An Analytical Strategy should be a short, focussed document that achieves the following key aims:

- Establishes the principles by which the analytical programme is defined and prioritised.
- Encourages analysts and policy leads to think strategically about what the upcoming policy needs are and the analytical projects that will help deliver these.
- Specifies the governance of the analysis including the roles established for an analytical programme and how it will integrate with the governance of the policy programme.

This all helps to:
- Prioritise work and reduce uncertainty in decision making
- Develop the evidence base
- Choose and monitor quality standards from the outset
- Define risk appetite
- Follow and deploy analytical frameworks

What is an Analytical Strategy?

How does this affect me?

What about Business Critical Models?

The Macpherson Review provides the following factors for determining whether a model is business critical:

- the modelling drives essential financial and funding decisions;
- the model is essential to the achievement of business plan actions and priorities;
- errors could engender serious financial, legal and reputational damages or penalties.

Role of the SMO

The Senior Model Owner (SMO) is to sign-off that the model is fit for purpose. The sign-off ensures that:
- the quality assurance process used is compliant and appropriate;
- model risks, limitations and major assumptions are understood by the users of the model;
- the use of the model is appropriate;
- the model is included on the DFT Register of business critical analytical models.

Further Guidance:

- Search Transnet or request the following documents:
  - Strength in Numbers: The DIT Analytical Assurance Framework
  - Quality Assurance of Analytical Modelling
Quality assurance for your project starts with the right team, the right ‘fit’ for the job. Your expectations need to align with the contractor’s capabilities. Use the following checklist to help ensure you have the right team.

**Quality Assurance Checklist**

1. **Understanding what you have and sign-off**
   - Identify the big decisions and plan early.
   - Get the right analysis for your policy.

2. **Creating the space**
   - Finish line
   - Start line

3. **Running the race**
   - Identify mutual strengths, mutual synergies.

4. **Monitoring production and quality**
   - Commit support, train, motivate.
   - Scheduling and joint specification.

5. **Analyzing is right and makes an impact**
   - Independent sign-off for analytical.
   - Planning and joint specification.

6. **Strategies in Numbers:**
   - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.
   - % of projects delivered on time, quality, and budget.
   - % of projects delivered on time, quality, and budget.

7. **Behind schedule, project management is critical.**
   - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.

8. **Quality assurance starts with the right team.**
   - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.

9. **Running the race**
   - Identify mutual strengths, mutual synergies.

10. **Sign-off of project is completed.**
    - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.

11. **Joint agreement on the right approach**
    - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.

12. **Quality assurance checklist**
    - % of projects delivered in time, quality, and budget.