CKAN viability classifications

The table below maps required functionality against CKAN classifications (e.g. out-of-the-box, custom theme, etc.) and then notates the level of compliance. Salsa Digital uses this table when assessing CKAN's viability.

Classification	Compliance Level	Suggested Complexity	Description
Out-of-the-box — tick and flick	High	Low	Functionality available by simply 'enabling' the feature or function with no (or low) configuration required, e.g. users, site settings, FileStore, etc.
Out-of-the-box — basic config	High	Low	Functionality achieved with basic configuration using CKAN's core capabilities, e.g. configuration file options used to customise CKAN's authorisation behaviour: see CKAN's configuration file options.
Out-of-the-box — moderate config	High	Med	Functionality achieved with moderate level of configuration using 'CKAN certified' extensions, e.g. CKAN Harvester.
Out-of-the-box — high config	Med	Med	Functionality achieved with moderate level of configuration using 'CKAN certified' extensions, e.g. DataStore w/ DataPusher.
Custom theme / template change	High	Low	The functionality can be achieved using code available in the theme layer of CKAN.
3rd party extension — out-of-the-box	Med	Low	A 3rd party extension is available that can be used out-of-the-box, with basic/minimal configuration.
3rd party w/ minor customisations	Med	Low	A 3rd party extension is available that requires minor customisations via a forked repository to achieve the functionality required.
3rd party w/ medium customisations	Low	Med	A 3rd party extension is available that requires moderate customisations via a forked repository to achieve the functionality required, e.g. Custom Harvester.
3rd party w/ significant customisations	Low	High	A 3rd party extension is available that requires significant customisation via a forked repository to achieve the functionality required.

Custom extension — simple complexity	Med	Low	Functionality is simple but is unavailable in CKAN core or a suitable 3rd party extension, requiring a custom extension to be developed, e.g. unique user account per email address, simple custom API endpoint.
Custom extension — moderate complexity	Low	Med	Functionality is moderate and is unavailable in CKAN core or a suitable 3rd party extension, requiring a custom extension to be developed, e.g. custom schema, post-Harvest data processing or clean-up.
Custom extension — advanced complexity	Low	High	Functionality is significantly complex and is unavailable in CKAN core or a suitable 3rd party extension, requiring a custom extension to be developed, e.g. custom workflow.
Not applicable	N/A	N/A	Not a functional requirement.
Not supported	Not Compliant	Extreme	Not possible (or prohibitive) with the CKAN platform.