

Procurement Lincolnshire Saves £3 million in First Year with £24 million forecast over five years using QlikView

“QlikView offers the ability to access, simply, up to date data that can be modelled without any worries over the integrity of data and provides multiple reporting options all in a very user friendly way.”

*Jason Jarvis, Head of Business Management,
North Kesteven District Council*

Organisation Background

The Service is formally hosted by the largest member authority, Lincolnshire County Council, on behalf of the other member partners: Boston Borough Council, City of Lincoln Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Kesteven District Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council, and West Lindsey District Council.

Deployment and Impact

Previous attempts to analyse spend data had met with limited success. But following a detailed appraisal the partnership decided to develop a customised spend analysis platform - Lincolnshire Category Analysis Tool (LCAT) - making full use of internal data management skills and procurement expertise. It has become the cornerstone in implementing a category management approach to procurement, and is now the focus of a regional implementation of a spend analysis system for the East Midlands.

The choice of a Dashboard and Business Intelligence solution to access customised data mining reports for a more holistic view of the organisation spend was a critical challenge for the success of the project. Above all it needed to be user friendly to ensure buy-in at all levels across the partnership where different financial systems are in use.

Procurement Lincolnshire chose QlikView business intelligence software from QlickIT because it provides users with an extremely simple but powerful means to analyse data and identify value from it. QlikView also delivers multiple benefits

with its patented in-memory associative technology.

Using QlikView it is possible to slice and dice views around supplier, department, and transaction including line item detail. The tool shows supplier financials including credit/contracting limit variations over time, supplier locality, and spend category. Upon opening the analysis application, it is immediately possible to see a spend dashboard for the partnership, including local/national spend, spend distribution across local authorities, and contract renewal timelines with associated spend levels.

In the 2010/2011 financial year, Lincolnshire County Council generated savings of more than £3 million with the help of its new LCAT spend analysis platform using QlikView. The estimated forecast savings from the project over the succeeding five years amounts to more than £24 million. The new system has also saved Procurement Lincolnshire around £30,000 a year in reducing operating costs for reports and analysis, which means the partnership is getting significantly more business value for less investment.

Partner View

“Procurement Lincolnshire is a great example of what can be done with QlikView technology in this area to provide greater insight into purchasing activities. I’m pleased that our many years of experience across the Public Sector in Spend Analysis has contributed to such an unqualified success story,” comments John Elliott, Managing Director, QlickIT.

Solution Overview

Procurement Lincolnshire

Procurement Lincolnshire in the United Kingdom is a shared service partnership between eight local authorities in the East Midlands. Together they spend more than £600 million a year on buying in goods and services. The partnership aims to save taxpayers money by smarter procurement and efficiency savings on goods and services.

Industry

Local Government/Public Services

Function

Spend Analysis

Geography

East Midlands, UK

Challenges

- Develop a customised spend analysis platform
- Instant user friendly reports for senior management
- Identify millions of pounds in efficiency savings
- Reduce time taken to produce in depth analysis

Solution

Procurement Lincolnshire chose QlikView as the dashboard solution for their custom-built spend analysis platform. Implementation across the Executive, Finance, Operations, HR, Supply Chain, and Service & Support.

Benefits

- Efficiency savings of £24 million over five years
- Analysis in half an hour - not half a day
- Savings in operating costs of £30,000 a year
- Achieving best practice in procurement

Data Source Systems

SQL Server, MS Access, MS Excel - 2 million transaction lines.

About QlikView

The QlikView Business Discovery solution bridges the gap between traditional BI solutions and inadequate spreadsheet applications. Its in-memory associative search technology created the self-service BI category, allowing users to explore information freely rather than being confined to a predefined path of questions. Appropriate from small to the largest global enterprise, QlikView’s self-service analysis can be deployed with data governance in days or weeks. The QlikView Business Discovery platform’s app-driven model works with existing BI solutions, offering an immersive mobile and social, collaborative experience.

QlikView Partner

QlickIT Limited: Experts in Spend Analysis in the Public and Private Sectors.

01709 300 230

info@qlickit.co.uk