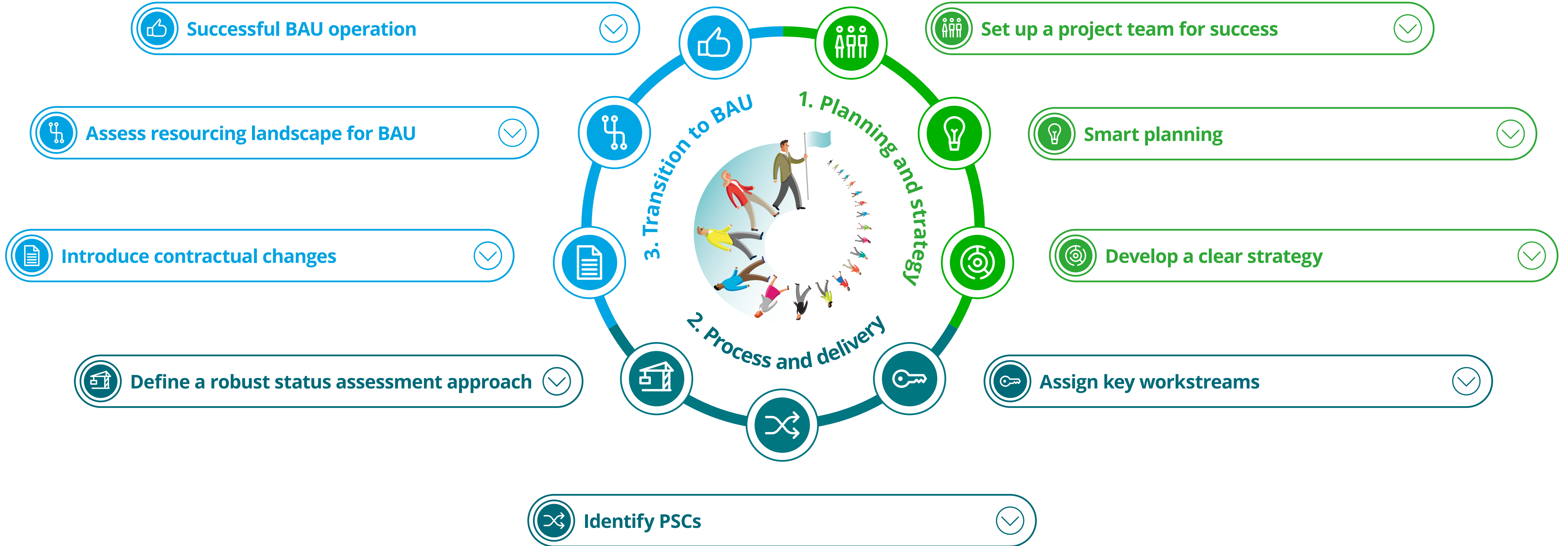


IR35 readiness framework

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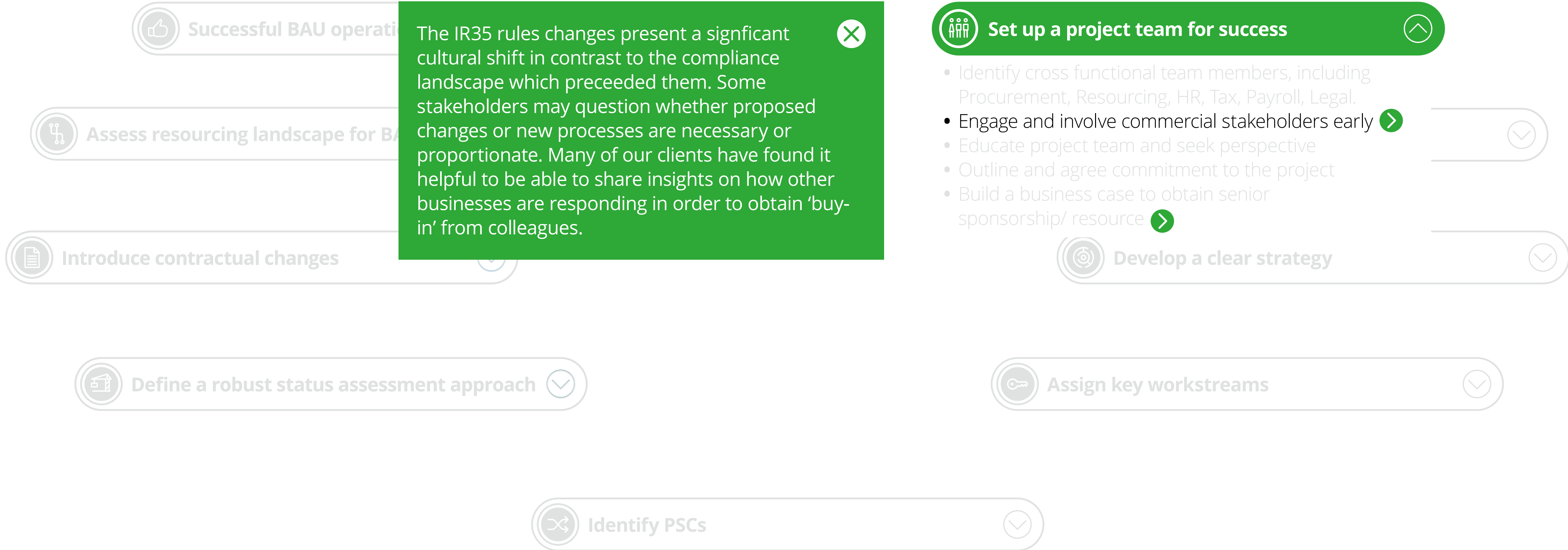
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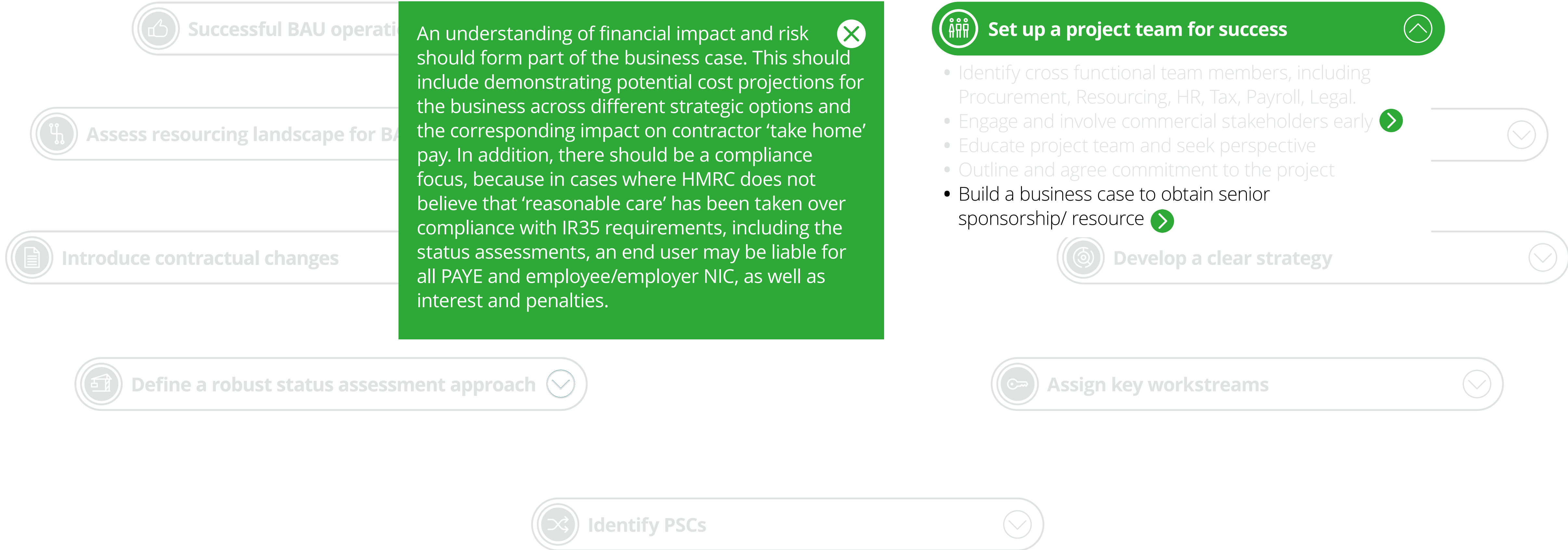
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The IR35 rules changes present a significant cultural shift in contrast to the compliance landscape which preceded them. Some stakeholders may question whether proposed changes or new processes are necessary or proportionate. Many of our clients have found it helpful to be able to share insights on how other businesses are responding in order to obtain 'buy-in' from colleagues.

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An understanding of financial impact and risk should form part of the business case. This should include demonstrating potential cost projections for the business across different strategic options and the corresponding impact on contractor 'take home' pay. In addition, there should be a compliance focus, because in cases where HMRC does not believe that 'reasonable care' has been taken over compliance with IR35 requirements, including the status assessments, an end user may be liable for all PAYE and employee/employer NIC, as well as interest and penalties.

