



"AKS Unlighted"

but what about Security, Cost and Multi-tenancy?

Devopsdays 2023

Introduction

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A group of business professionals in a meeting, with a woman in the foreground pointing at a sticky note on a glass wall. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a modern office environment. The woman is smiling and looking towards the right. Other people are visible in the background, also engaged in the meeting. The overall atmosphere is collaborative and professional.

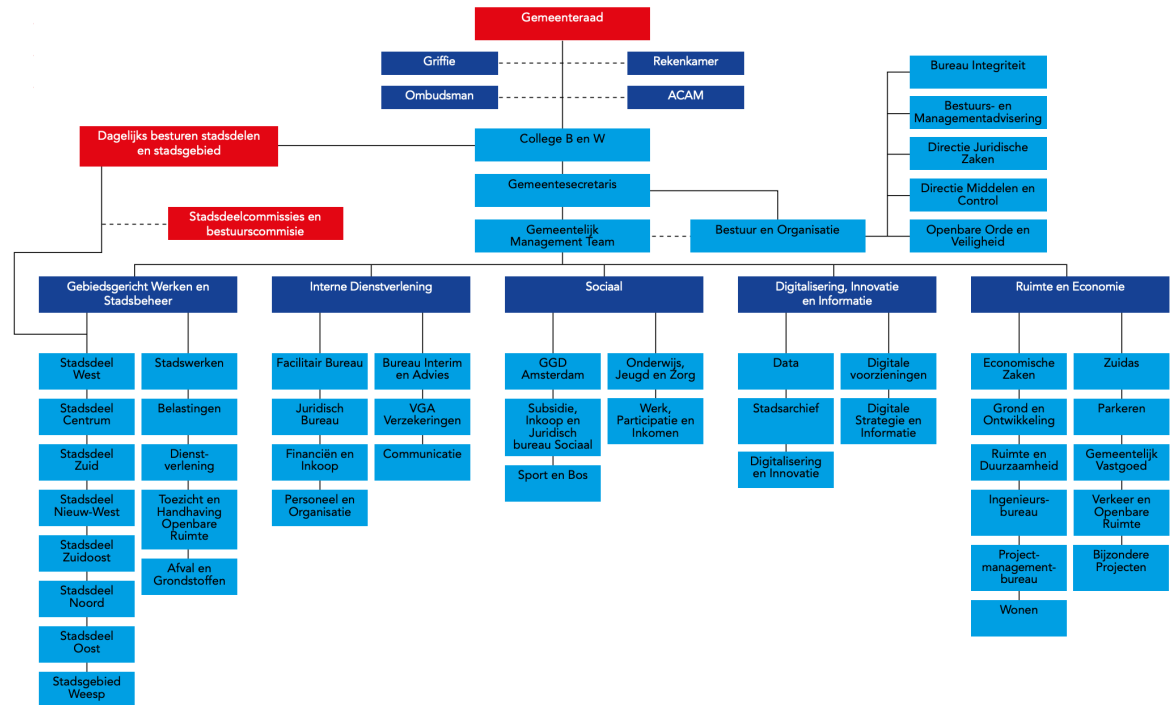
Organisation

Who we are

IT Cloud Strategy

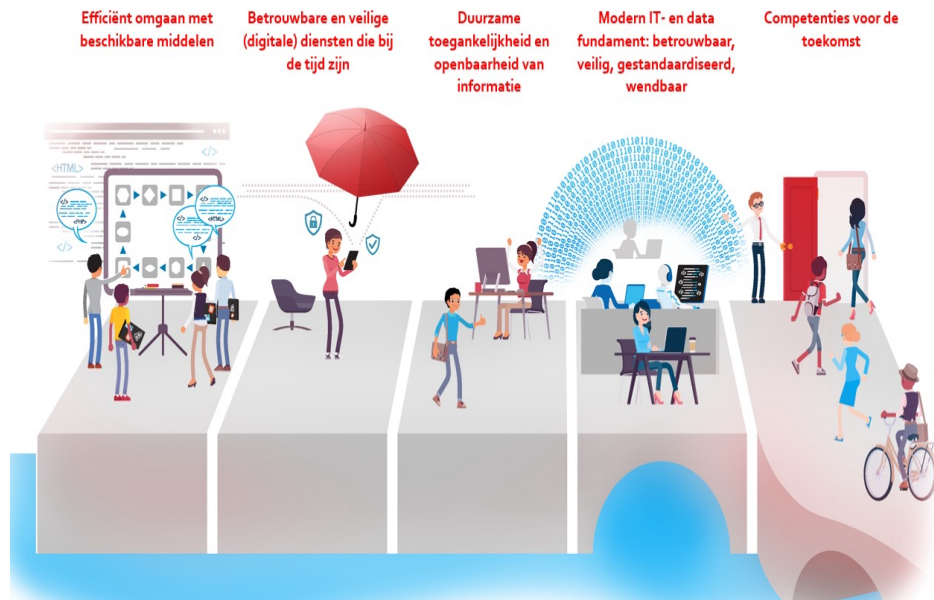
Principles and Compliancy

Who are we



XXX Objectives

i-domein: een modern fundament voor een digitaliserende gemeente



- **Efficient** use of available resources
- **Reliable and safe** (digital) services that are up to date.
- **Modern IT and data foundation:** reliable, secure, standardized, sustainable and agile.
- Future-proof **competencies**

✘ IT Strategy



"Azure Cloud Native, unless..."

"SAAS, before PAAS, before IAAS"

"Only use Microsoft GA features"

"Infra as Code"

✖ ✖ ✖ Principles and Compliancy

