

EVALUATING CO-LOCATION DATA CENTRE SOLUTIONS

Use this 8 point checklist when evaluating the options for co-locating your critical infrastructure



1 Look for a highly **secure data centre** protected by multi-level access policies, evidenced procedures and a dedicated trained team. Consider campus, facility and fire security and the potential impact on the integrity of your data and your Infrastructure.

2 Consider to what extent you will be protected against data centre downtime. Do the infrastructure and management provide you with assurance of **100% availability**? Does the facility offer greater than Tier 3 resilience with fully 2N power?



3 Look for a data centre that will actively facilitate your journey to **hybrid cloud**. Is it carrier and cloud neutral to provide you with choice and flexibility? Does it offer direct connects to cloud providers and a supporting ecosystem?

4 Consider the **implications of location** – for staff access, risk levels, convenience and security. Ensure that your selection provides you with peace of mind that your business is sufficiently protected against malicious or accidental acts.



5 Consider the **environmental impact**. Does the data centre offer advanced environmentally intelligent cooling to minimise energy consumption? Does it adhere to ISO50001 and use energy from renewable sources?

6 Will the co-location provider work with you to provide you with scalable co-location or will you be tied into long term power consumption agreements with non-contiguous space? Look for a **flexible approach** with a business outcome focus.



7 Evaluate to what extent the co-location provider will keep you informed throughout the life of your contract. Many providers work on a simple landlord-tenant basis leaving you in the dark about what is happening in and around your co-location space. Look for client focus and **pro-active reporting**.

8 Don't just take the provider's word for their approach to co-location. Look for **supporting accreditations** such as ISO 50001 for energy management, ISO27001 information security, ISO9001 quality and PCI DSS compliance to support online payments.



Co-location is increasingly the logical way forward for enterprises to host, secure and connect the IT infrastructure – but co-location is not just about the facility and not all co-location providers are the same. For more depth on the key selection criteria for choosing your provider, download the white paper in the Resource Centre on our website (www.datum.co.uk)