the Service Tower Meetings include:

- Service performance
- Significant projects – in flight
- Significant projects – proposed
- Services consumption
- Issues, Risks, Actions and Decisions
- Proposed and planned technology changes

The Service Tower Meetings will be initially comprised as follows:

#### VITA

- Platform Governance member (“service owner”)
- Other VITA personnel as required (i.e. supplier relationship management, finance, etc.)

#### Service Tower Supplier

- MSI Supplier Manager (Chair), (except for the MSI meeting, where the MSI Supplier Manager will attend and the VITA MSI Service Owner will Chair)
- Service Tower Supplier Service Delivery Owner (Co-Chair), (except for the MSI Meeting)
- Other Supplier personnel as required
- MSI Operational subject-Matter Experts, as required
- Other VITA personnel as required (i.e. supplier relationship management, finance, etc.)

#### Customers

- Customer representatives – optional, at VITA’s discretion

Service Tower Meetings will occur bi-weekly or as defined in the Service Management Manual, and at other times as agreed by the VITA and the supplier.

## **4.2 Cross-Functional Operational Forums**

The other defined operational forums will perform a cross functional review of the performance of the Integrated Services Platform, such as project management, security, architecture, financial management, integration and innovation. The overall scope of the cross functional reviews is defined as: the oversight, review, and management of service operation and integration for each function. There will be a separate meeting for each cross-functional topic, as defined by VITA and the MSI.

The overall purpose of the Cross- Functional Forums may be defined as:

- Provide general management, oversight, and review of the service delivery for each individual function
- Confirm compliance of VITA and Commonwealth standards
- Approve any exceptions to VITA/Commonwealth standards

The topics to be addressed by the cross-functional Meetings include:

- Compliance to standards (i.e. architecture, project management, change control, etc.)
- Exception requests to standards
- Cross-Functional Project Status, if applicable
- Proposed Cross-functional project status, if applicable

General attendees for Cross-Functional Operational Forums include the following:

#### VITA

- Platform Governance member (“service owner”)
- Other VITA personnel as required (i.e. architecture, program management, security, etc.)

#### Service Tower Supplier

- MSI Service Delivery Lead (Chair)
- Other MSI Supplier personnel as required
- Other Supplier personnel as required

#### Customers

- Customer representatives – optional, at VITA’s discretion

Cross Functional Operational Forums will occur bi-weekly-to-monthly or as defined in the Service Management Manual and at other times as agreed by the VITA and the supplier.

The overall scope of the Cross- Functional Operational Forums are to perform the oversight, review, and management of service operation and integration for each function (between suppliers and VITA functional areas).

Cross –Functional Operational Forums are listed below.

**Architecture and Innovation Forum:** The Architecture and Innovation Forum is a collaborative board to promote future IT strategy, architecture and technology planning, service portfolio, availability and capacity planning and continual service improvement.

**Change Advisory Board:** The Change Advisory Board monitors and manages Change Control implemented through the Platform accordance with the Change Control Process. Additionally, monitoring of quality changes including root cause analysis of any issues arising from changes.

**Cyber Security Operations Forum:** This Cyber Security Operations Forum is a collaborative board to propose technology and architecture security standards across service providers and state agencies.

**IT Financial Management Forum:** The ITFM Forum is a collaborative board to manage day-to-day issues & opportunities with Financial Management reporting, structure and units. Additionally, this body meets to meet resolution of outstanding monthly invoicing issues that arise from billing.

**IT Service Continuity Management Forum:** This Forum ensures and coordinates with Service Tower Suppliers to prepare the environment for Business Continuity activities. Ensure the collection and

tracking of mission essential, primary and secondary business functions of customers that depend on services provided by ITISP. Design, construct and maintain an Integrated IT Service Continuity Plan (ITSCP). Coordinate execution of the ITSCP.

**Platform Service Delivery Forum:** The scope of this forum includes the review, decision-making, and general management of the service operations for the Commonwealth Platform's Service Tower. Additionally, the scope of this forum includes providing timely resolution to technical issues and risks escalated to this body. Issues unresolved in any other Cross-Functional Forum are discussed within this body.

**Process Approval Group:** This is a Change Management process governance board. The purpose of the Process Approval Group (PAG) forum is to provide review session to understand and analyze changes to controlled process artifacts. This will include Process/Procedures, Policies, and Templates. The PAG will consist of representatives from each of the STS organizations as well as VITA and MSI Process Management teams. The PAG will be responsible for looking over and approving the technical aspects of changes for dependencies, impacts, and potential risks.

**Program Management Forum:** The PM Forum provides planning, management and oversight of the Program Management Office and its component projects.

**Service Integration and Interoperability Forum:** The Service Integration and Interoperability Forum (SIIF) is a collaborative board to define, oversee, and maintain the processes and procedures associated with integration between the various service providers.

**Service Portfolio Lifecycle Management Forum:** This a collaborative board to review and make decisions on the services offered through the service catalog. The board will define, analyze, approve and charter those services offered.

**Technical Review Board:** This is a Change Management process governance board. The purpose of the Technical Review Board (TRB) forum is to provide review session to understand and analyze the technical components of proposed changes. The TRB will consist of representatives from each of the STS organizations as well as VITA and MSI architecture teams. The team will be responsible for looking over the technical aspects of changes for dependencies, impacts, and potential risks.