#	Principle
CP-B1	"Business is in the driver's seat": respond quickly and focussed to changing demand
CP-B2	Start small, evolve fast
CP-B3	Self Service, "5 minutes work" for DevOps teams
CP-B4	You Build It, You Run It (You Own it)
CP-P1	Adopt open internet and de facto industry standards
CP-P2	Available abstraction above DIY
CP-P3	Autonomous and self-managing DevOps teams
CP-P4	'Best of Platform' before 'Best of Breed'
CP-P5	Design based on Cloud Native concepts
CP-P6	'Security and Service Management by Design'
CP-P7	Automate everything

CP-B = Cloud Principle – Business, CP-P = Cloud Principle – Platform

#	Compliance standard
1	<u>BIO</u>
2	<u>ISO/IEC 27001:2013</u>
3	<u>SCF</u>
4	<u>SMCF</u>
5	<u>DPIA</u>
6	<u>NORA</u>

Why SharedAKS?

Business Case 

Challenge 1:
Facilitate Workload Teams

Challenge 2:
Cost, Sec and Compliancy

Challenge 3:
Technical Challenges



✘ Facilitate Workload teams



Work with newest technology



DevOps way of working



Centralize K8S expertise

✘ Cost, Security and Compliancy



Minimize costs



Secure & up to date



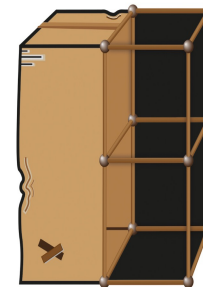
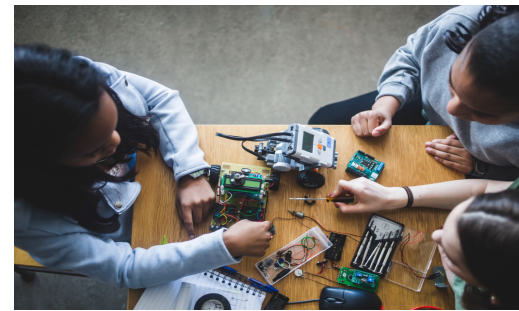
Compliancy



