A UK AMBULANCE SERVICE

brovanture

A UK Ambulance Service Forecasts Faster and More Accurately with Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud Service

> Working with Brovanture has been a great success. In the beginning they spent time on-site running workshops and training sessions which gave us the opportunity to 'pick their brains' and really get to grips with how we could best use Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud Service (PBCS). They had some great ideas and their involvement was really beneficial throughout the project.

The Challenge for all Local Government Services

Doing more with less and less seems to be 'business as normal' for all local government services as the end of austerity will not bring big increases in funding and all the time inflation eats into the funds they do have. In this environment better planning, budgeting and forecasting using cloud technology makes sense on two fronts:

1. Reducing costs and effort to undertake these resource intensive and difficult processes releasing staff to deal with other pressing issues
2. Enabling the maximisation of benefits from the funds they have. Funds can be focused on the things that really matter. The results can be easily monitored and efforts quickly changed to redirect scares resources to where they will make a difference

Two wins for the price of one makes this investment one that all local government services put at the top of their agenda to consider.

Ambulance Service Delivers Goals Working with Brovanture

Planning and forecasting were previously delivered using a shared service provider and a 3rd party product. The staff originally responsible for the system no longer worked there and so budget holders had reverted back to using Excel which introduced further inflexibility and un-necessary risks and made the consistency and consolidation of the overall budget a major problem.

This situation could not continue so they reviewed a number of solutions based on their capabilities, flexibility and value for money. They selected Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud Service (PBCS) and Oracle partner Brovanture to implement a modern cloud solution to support their planning and forecasting for the future.

challenges

- They struggled to produce timely and accurate plans due to limited flexibility and therefore planning and forecasting were very time consuming processes especially as their budget holders were also using Excel to supplement the system
- The over reliance on Excel across the entire organisation presented inherent accuracy risks, process delays and security problems
- Making up-to-date information available to the wider organisation was difficult and time consuming
- Meeting increased regulatory reporting requirements was becoming a major problem
- Planning, forecasting and ultimately controlling workforce costs was proving very difficult
- Budget holders lack of understanding increased the admin burden on finance
- Limited integration and reporting resulted in delays and incomplete information
- They could not consistently produce a forecast every month which resulted in information sometimes not being available in the Board Report

results

The client and Brovanture partnered in the project to replace their current technology and processes with a new planning and forecasting solution based on PBCS. The first phase went live after a 3 month project with the following benefits:

- Monthly forecasts are now produced consistently every month
- Board Packs contain complete actual and forecast information every month
- Finance now has considerably more time each month for forecast review and analysis
- They have been able to introduce well defined workflow processes for budget holders that provide both clear instructions and increased security
- Budget holders and management have easy access to the information through secure on-line reports that are designed to provide the information they need
- Medium and long-term forecasts (2-5 years) are proving to be more accurate
- Time consuming annual system updates have been eliminated

execution

The implementation partnership of Brovanture and the client teams worked on the project during 2017 and the first phase of the production system went fully live in May 2017. They began by working to define the requirements with Brovanture running on-site workshops and training so that the client team could become familiar with the PBCS and understand what the solution was capable of. With Brovanture on-site the client was also able to discuss ideas with the Brovanture and get expert advice whenever they needed it.

Following this design phase, the Brovanture team built the new application, using Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud Service (PBCS), which contains 1000 account codes, 200 cost centres and over 6000 job codes. The application enables the client to both long term plan and shorter term forecast staffing costs based on information imported from their HR system and augmented with projected staff changes and future requirements. In addition, other expenses are input to produce and complete future funding requirements. By integrating actuals from their account system as well, the client can see up-to-date variance information as part of the overall picture.

the future

One year on with Phase 1 up and successfully running the client is now turning their attention to extending their use of PBCS to integrate service demand and activity into their forecast. Also, they intend introduce more detail for their other major cost lines, other than staff, like capital investment and leasing. Finally, they want to increase the automation of their process for updating data hierarchies across all their systems, to improve consistency and data accuracy.

> Our goals for phase 1 of the project were to reduce time and admin effort, increase the frequency of our forecasting and improve our reporting. Using PBCS and partnering with Brovanture we have delivered on every one of these goals. We are looking forward now to increasing our use of PBCS and bring additional benefits to our users.

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 organizations, 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 organizations including Edrington UK, Department of Health and Social Care, discoverIE, Reading Borough Council and Channel 4 Television.

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