

ORACLE IS THE INFORMATION COMPANY

Oracle United Kingdom Public Services

“Organizations that employ EPM best practices produce 48 percent fewer reports and are 32 percent more likely to use nonfinancial performance indicators in their reports and plans—both key factors in improving the forecasting and planning process.”
—John McMahan
Leader, Finance Advisory Practice
The Hackett Group.

Oracle's Hyperion Planning Benefits

- Create accurate forecasts
- Reduce budgeting and planning cycles by weeks or months
- Meet immediate finance needs while enabling operations-specific budgeting processes
- Support advanced, power-user modeling capabilities with seamless Microsoft Excel integration
- Appeal to a wider user community through a simplified Web interface

Performance Management – An Integrated Planning View

Integrated Planning is now the Imperative

Within the context of falling administration budgets, increasing fiscal pressures and a weakening global economy, the UK Public Sector is operating in an increasingly challenging and complex business climate yet the imperative to manage demands on services and service delivery remains constant. To achieve value for money outcomes in the delivery of these services the discipline of Planning plays a key part across all Public Services Organisations (PSOs) by building a picture of the required future activity so as to meet goals and objectives.

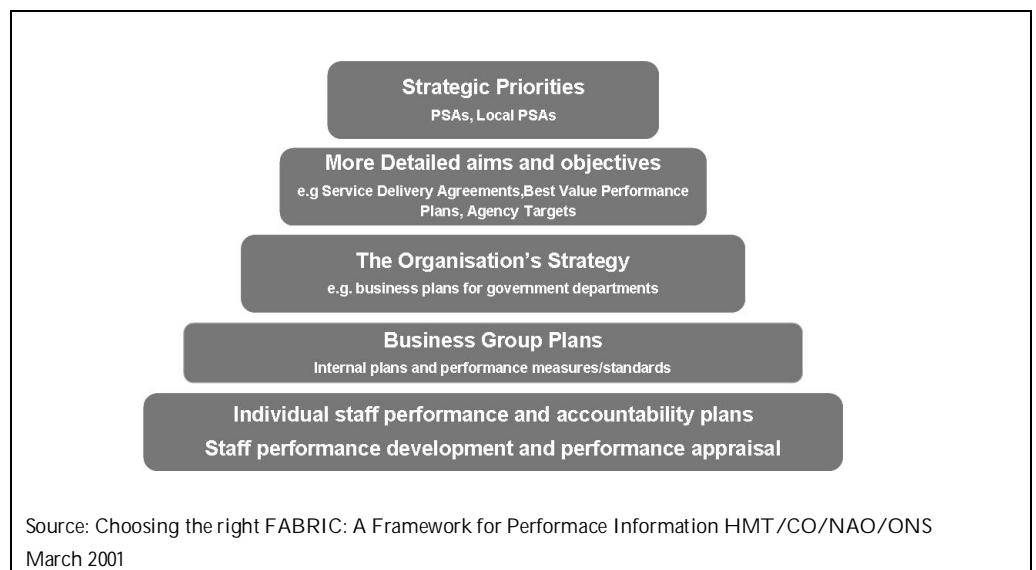


Figure 1: Integrated Planning: Cascading Plans in the Public Sector, from Strategy to Plans

Planning is the mechanism that forces organisations to think about and decide upon their future actions. While the objectives can be simply expressed the path to achieving these objectives is complicated involving multiple delivery channels and partners.

Policy initiatives drive the planning process and frequently require the plan to have sufficient detail to demonstrate how a particular policy can be implemented within current and potential future resource constraints. This requires information to be integrated from a number of different sources so that the financial planning process is connected to the strategic and service planning process.

ORACLE'S PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS

Oracle's Performance Management applications are an integrated suite of software modules that unite the entire financial management cycle by linking strategies to plans, continuously monitoring and optimizing execution, and reporting results in a timely, accurate manner. Part of Oracle's Enterprise Performance Management system, Oracle's performance management applications can be quickly and easily deployed out of the box, extended with Oracle's business intelligence product family, or tailored to meet your organization's specific needs.

Oracle's Performance Management applications include the following products:

- Hyperion Financial Management
- Hyperion Performance Scorecard
- Hyperion Strategic Finance
- Hyperion Planning
- Hyperion Workforce Planning
- Hyperion Capital Expense Planning

Budgeting, forecasting, monitoring and reporting are therefore key financial processes in all PSOs with the budget not only being a vital control mechanism, it is also a statement of intent about the planned use of public monies. Without losing its control and accountability mechanisms, modern budgeting needs to better support performance management by integrating known financial outcomes with frequent re-forecasting of the budget and analysis of performance trends. This improved process is then able to offer an organisation a rolling picture of its future set against known financial outcomes at a particular point in time. In turn this improved process will provide a better basis for the board and managers to take more effective decisions that will affect users and citizens.

With Oracle Enterprise Performance Management solutions there are a number of options that will expedite and support the increasing demands being placed on Public Services organisations to deliver value for money in an effective and efficient manner. They can provide governance to these management processes so that policy can be better delivered to the citizen with clarity and visibility around the true cost of the outcomes that are expected from the ever increasing demands of the end consumer.

