

## Reading Borough Council Benefits from More Agile, Comprehensive and Accurate Forecasting.



Since the implementation, we now have a planning solution that we can build on to develop into a comprehensive forecasting solution. Brovanture have delivered everything they said they would with very little intervention from Reading Borough Council.

Julie Stringfellow, Systems Manager, Reading Borough Council

### Reading Borough Council Finance Departments takes Control of IT Processes and Costs

Reading Borough Council is the local authority of Reading in Berkshire, England employing over 2,000 people and has an approximate net revenue budget of £124M. The Council are responsible for providing the following local services and facilities: benefits, grants, funding, registration of births, deaths and marriages, street trading, taxi licencing, housing, leisure, libraries, parking permits, road maintenance, transport, planning, building control, public health, recycling, schools and social care.

The finance department were reliant on their IT provider to perform maintenance tasks, making them a lengthier than necessary process. The objective was to streamline maintenance, regain control and enhance the planning processes. They also wanted to reduce IT costs, speed up the planning process and provide a better service to end users.

#### Challenges

- Reading Borough Council were still using on premise Oracle Hyperion Planning 9.3.1 implemented in 2007, seven years earlier
- They could not take advantage of the many product enhancements in later versions due to the resource and cost involved in upgrading
- For many routine maintenance tasks, they were dependent on their existing IT supplier which could result in delays

- The current planning process was very slow and needed to be much more responsive in an environment of considerable change
- Overall IT costs were high, and Reading Borough Council were looking to cut costs in all areas to meet targets



#### Results

Reading Borough Council and Brovanture worked in partnership to implement Reading Borough Council's chosen solution, Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud Service (PBCS) and replace their ageing Oracle Hyperion Planning 9.3.1 system. As a result of the implementation, Reading Borough Council can now enjoy the benefits of:

- An efficient Cloud-based service which can be managed by the finance department with minimal involvement of Brovanture
- Reduced system maintenance and running costs
- Automatic, hassle free monthly upgrades keeping them up to date with the latest features available
- A simpler solution to use, reducing the cost and time to train users
- More agile and accurate planning and forecasting



+44 (0) 1483 685 450



enquiries@brovanture.com



www.brovanture.com



## Execution

Brovanture employed a methodical, step by step approach to ensure that all the data and metadata from the current system were migrated correctly to the new environment and worked closely with the finance team at Reading Borough Council to carry out thorough testing and reconciliation of the new system before going live.

The implementation of PBCS prompted a re-evaluation of Reading Borough Council's current system and processes and allowed scope

for Brovanture to recommend and implement more efficient methods and processes. In addition, the new system has provided a solution that can be developed further for more comprehensive forecasting. The advanced functionality and integration with Microsoft Excel has enabled users to optimise their use of the system, improving everyone's overall experience. Brovanture continues to partner with Reading Borough Council providing on-going support for PBCS.



Brovanture staff are a pleasure to deal with and have demonstrated a superior knowledge of the product and a very good understanding of the Reading Borough Council process. Nothing has been too much trouble. They have been great throughout the entire process.

Julie Stringfellow, Systems Manager, Reading Borough Council

## About Reading Borough Council

Reading Borough Council is a unitary authority, having the powers of a non-metropolitan County and District Council combined.

### Our values:

- **Fair**
  - Tackling inequality and promoting residents' rights
  - Ensuring residents are part of decision making
  - Ensuring our staff have the right support

### ● Caring

- Putting residents at the heart of what we do
- Working with residents to look after each other

### ● Enterprising

- Unlocking the power of our communities
- Acting now to create a better future

### Our service priorities:

- Safeguarding and protecting those that are most vulnerable

- Providing the best life through education, early help and healthy living
  - Providing homes for those in most need
  - Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active
  - Providing infrastructure to support the economy
  - Remaining financially sustainable to deliver these service priorities
- [www.reading.gov.uk](http://www.reading.gov.uk)

## About Brovanture

Brovanture Ltd, established in 2005, is a specialist provider of Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions across all sectors and organisations, irrespective of size or budget. Initially, a Hyperion Partner, Brovanture became an Oracle Partner following Oracle's takeover of Hyperion and

is also an Oracle NetSuite Partner. In January 2018 Brovanture became the 1st Oracle Fully Certified Cloud Excellence Implementer for Enterprise Planning and Budgeting in the UK & IRL. Brovanture is an accredited supplier with G-Cloud and the Crown Commercial Service and has ISO9001 and ISO27001 accreditations. The

Brovanture team of highly skilled professionals deliver excellence, ensure success, and are experienced in providing services to a wide range of commercial and public sector organisations including Ted Baker, discoverIE, Reading Borough Council and Channel 4 Television.

Ref: 06/2018



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[enquiries@brovanture.com](mailto:enquiries@brovanture.com)



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