



Essex County Council

Essex County Council
Chelmsford, United Kingdom
www.essex.gov.uk

Industry:

Public Sector

Annual Revenue:

US\$4.3 billion

Employees:

15,000

Oracle Products & Services:

Oracle On Demand
Oracle E-Business Suite
Oracle Payroll
Oracle Human Resources

“With Oracle On Demand, we now have a secure, reliable, and flexible system that has enabled us to significantly reduce costs while improving service to our staff. In addition, we can provide state-of-the-art shared services to enable others to take advantage of our excellent systems.” – Mark Hobson, Head of Essex Shared Services, Essex County Council

Essex County Council Adopts Cloud Computing for Payroll to Save US\$ Millions and Offer Shared Services

Essex County Council is one of the largest county councils in the United Kingdom. The council provides services, such as education, highways and social services, to its population of 1.3 million. As part of its modernization and transformation strategic initiative, Essex County Council has pledged to save US\$483 million over three years while maintaining and improving front-line services for residents.

Challenges

- Procure and establish a new hosting solution for payroll within a short timescale of just six months
- Adopt a consistent hosting approach to save money and ensure reliability, flexibility, and stability
- Ensure that all 50,000 payees, including staff from more than 500 schools, are paid accurately and on-time
- Reduce IT costs as part of strategic initiative to save US\$483 million while maintaining and improving services to citizens
- Introduce a robust disaster recovery service to mitigate risk and support the council’s business continuity program
- Enable Essex County Council to offer payroll and other human resources (HR) services through a shared service model to other council organizations

Solution

- Leveraged Oracle On Demand CEMLI Management and Disaster Recovery services to provide maximum reliability, security, and availability for county payroll system
- Saved more than US\$909 thousand in first year payroll expenditure, including consultancy fees and contract costs
- Reduced unit costs per pay slip by more than 25%, bringing the council in line with many private sector organizations
- Complemented the council’s green initiatives using Oracle’s state-of-the-art data center to reduce energy costs, server costs, and carbon dioxide emissions, while ensuring disaster recovery
- Reduced critical payroll processing time from 18 hours to 4 hours, enabling greater scheduling flexibility and reducing out-of-hours coverage
- Enabled Essex County Council to build HR shared service capabilities by using proven IT management and governance practices of Oracle On Demand