Automate



✘ Technical Challenges



**PUBLICLY
AVAILABLE**

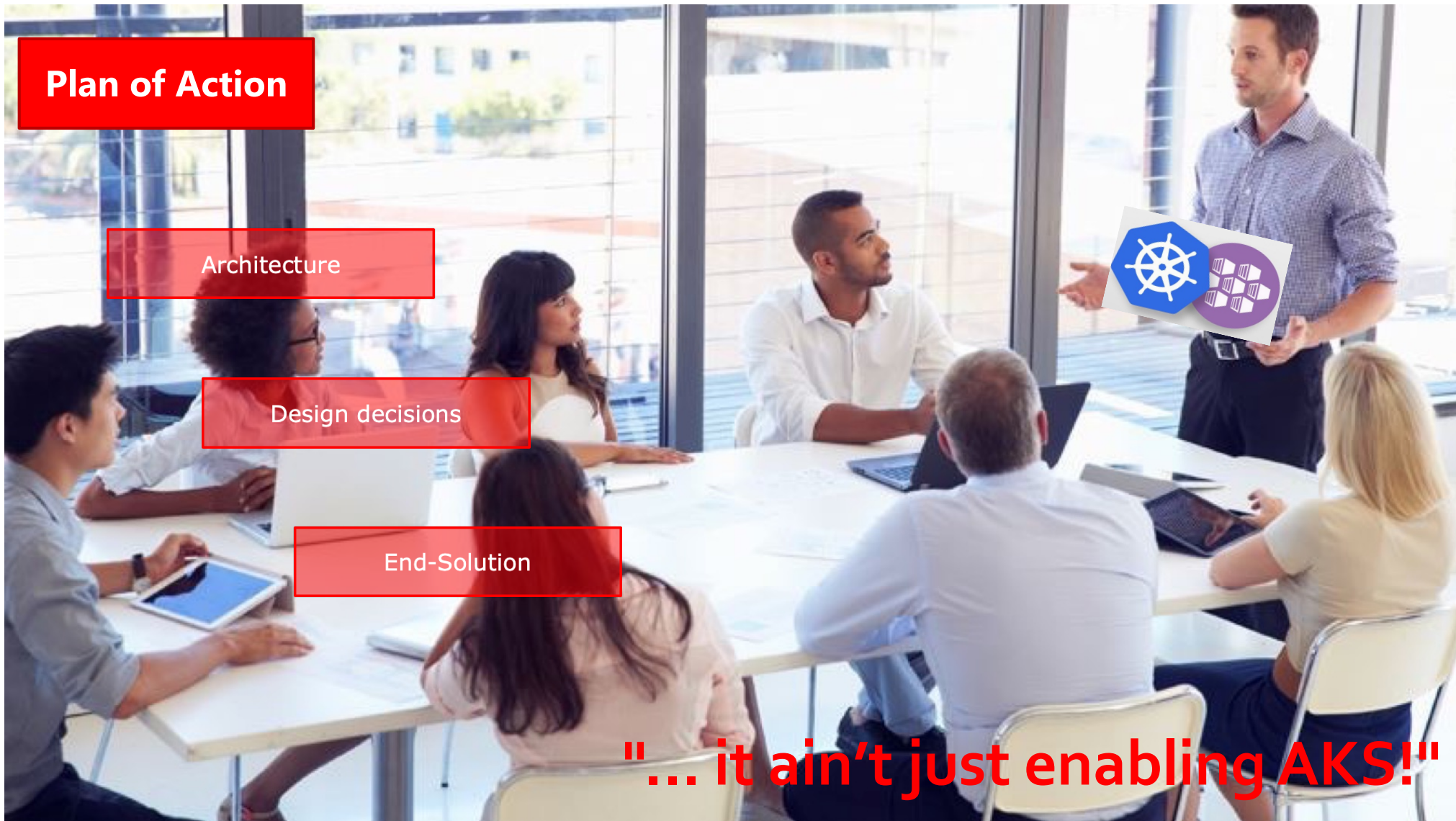
Plan of Action

Architecture

Design decisions

End-Solution

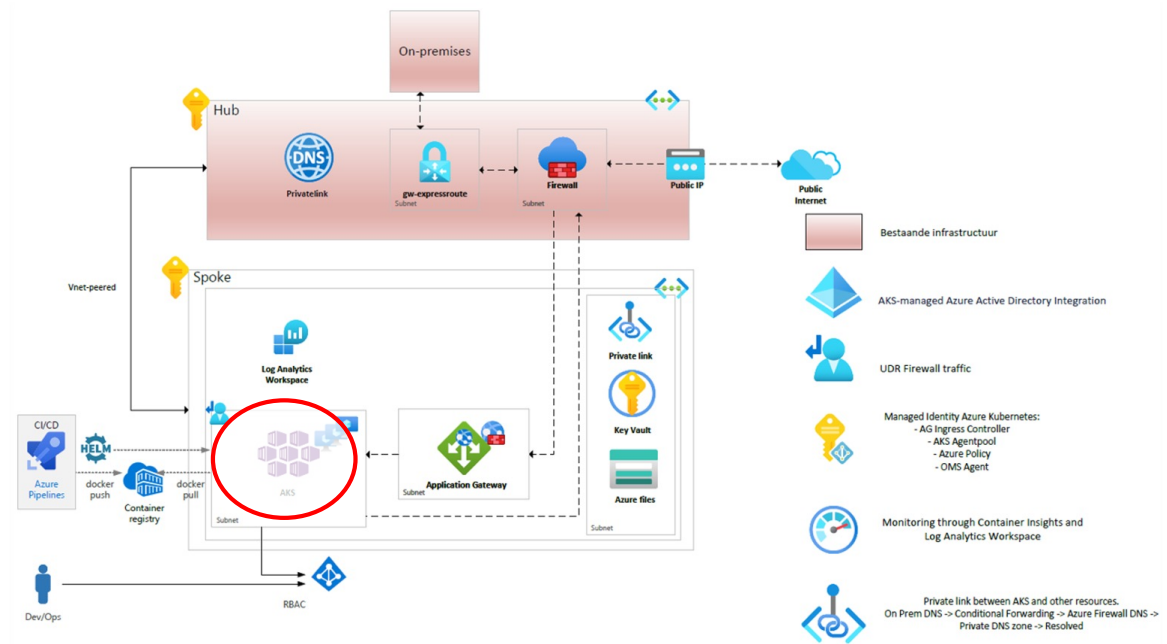
"... it ain't just enabling AKS!"