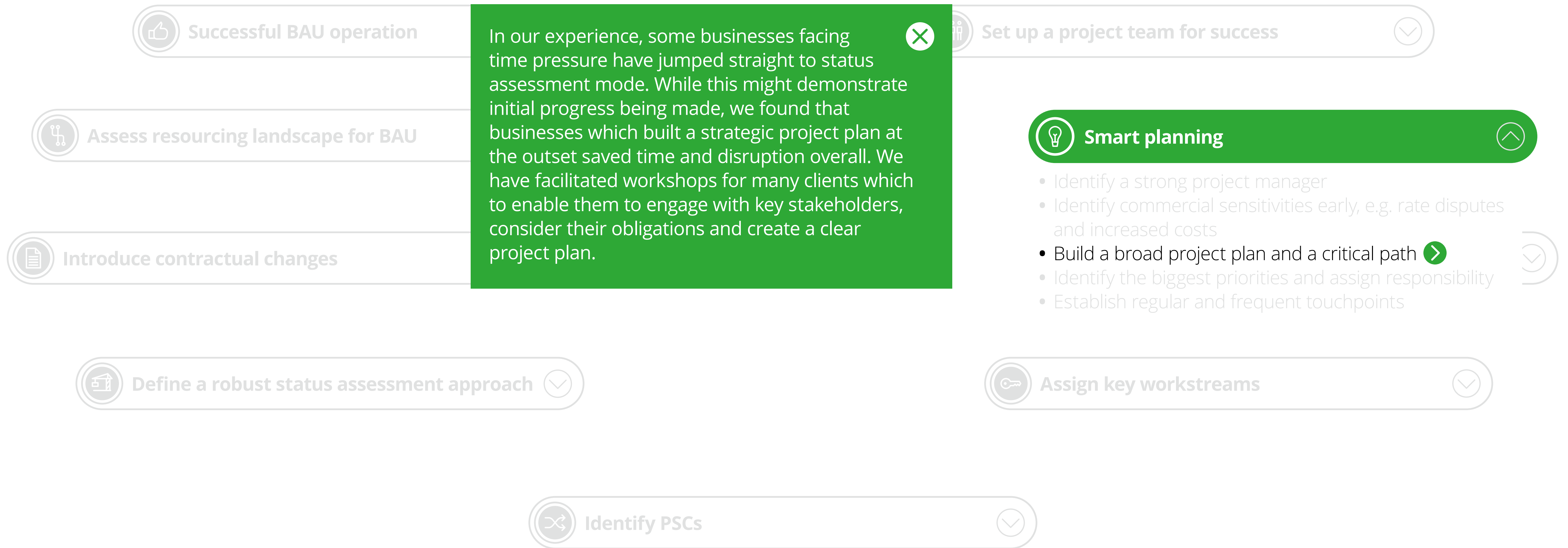
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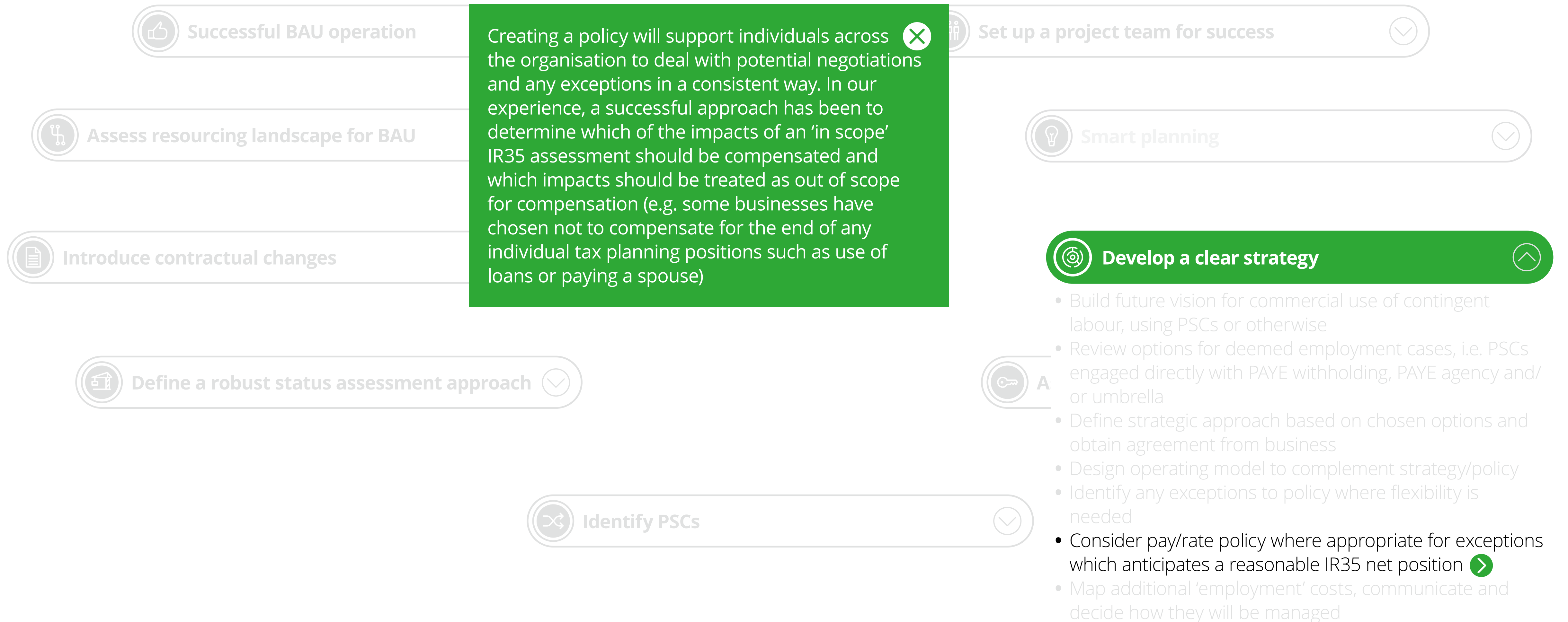
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Creating a policy will support individuals across the organisation to deal with potential negotiations and any exceptions in a consistent way. In our experience, a successful approach has been to determine which of the impacts of an 'in scope' IR35 assessment should be compensated and which impacts should be treated as out of scope for compensation (e.g. some businesses have chosen not to compensate for the end of any individual tax planning positions such as use of loans or paying a spouse)