### 4.3 Customer Operations Meetings

The Customer Operations Meetings will be responsible for reviewing and collaborating on Customer business goals, in order to understand how IT supports business processes and enhances overall Customer experience. The overall scope of the Customer Operations Meetings is defined as: Responsibility to understand, monitor, and collaborate on service provision to continually improve the customer experience.

The business purpose to be addressed by Customer Operations Meetings include:

- Understand Customer business goals and objectives

- Understand how IT supports business processes
- Current Customer IT planning
- Future IT needs
- Timeliness
- Accountability
- Operational issue and risk identification and resolution
- Technical change management
- Customer one-on-one meeting
- Collaborate on Customer specific solutions
- Supplier and Customer resource review
- Risk Management
- Monitor customer experience

The topics to be addressed by Customer Operations Meetings include:

- Status of service and solution requests
- Refresh status
- Service level reviews
- Root cause analysis
- Transition status
- Review technology roadmap
- Impact of IT infrastructure on Customer projects

The Customer Operations Meetings will initially include:

VITA

- Customer Account Manager
- Other VITA personnel as required

Service Tower Suppliers

- MSI Business Relationship Manager (BRM) (Chair, with responsibility for Co-Chair duties)
- Service Tower Supplier representative(s) as needed.

Customers

- Customer Agency IT Representative (AITR), Information Security Officer, IT Resource or designee

The Customer Operations Meetings will occur weekly to monthly, with the MSI Business Relationship Manager (BRM). Meetings will include service tower representatives as needed.

## 5.0 Decision Making

Governance committees address two types of decisions:

- Issue resolution
- Strategic decisions

Issues may be Customer issues or enterprise issues identified by VITA, Customers, or Integrated Suppliers. Issues are escalated following the escalation process described below. Strategic decisions may be identified by VITA, VITA Customers, the MSI or Service Tower Suppliers.

Both decision types are treated the same by the governance forums:

- All Customers have an opportunity to see the issue
- VITA triages the issues in an attempt to resolve, and routes unresolved issues to appropriate committees
- Customers and the Tower Suppliers will each have an opportunity to document their perspective
- Customer committee members will review positions/perspectives in order to represent their partner agencies in the meeting
- All decision-making agenda items will be broadcast in advance of the meeting and will have a corresponding risk evaluation when appropriate
- After the meeting, decisions will be documented with the issue

## 5.1 Escalation Process

As noted above, the governance model strives to resolve the vast majority of issues at the operational level. The MSI is expected to facilitate these resolution processes, in accordance with other processes in the Agreement and the SMM as applicable. Supplier personnel participating in forums are expected to be able to make decisions and resolve issues as appropriate for the level and purpose of that forum. However, not all issues will be resolved at the operational level, so the governance model includes an escalation process designed to promptly and efficiently escalate the issue for resolution. Cross-functional operational issues are escalated to the Platform Service Delivery Forum. Other operational issues for a single supplier will be routed to the Platform Relationship Forum; however, in some cases high profile business, technology, and financial issues will be routed to the Relationship Management Committee (RMC). Ultimately, the CIO of the Commonwealth retains decision-making authority. When issues cannot be resolved in one of the other forums, they may rise to the CIO. High and critical issues are automatically escalated based on the following issue resolution time thresholds. Medium and low issues will be auto escalated in the future.

### Resolution Time Thresholds

- Critical: 5-7 days
- High: 8-14 days
- Medium: 15-30 days
- Low: 31-45 days

VITA also coordinates with the Customer, Supplier and Service Tower Suppliers involved in the issue to complete the required documentation. The Work Management Module within Keystone Edge is utilized to track and maintain all issues. All authorized users have the ability to update issues. Issues are discussed in all forums and closed when acceptance criteria has been met.



## 5.2 Platform Decision Process

Platform decisions may be required by the Agreement (e.g. Annual Technology Plan, technology standards, changes to governance framework) and, thus, follow a prescribed timing cycle or they may arise from a technical constraint, opportunity or business need. Regardless of the source, Platform decisions follow a similar process to escalated issues:

- MSI coordinates efforts in the decision process for operational forums. VITA coordinates efforts for relational forums. Background materials are developed to explain the decision, implications for the enterprise, and any technical considerations that are relevant. This coordination may include the engagement of Customers, Supplier or Service Tower Supplier subject matter experts to create materials and complete technical analysis.
- VITA develops a format for Customer input appropriate for the decision.

For relational forums, VITA coordinates the distribution of the issue material with the meeting agenda to the Platform Relationship Forum participants for initial review. After feedback is received through the Platform Relationship Meeting, agendas and associated material are distributed to the RMC, with approximately 5-7 Business Days for Committee participants to review and provide input to their committee representative and approximately two days for VITA to compile the comments received for distribution to all.

## 5.3 Documentation

### 5.3.1 Reports

In the case of all meetings, minutes will be prepared by the meeting Chair, or designated record-keeper and will include topics discussed, issues resolved and open action items with responsible person's name and date to close action.

### 5.3.2 Decision Documentation

After all committee meetings, VITA documents decisions made and completes any follow up tasks such as updates to associated artifacts (e.g., Agreement, Service Management Manual). Decisions are posted to a common repository for visibility by all Users as authorized by VITA.