Architecture

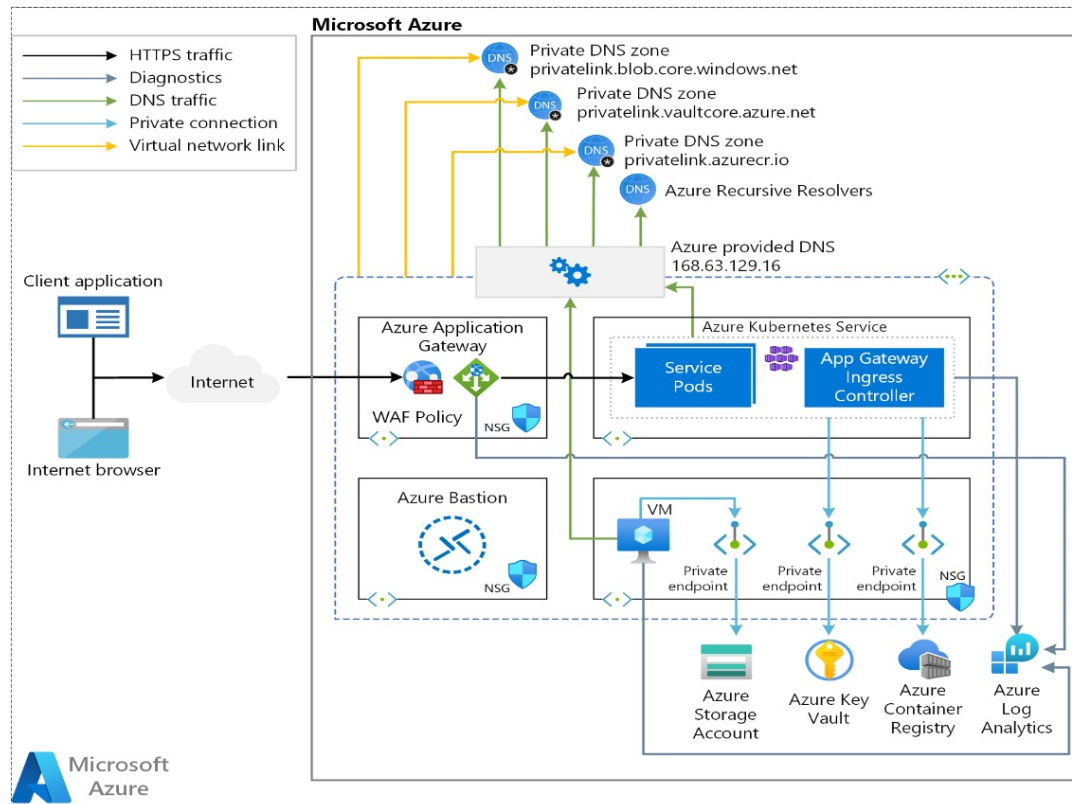
Base

- Cloud Adoption Framework;
- Well Architected Framework; ¹
- Haven compliant; ²
- BBN2 compliant;
- Part of hub-spoke model;
- Private (AKS en ACR).



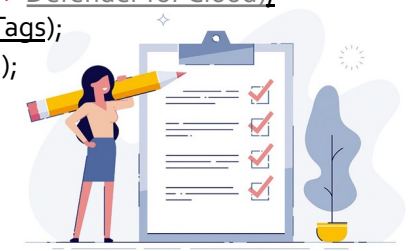
1. Well Architected Review Security
2. <https://haven.commonground.nl/>

✖ Design decisions



Platform choices

- AKS Private;
- **Workload Separation based on Agent pools**;
- Add-ons (Azure Policy, CSI);
- Hardend OS (CIS benchmark);
- Ingress Controller (Nginx)**;
- Network, Application Gateway and Load Balancer;
- CNI (Azure CNI);
- Registry (ACR)**;
- Persistent storage (CSI driver);
- Secret management (Azure KeyVault);
- Logging (LogAnalytics);
- Monitoring (ContainerInsight);
- Authentication and authorization (AzureAD);
- Patching (KURED) and ClusterAutoScale enabled;
- SLA (Standard);
- Container Security (**Aqua >> Defender for Cloud**);
- Cost management (Azure Tags);
- Azure FW (AKS service tag);
- **Workload Identity**.