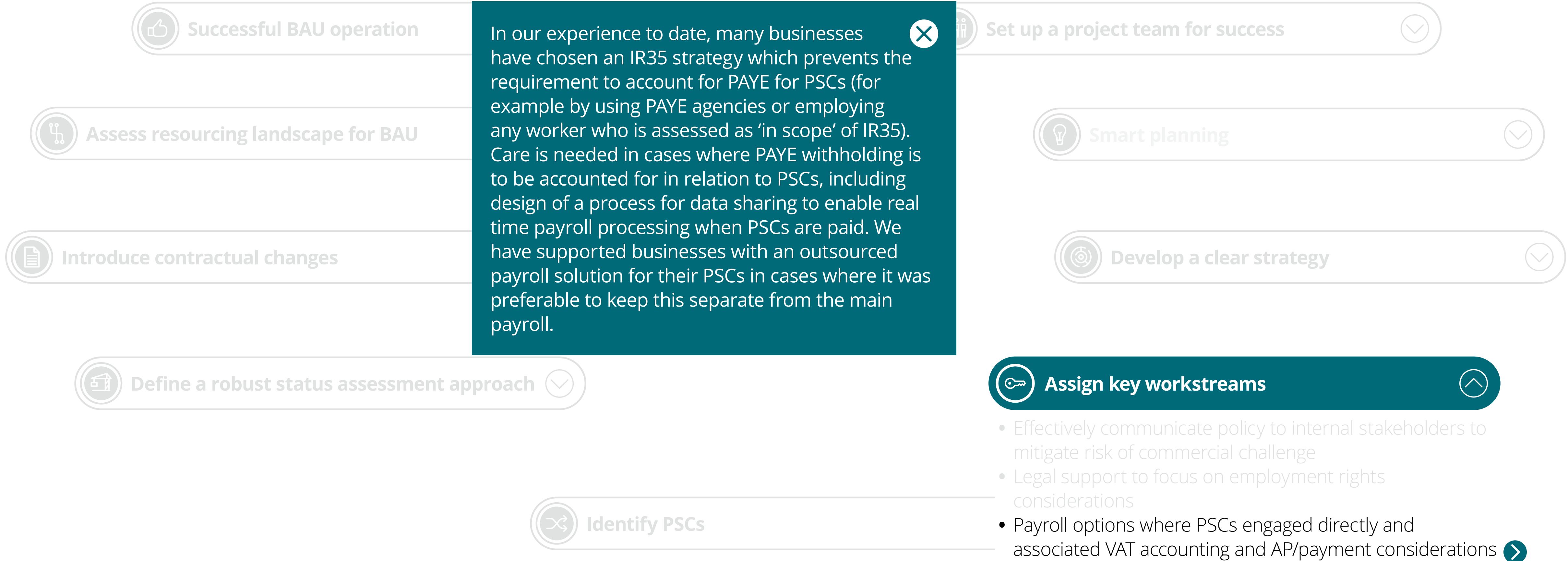
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Successful BAU operation Set up a project team for success

