CASE STUDY

DCEDIY Plans for Future Service Needs with Ardanis Through a Technical Platform Review.



BACKGROUND

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) is committed to delivering high-quality, accessible services that support children, families and communities. As part of its ongoing efforts to plan for future service delivery, the Department engaged Ardanis and Auxilion to conduct a high-level review of a core digital platform used in the administration of early years schemes.

With increasing demand and the strategic importance of the platform, DCEDIY sought expert insight to assess its current architecture, scalability and long-term sustainability. The goal was to ensure continued service resilience, support future planning, and explore opportunities for modernisation.

DCEDIY partnered with Ardanis and Auxilion to leverage their expertise in technical assessment, digital operations and scalable public service solutions.



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Ardanis led the engagement in collaboration with Auxilion. Together, they delivered an independent, insight-driven assessment that now supports DCEDIY's ongoing digital strategy.



The review focused on the following strategic areas:

- **Architecture and Design Quality –** Assessing the platform's underlying structure to support long-term sustainability and performance.
- **System Scalability and Future Readiness** Evaluating the platform's ability to meet growing user demands and adapt to policy or operational changes.
- Maintainability and Technical Resilience Understanding how easily the platform can be updated, supported, and evolved over time.
- **Development and Operational Practices –** Reviewing current approaches to software delivery to identify opportunities for increased efficiency and consistency.

This assessment was designed to support internal planning, highlight potential risks, and provide a foundation for future digital modernisation and the result was a comprehensive, independent report outlining practical recommendations to support future decision-making and modernisation planning.

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SOLUTION

Ardanis, in partnership with Auxilion, delivered a high-level technical assessment of DCEDIY's core digital platform, supporting internal planning and long-term service resilience. The engagement was designed to help the Department evaluate the platform's architecture, scalability and operational suitability as demand continued to grow.

Working through a series of structured workshops, Ardanis collaborated with both technical and business stakeholders to understand how the system was built and maintained. The team provided expert insight into development processes, platform design, and opportunities for future improvement.

Our key contributions included:

- Independent Technical Assessment Ardanis led a structured review of the Early Years Platform's architecture, design, and scalability providing an objective perspective to support internal planning.
- Stakeholder Engagement through Workshops A series of focused workshops with business, development, and infrastructure teams enabled a comprehensive understanding of the system's current state and priorities.
- **Evaluation of Development Practices** The review included an assessment of how the platform was being built and maintained, offering insight into current processes and opportunities for improvement.
- Actionable Recommendations for Future Planning The final report provided DCEDIY with clear, practical recommendations to support digital sustainability, long-term scalability and future decision-making.



Through an independent, insight-driven review, Ardanis and Auxilion helped DCEDIY strengthen its understanding of a vital public service platform and plan for the future:



Enhanced System Understanding: A detailed, independent assessment of the Early Years Platform's design supported strategic planning.



Improved Scalability & Sustainability: Risks and opportunities for future growth and long-term platform stability were identified.



Optimised Development Practices: Recommendations were provided to enhance development workflows and ensure consistent delivery quality.



Stronger Foundation for Planning: The report serves as a trusted resource for guiding future investments and modernisation efforts.

This engagement has supported DCEDIY in building a more informed, future-focused digital strategy for one of its most critical service platforms. The insights gained are now helping to guide internal decision-making, identify areas for investment, and shape long-term planning across the Department's digital ecosystem.





