

Disaster Recovery Dependency Continuity Checklist

Identity, DNS, Certificates, and Network are recovery objects, not supporting services. Each one needs the same governance a VM or a database already has: a recovery owner, a recovery procedure, an independent recovery validation, and retained recovery evidence.

01 — IDENTITY CONTINUITY

- ☐ **Recovery owner assigned**
A named individual or team owns identity continuity at the DR site — not the same owner as the compute failover by default.
- ☐ **Recovery procedure documented**
Independent of the compute failover runbook — covers directory replication lag and conditional access tied to source-site context.
- ☐ **Recovery validation run independently**
An isolated auth flow tested at the DR site, from an external client — not inferred from a successful VM boot.
- ☐ **Recovery evidence retained**
The actual auth flow result that proved identity survived — not an assumption that it did.

02 — DNS CONTINUITY

- ☐ **Recovery owner assigned**
A named owner for DNS failover specifically — TTL behavior, split-horizon zones, and conditional forwarding rules.
- ☐ **Recovery procedure documented**
Explicitly covers stale TTL caches, split-horizon drift, unreplicated conditional forwarding, and public/private zone mismatch.
- ☐ **Recovery validation run independently**
Resolved from a client outside the recovery team's own network — not from within the DR site itself.
- ☐ **Recovery evidence retained**
The actual resolution result from an external client, timestamped against the failover window.

03 — CERTIFICATE CONTINUITY

- ☐ **Recovery owner assigned**
A named owner for certificate chain and key custody at the DR site specifically.
- ☐ **Recovery procedure documented**
Confirms CA trust at the DR site, private key custody, and pinning behavior against a differently-chained certificate.
- ☐ **Recovery validation run independently**
A live external handshake test against the DR-site endpoint — not a certificate expiry check alone.
- ☐ **Recovery evidence retained**
The handshake result and chain trust confirmation from an external client.

04 — NETWORK CONTINUITY

- ☐ **Recovery owner assigned**
A named owner for routing, firewall parity, and segmentation at the DR site.
- ☐ **Recovery procedure documented**
Covers route convergence time, firewall rule parity, and segmentation policy rebuilt at the DR site.
- ☐ **Recovery validation run independently**
Reachability tested from the actual client population — not from inside the DR site's own segment.
- ☐ **Recovery evidence retained**
The reachability test result from the real client population, retained alongside the DR test report.