✘ Design decisions



ACR;

- * Container image build via VM Scaleset;
- * MI ACR-Push permissions on VM Scaleset;
- * MI ACR-Pull permissions on Shared AKS;
- * Baseline ACR;
- * Azure policies.

AKS;

- * CIS Kubernetes benchmark;
- * CIS Ubuntu;
- * Azure Security Benchmark v3;
- * Microsoft Cloud Security Benchmark;
- * Baseline AKS;
- * Azure Policies.

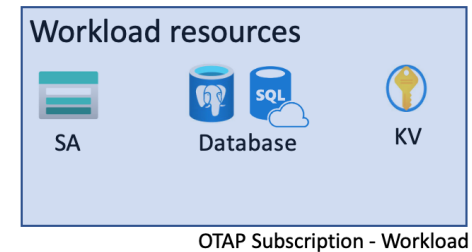
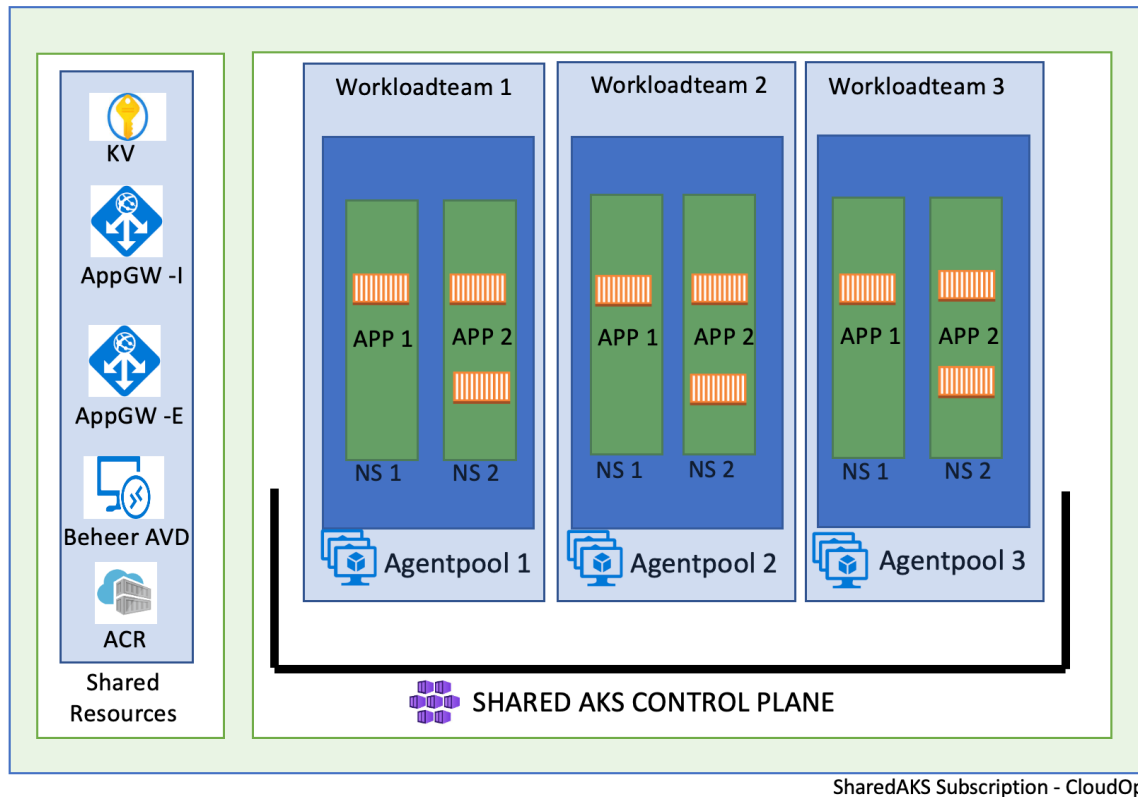
Both;