Assess resourcing landscape for BAU Smart planning

Introduce contractual changes Develop a clear strategy



Define a robust status assessment approach Assign key workstreams











Many clients have experienced challenges in identifying all PSCs from their vendor lists. We recommend considering the use of third party technology to analyse vendor lists at scale. Deloitte has developed technology which businesses have used to perform this analysis.

- Identify current PSC engagements via:
 - Direct engagement – undertake analysis
 - Preferred agency suppliers – request information*
 - Wider service providers – request information*
- *Design information request containing context and appropriate specificity to allow suppliers to identify where PSCs form part of their supply chain..
- Map length of contracting engagements for fixed term engagements and costs

Identify PSCs

IR35 readiness framework

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- Design methodology to assess 'personal' v 'outsourced' service 
- Segment 'in scope' PSC population into 'roles' which can be assessed on a group basis where appropriate 
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- Decide on status assessment approach 
- Evaluate use of CEST versus other automated options 
- Design a consistent way of resolving 'undetermined' cases 
- Identify support required for non-tax specialists performing assessments 
- Build appropriate escalation and monitoring processes 
- Keep records of rationale of status decisions supported by evidence, as a minimum for cases where the decision is IR35 does not apply 
- Design a process for sharing Status Determination Statement (SDS) with PSC and for accepting/managing status disputes 

Define a robust status assessment approach



Set up a project team for success



Smart planning







Develop a clear strategy

Assign key workstreams


Identify PSCs

IR35 readiness framework





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Define a robust status assessment approach

 As an end user, one of the key challenges in defining the 'in-scope' population is to distinguish between engagements utilising PSCs but as part of a fully contracted-out service (outside of scope of IR35 for the end user), in contrast to where the PSC is providing a personal service (within scope of IR35 for the end user) via the engagement. End users will need to develop a robust methodology to ensure that the approach mitigates any risk of arrangements being presented or re-badged as 'outsourced services' via supplier Statements of Work or similar contracting arrangements, and review the true underlying circumstances of the service provision to determine whether a personal service is being provided, for example who holds control over the contractor and who bears some or all of the risk and rewards of the services provided.

Identify PSCs

- Assemble a team for success 
- Start planning 
- Develop a clear strategy 
- Key workstreams 

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Define a robust status assessment approach

Efficiencies can be achieved by identifying roles with common features that will enable one status assessment to be undertaken that can then be applied to all workers in a particular role. Care should be taken to identify any significant practical differences in how particular roles, which may look the same on paper, operate in practice.

Get team for success



Start planning







Develop a clear strategy

Assign key workstreams


Identify PSCs

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Define a robust status assessment approach

Our article "IR35 status assessments" contains more insights on this area. 

Get team for success 



 Smart planning 






 Develop a clear strategy 


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In our experience, the way in tax specialists have  interpreted questions included in an employment status assessment may be different from how a non-tax specialist has interpreted the same question, resulting in very different outcomes. Organisations should provide sufficient education to non-tax specialists completing status assessment questionnaires, with appropriate tax specialist review factored into the process, particularly for undetermined or 'outside of IR35' outcomes. Our article "IR35 status assessments" contains more insights on this area.

 **Define a robust status assessment approach** 

 **Assign key workstreams** 



 **Identify PSCs** 







Build a team for success 

Start planning 


Develop a clear strategy 

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 **Define a robust status assessment approach** 

 A successful communication strategy can limit SDS disputes by providing a clear rationale for outcomes, and by also sharing the work that has been undertaken to reach those outcomes. In addition, introducing triage processes to respond to SDS appeals can ensure that they can be handled efficiently, with most time being spent on well considered responses which, for example, might challenge the business' understanding of the underlying facts of the engagement which is likely to be important and could influence the case outcome.

