Cues for measuring principles

Agile measurement has to be simple enough to be repeated frequently and avoid burden on people. You may use some of the following cues to make sound judgments. The cues are organized around the five pillars.

Collective

* The team has demonstrated a self-organizing culture with no boundaries and conflict across different roles.
* All architecture and design decisions are taken collaboratively by the team with consensus.
* The team is fully autonomous and has enough skills and capabilities to make the required decisions.
* Architecture decisions are taken by the people who fully understand the context, vision, and purpose of the business without disconnect.
* Architecture work is transparent and visible to others to ensure there is no darkroom discussions and decisions.

Continuous

* The team evolves architecture with emergent design in alignment with the intentional architecture.
* Team able to breakdown architecture as a series of decision backlogs.
* The team views what is coming in the near term and is plotted in a roadmap (architecture runway), which is transparent and visible.
* Teams have a mindset to accept changes in architecture and design, just like changes in requirements.
* The team clearly understands the business value of each decision and delays decisions to the last responsible moment.

Lean

* Teams are organized around values to avoid minimum handoffs and coordination challenges between teams.
* Visual models are effectively used as opposed to lengthy documentation to minimize wastage of effort.
* There are no infrequent bureaucratic governance mechanisms in place that hinder the velocity of work.
* There is no considerable amount of non-consumable documentation generated. The team believes in collaboration over documentation.
* Vision and context are transparently communicated to people who make decisions to avoid over-engineering and designing based on assumptions.

Enabler

* Architecture is not behind the urgency of now, and they look at what is required and get sufficient time to make proper decisions.
* Architects focus on identifying enablers for building sustainable solutions based on the available backlog.
* The team has a learning and growth mindset, and they continuously improve technical skills.
* Dev Ops, continuous delivery pipelines, and proven architecture patterns and practices are used consistently.
* Capacity allocations are effectively implemented in technical backlog items, which are prioritized for execution.

Test and Lean

* Technology debts are managed proactively and continuously. A process exists to assess and discover obligations that need attention.
* Architecture has been implemented in smaller steps as the system evolves organically and is validated at every evolution.
* Architecture tests are automated and are part of the continuous delivery pipelines.
* Learning from architecture tests are taken back as backlog items for refactoring and is a habit more than process.
* There is extensive monitoring and measurement in place for identifying gaps in the solution.

There is no one size fit solution. Based on the context of the organization, the cues may be different. You may need to customize or add further statements.