

Advanced Collaborative Planning

Empowering your organisation with instant insight and improved accuracy of financial planning, budget monitoring and forecasting, our solution enables you to enhance your financial strategies and decisions.

The challenges

Finance teams face competing demands, being required to manage various finance processes simultaneously, maintain a multi-dimensional view of performance, scrutinise financial data to support key decisions, whilst reporting to vital stakeholders and external bodies.

Professionals involved within the financial planning, budgeting and forecasting cycle are also additionally challenged with further time consuming administrative tasks, including; collation of information from across their organisation's systems, manual financial data entry and re-entry. With the potential for human error, these manual administrative tasks carry significant operational risk, placing considerable pressure on Finance teams.

In times of economic uncertainty there is an increasing demand for continuous re-assessment of financial, strategies, plans and forecasts. As a result, Finance professionals are also required to conduct frequent scenario planning, budget modelling and strategy reassessments. This places even greater pressure on their time, effort and resources.

The solution

Whether you're a private, public or third sector organisation, our powerful solution provides you with enhanced control of your financial planning, budgeting and forecasting. By fully integrating with all leading financial management systems, our solution provides you with instant access to your financial data in one place.

Our solution empowers you with clear, end-to-end visibility right across the planning, budgeting, monitoring and forecasting cycle, highlighting any discrepancies as spending goes off track. Alerts are triggered where targets are in danger of being exceeded, so you are always in full control.

The benefits

Save time with end-to-end automation and integration

Our solution looks and feels like a spreadsheet, for ease of use, yet it automatically extracts data from all contributing finance and operational applications. By removing the need for time consuming manual data collection and re-entry, our technology ensures effective financial management, eliminating the risk of human error.

Client >

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Sector >

Local government

Project >

Advanced Collaborative Planning

"The Collaborative Planning solution from Advanced has improved financial management right across the Council."

Charlotte Wynn >
Finance Manager >
Cheshire West & Chester Council

Advanced Collaborative Planning

As our technology is so tightly integrated with all contributing systems, figures need only to be updated once: a single change made anywhere along the information chain will be reflected automatically in all associated systems. This means that everyone involved in the planning, budgeting and forecasting cycle can instantly see the real-time status of plans and actual performance compared to targets, for timely decision making.

In doing so, our solution empowers you and your colleagues to perform a more strategic role by adjusting plans and actions as required.

Enhanced financial control with budget modelling

Budget Managers can easily create 'working sets' to represent multiple versions of their budgets, for effective planning and scenario assessments. 'Working sets' are multiple sub-sets of finance cube data created in isolation of the live model, to provide additional support for iterative / 'what if' analysis and continuous service planning.

These 'working sets' provide a flexible way to define the boundaries automatically taking into account cell calculation and standing data tables.

Flexible data manipulation methods available within this solution include:

- > Adding, amending, deleting rows in the working set, cell calculators / standing data table
- > Carrying out percentage or value based increases or decreases to the data

The results of the working set changes can be compared to the live data, for deeper and more meaningful analysis of your financial planning, budgets and forecasts.

Review and authorisation processes within the solution, managed via a workflow configurable to your organisation's internal targets and needs, also support greater control of your full planning, budgeting and forecasting cycle.

Powerful reporting

Easily report on planning, budgeting and forecasting data important to you, enhancing your financial analysis and scenario planning for effective financial strategies and decision making.

Proven savings

Traditional budgeting cycles can run for three to six months and consume a significant portion of accountants', managers' and senior professionals' time. Across the whole budget cycle, organisations can expect to save between 30-60% of the time dedicated to planning, forecasting and performance monitoring, by automating associated processes using our solution.

This allows you and your colleagues to focus on more productive activities such as; performing deeper analyses, engaging in more scenario-planning and proactively working with budget holders to manage spending.

Scalable and flexible to your needs

Configurable to satisfy your individual organisational processes, our solution is highly flexible to meet your needs, and scalable to deliver your organisation's growth objectives, enabling you to consistently improve your performance.

"On the back of the system we have completely restructured and transformed our Finance service, and delivered £1 million in savings. On top of that we anticipate additional savings because Advanced Collaborative Planning allows budgets to be managed more closely, which encourages querying of spending."

Charlotte Wynn >
Finance Manager >
Cheshire West & Chester Council

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