 **Get team for success**



 **Start planning**

 **Develop a clear strategy**

 **Assign key workstreams** 

 **Identify PSCs** 

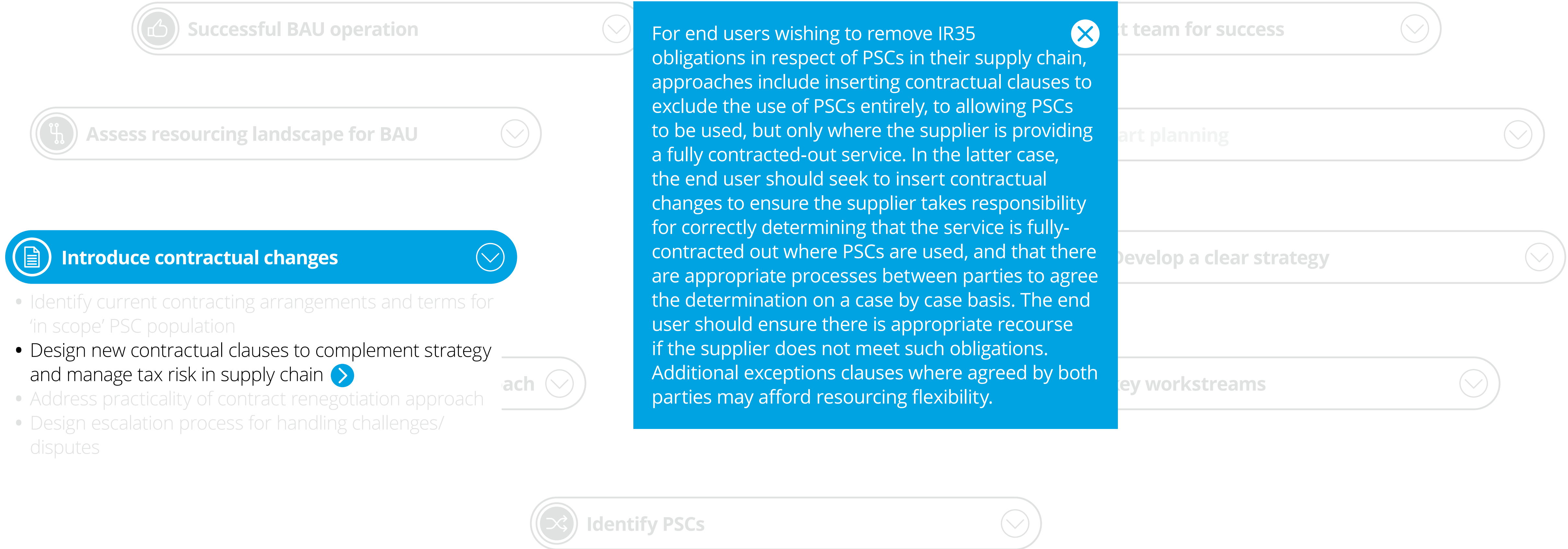
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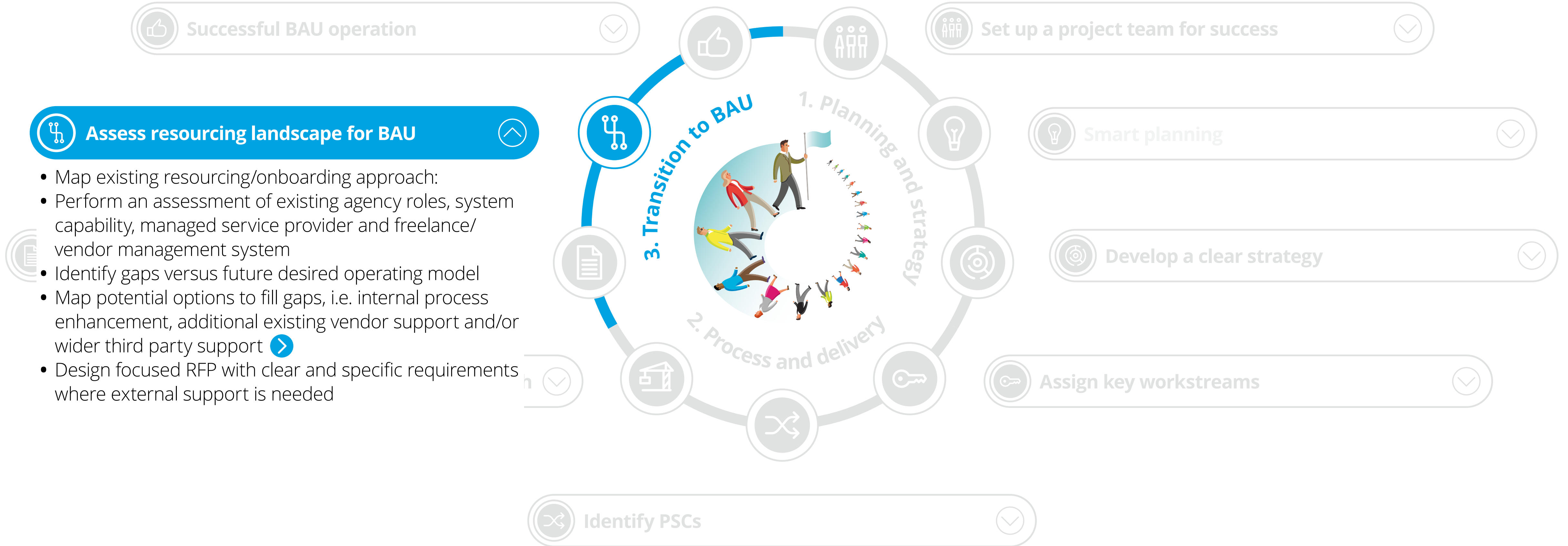
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For end users wishing to remove IR35 obligations in respect of PSCs in their supply chain, approaches include inserting contractual clauses to exclude the use of PSCs entirely, to allowing PSCs to be used, but only where the supplier is providing a fully contracted-out service. In the latter case, the end user should seek to insert contractual changes to ensure the supplier takes responsibility for correctly determining that the service is fully-contracted out where PSCs are used, and that there are appropriate processes between parties to agree the determination on a case by case basis. The end user should ensure there is appropriate recourse if the supplier does not meet such obligations. Additional exceptions clauses where agreed by both parties may afford resourcing flexibility.

