Azure VMWare Solution (AVS):

AVS allows us to seamlessly move all VMware-based workloads from existing on-premises datacenter to Azure and integrate the VMware environment with Azure. It enables us to manage existing environments with the same VMware tools are already in use we modernize your applications with Azure native services. Azure VMware Solution is a Microsoft service, verified by VMware, that runs on Azure infrastructure. Migrating VMware hosts can accelerate the overall migration process. Each migrated VMware host can move multiple workloads to the cloud. After migration, those VMs and workloads can stay in VMware, or be migrated to modern cloud capabilities.

Reasons to use AVS:

* Lift & Shift for Datacenter consolidation – AVS allows to run VMWare platform and workloads without the need to re-architect applications while providing benefits of continuity, scale, and fast provisioning. Lift and shift any vSphere-based workloads to Azure in a non-disruptive, automated, scalable, and highly available way without changing the underlying vSphere hypervisor
* Cost Effective – AVS is the most cost-effective way to run VMWare apps on Windows & SQL servers. We can reduce the cost of using your on-premises datacenter without purchasing licenses for both on-premises and cloud apps
* Accelerate – Gain the choice and flexibility to determine what workloads to migrate and the right time to migrate them. With platform symmetry, it provides the control to transform based on the cloud journey
* Modernize when ready - AVS enables us to seamlessly modernize applications running on VMware over time through integration to Azure-native management, security, and services whenever we are ready
* Accelerate – Minimizes transition risk and complexity, simplifies, and accelerates migrations, datacenter footprint reduction, consolidation, and retirement

Azure Native:

Azure Native applications or solutions are optimized for cloud scale and performance. They are based on microservices architectures, use managed services wherever possible, and take advantage of continuous delivery to achieve reliability and faster time to market. Using Azure Native applications should be the end goal for all applications, but it involves re-architecting solutions, aligning business and technical strategies and requires more time and effort to make it cloud/Azure PaaS ready.

* Finalize the Approach
  + Microservices
    - Simplify the development of distributed cloud applications and take advantage of built-in, enterprise-grade security and autoscaling
  + Serverless
    - Build cloud-native apps without provisioning and managing infrastructure using a fully managed platform where scaling, availability, and performance are handled by Microsoft
  + Containers
    - Containerize applications and let Azure managed services handle container orchestration, provisioning, upgrading, and scaling cluster resources based on demand
* Build a Strategy for DevOps and Governance
* Standardize the architectural patterns and landing zones for the applications

We would look at the AVS solution as an intermediate point which should be targeted only if there are specific timelines for datacenter exit or any other such organizational strategy. The cloud native approach is the eventual end goal but there are lot of other pieces that needs to be sorted before modernizing application like Azure Landing Zones, Governance, Strategies etc.