- * Compliance: BIO, SCF, SMCF, DPIA, NORA, ISO/IEC 27001:2013

Domain	Control ID	Control title	Policy (Azure portal)	Policy version (Azure)
Network Security	NS-2	Establish network segmentation boundaries	Container registries should not allow unrestricted network access	
Network security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Container registries should use private link	
Network security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Configure Container registries to disable public network access	
Network security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Configure Container registries with private endpoints	
Network security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Container registries should have SKUs that support Private Links	
Network security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Public network access should be disabled for Container registries	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Configure container registries to disable anonymous authentication	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Configure container registries to disable local admin account	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Configure container registries to disable repository scoped access token	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Container registries should have anonymous authentication disabled	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Container registries should have ARM audience token authentication disabled	
Data Protection	DP-5	Use customer-managed key option in data at rest encryption when required	Container registries should be encrypted with a customer-managed key	
Data protection	DP-2	Monitor anomalies and threats targeting sensitive data	Container registries should have exports disabled	
Privileged access	PA-1	Separate and limit highly privileged/administrative users	Container registries should have local admin account disabled	
Identity management	IM-1	Use centralized identity and authentication system	Container registries should have repository scoped access token disabled	
Logging and threat detection	LT-1	Enable threat detection capabilities	Container registry images should have vulnerability findings resolved	
Network Security	NS-2	Secure cloud services with network controls	Authorized IP ranges should be defined on Kubernetes Services	2.0.1
Privileged Access	PA-7	Follow just enough administration (least privilege) principle	Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) should be used on Kubernetes Services	1.0.2
Data Protection	DP-3	Encrypt sensitive data in transit	Kubernetes clusters should be accessible only over HTTPS	8.0.1
Logging and Threat Detection	LT-1	Enable threat detection capabilities	Azure Kubernetes Service clusters should have Defender profile enabled	2.0.0
Logging and Threat Detection	LT-2	Enable threat detection for identity and access management	Azure Kubernetes Service clusters should have Defender profile enabled	2.0.0
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	[Preview]: Kubernetes clusters should gate deployment of vulnerable images	2.0.1-preview
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Azure Policy Add-on for Kubernetes service (AKS) should be installed and enabled on your clusters	1.0.2
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers CPU and memory resource limits should not exceed the specified limits	9.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers should not share host process ID or host IPC namespace	5.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers should only use allowed AppArmor profiles	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers should only use allowed capabilities	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers should only use allowed images	9.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster containers should run with a read-only root file system	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster pod hostPath volumes should only use allowed host paths	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster pods and containers should only run with approved user and group IDs	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster pods should only use approved host network and port range	6.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster services should listen only on allowed ports	8.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes cluster should not allow privileged containers	9.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes clusters should disable automounting API credentials	4.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes clusters should not allow container privilege escalation	7.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes clusters should not grant CAP_SYS_ADMIN security capabilities	5.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-2	Audit and enforce secure configurations	Kubernetes clusters should not use the default namespace	4.0.1
Posture and Vulnerability Management	PV-6	Rapidly and automatically remediate vulnerabilities	Running container images should have vulnerability findings resolved	1.0.1
DevOps Security	DS-6	Enforce security of workload throughout DevOps lifecycle	Running container images should have vulnerability findings resolved	1.0.1



✘ End Solution



Provisioning

- AKS agent pool with custom VM size;
- Namespace and service account;
- Traffic flows;
- Listeners Application Gateways (AppGW) & Certificate ingestion;
- Workload resource connections;

Workload team

- Azure DevOps project;
- Kubernetes Service Connection;
- Private Agent connection to AKS;
- Pipeline for deployment.



Lessons Learned

Business

Security

Technical

✘ Lessons learned



Business

- Feature Expectations;
- Costs Insights;
- DevOps Way of Work;
- Thinking "Cloud Native".

Security

- Lots of frameworks;
- Lots of Best Practices;
- Continuous renewal.



✘ Lessons learned



Technical

- Default not Multi-Tenant;
- Private = Time consuming;
- Segmentation via AgentPools;
- Automate everything;
- Kubernetes is difficult.



Roadmap AKS: <https://github.com/Azure/AKS/projects/1>

Roadmap ACR: <https://github.com/Azure/acr/projects/1>

AKS blogs: <https://dinantpaardenkooper.nl/posts/>



Takeways

Understand environment

Use agentpool to divide workloads

Private AKS introduces complexity

Always Innovate

K8S Multi-tenancy is not a given

Reduce cost by sharing

Automate as much as possible