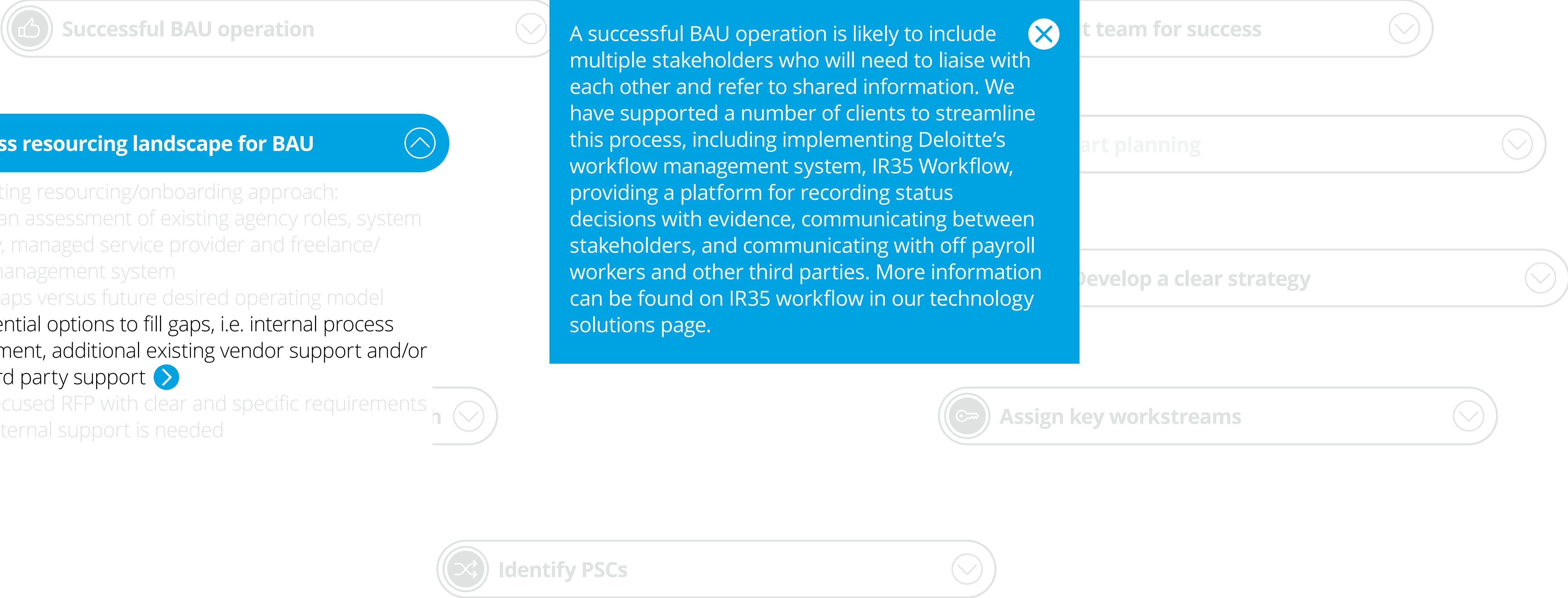
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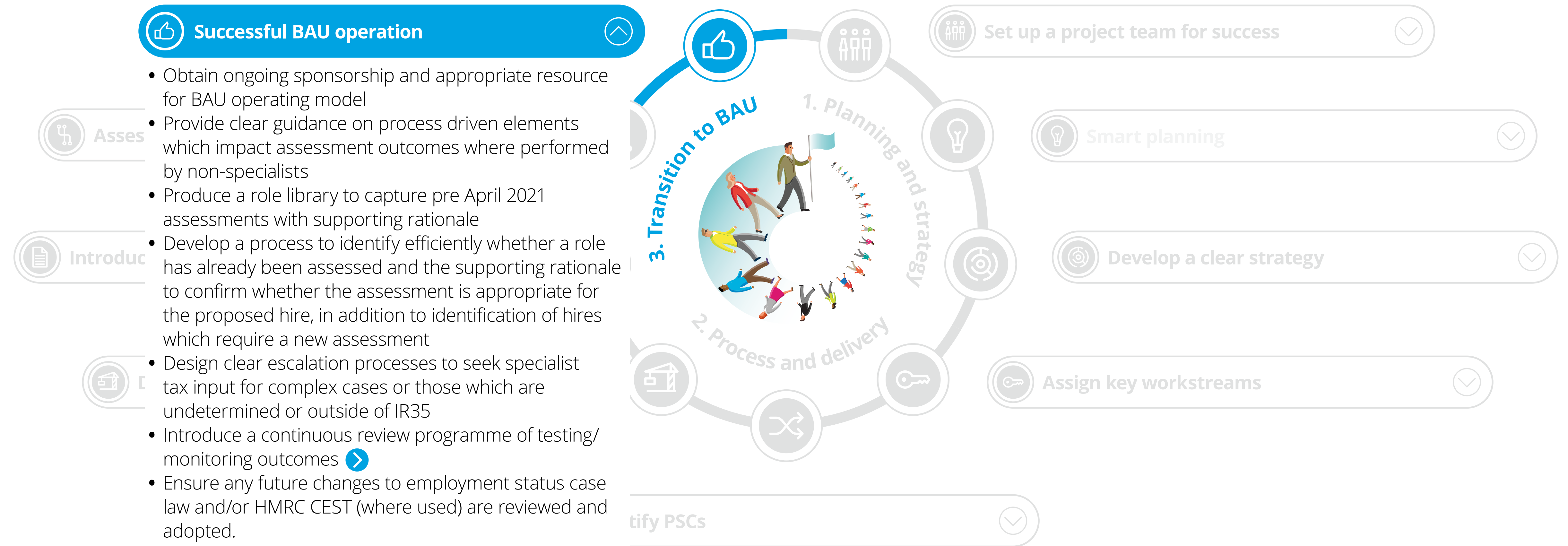
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A successful BAU operation is likely to include multiple stakeholders who will need to liaise with each other and refer to shared information. We have supported a number of clients to streamline this process, including implementing Deloitte's workflow management system, IR35 Workflow, providing a platform for recording status decisions with evidence, communicating between stakeholders, and communicating with off payroll workers and other third parties. More information can be found on IR35 workflow in our technology solutions page.

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Successful BAU operation (v)

The status of an engagement may change as the length of an engagement increases or a role develops or changes. For this reason it is important to design a robust process to check whether the original status determination remains appropriate, particularly in view of potential risk where case outcomes were initially undetermined or outside of IR35. (x)

Assess (v)

- Obtain ongoing sponsorship and appropriate resource for BAU operating model
- Provide clear guidance on process driven elements which impact assessment outcomes where performed by non-specialists
- Produce a role library to capture pre April 2021 assessments with supporting rationale

Introduce (v)

- Develop a process to identify efficiently whether a role has already been assessed and the supporting rationale to confirm whether the assessment is appropriate for the proposed hire, in addition to identification of hires which require a new assessment

Monitor (v)

- Design clear escalation processes to seek specialist tax input for complex cases or those which are undetermined or outside of IR35
- Introduce a continuous review programme of testing/monitoring outcomes (>)
- Ensure any future changes to employment status case law and/or HMRC CEST (where used) are reviewed and adopted.

Team for success (v)

Planning (v)

Develop a clear strategy (v)

Assign key workstreams (v)

Identify PSCs (v)



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