Oracle's Hyperion Planning

Oracle's Hyperion Planning application is a centralised, Microsoft Excel and Web-based planning, budgeting and forecasting solution that integrates financial and operational planning processes.

Planning provides an in-depth look at business operations and its impact on financials by tightly integrating financial and operational planning models. With Oracle's Hyperion Planning, you can meet your immediate financial planning needs while enabling a platform for future cross-functional expansion and automated process integration

The Foundation for Integrated Planning across the Organisation

Accurately predicting budgetary outturn to achieve a balanced budget position at year-end with ever changing policy initiatives is a daunting challenge facing many PSOs today. Despite their awareness of the significant adverse impact that inaccurate forecasts and plans can have on projected outturns, the most common solution for budgeting and planning is still the disconnected spreadsheet that makes the planning process unreliable and inefficient. The resulting long budget cycles and forecasting inaccuracies prevent responsiveness to change, causing organisations to miss efficiency gains.

Oracle's Hyperion Planning allows the organisation to rationalise the existing spreadsheet environment in a single planning system while enabling a platform for future organisation-wide deployment. As a result, immediate planning needs can be met, typically driven by finance, while providing an expanded budgeting process that integrates finance and business units.

Ensure Accurate Forecasts with Integrated Analytical Capabilities

Oracle provides native business intelligence and planning capabilities in a single environment. Oracle Planning enables the organisation to perform sophisticated analysis of business operations and use that information to create accurate forecasts and plans without switching to different tools.

Using a single interface, the user can access user-friendly dashboards, interactive analytics, and richly formatted financial reports while interacting with the planning system.

With the Enterprise Performance Management Architect feature, the user can easily create, manage, and integrate the planning processes for faster deployment and lower cost of ownership.

Expand Beyond Finance to Support Operational Business Planning

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Oracle Planning synchronises both financial and operational planning processes across the organization by connecting planning activities—such as workforce planning, capital asset planning and operations project planning— With driver-based planning capabilities, non-financial users can enter business and operational drivers, while sophisticated business rules will then calculate their financial impact.

Leverage Existing User Competencies with Microsoft Office Integration

Oracle Planning allows you to update and report plans using familiar tools such as Microsoft Office Excel, PowerPoint, and Word. Through Excel, for example, you can easily perform sophisticated financial modeling and reporting using reliable and up-to-date information from the central planning database. Hyperion Planning lets you take your plans offline, and at your own convenience, change assumptions, perform calculations, analyze results, and connect back to the central database to synchronize your updates.

Additionally, you can directly integrate data from the planning database into PowerPoint and Word. This allows you to quickly create highly customized reports with accurate information and automatically refresh the report when the underlying data changes. The end result: reduced manual intervention, improved data integrity, and increased reporting accuracy

Connect a Wide User Community with Simplified Web Interface

Oracle's Hyperion Planning enables business users to easily view plans and reports through a simplified web interface guiding them through a step by step planning process using a Task Lists. This results in a reduction in cycle times whilst ensuring completeness and reliability of the plans.

Enable Quick Implementations Through Predefined Solutions

Oracle's Hyperion Planning platform is designed to facilitate the addition of predefined modules for workforce planning and capital expense planning, thereby reducing implementation time and costs while providing best-practice functionality. Workforce Planning caters for the requirements of planning flexibly and efficiently for head count, salary, and compensation across the organisation. By automatically connecting with workforce data, it helps assess the business impact of workforce decisions in real time.

Oracle's Hyperion Capital Expense Planning facilitates the planning of existing and new capital assets, maintenance, transfers, and depreciation while analysing their impact on income, balance sheet, and cash flow.

Ease Collaboration and Maintain Control with Powerful Workflow

Oracle's Hyperion Planning's powerful workflow functionality—including e-mail notifications, alerts, and task lists—empowers users to track and communicate the progress of plans and budgets. In addition to creating, validating, and changing plans and task lists, bottlenecks can be identified and what-if analysis and scenario testing can be performed.

Support Large Deployment with Scalable Architecture

Oracle's Hyperion Planning is built on a scalable architecture, which allows the organisation to start with a small deployment before rolling it out to hundreds or thousands of required users in the organisation. The architecture allows for flexible data entry, analysis, and frequent real-time updates from anywhere, in a safe and secure environment using a standard Web browser.

Moreover, Oracle's Hyperion Planning provides collaborative planning processes and dependable, centralised data management, significantly reducing maintenance and distribution costs. Oracle's Hyperion Planning interoperates with existing security mechanisms to help ensure maintenance and security consistency.

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Ensure Data Quality with Robust Data Integration

Oracle's Hyperion Planning facilitates bidirectional information exchange with legacy applications, data warehouses, and enterprise resource planning and transaction systems. It is an open and extensible system that leverages data that was previously "locked" in silos and other systems.

CONCLUSION

Oracle's Hyperion Planning solution is an integral part of a Performance Management Vision, complimenting and leveraging existing investments in Operational ERP solutions to support the requirements and demands placed on Public Sector Organisations to be able to budget, forecast, plan and monitor in an interative closed loop cycle. Bringing speed, accuracy, reliability and shared processes to this business discipline allows Public Sector Organisations to focus on meeting their service delivery goals and objectives.

CONTACT US

For further information please call on 0870 8768 737 and ask to speak to an EPM specialist