

Budgeting and Forecasting System from Advanced Business Solutions helps Denbighshire Council to reduce overspending

Submitted by: Advanced Computer Software Group LTD

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Denbighshire County Council has improved reporting efficiency, gained greater control over its financial performance and reduced overspending by implementing a budgeting and forecasting system (<http://www.advancedcomputersoftware.com/abs/business-intelligence/budgeting-planning-forecasting.php>) from Advanced Business Solutions (ABS).

Rhys Lloyd Jones, Senior Management Accountant at Denbighshire County Council, says, "Our previous budgeting and forecasting processes involved manually consolidating information onto separate spreadsheets. This was restrictive, an inefficient use of our time and did not provide an accurate and real-time view of our budgets. We only recognised that there was a budgetary issue when we were suddenly notified that one of our departments had overspent, sometimes by thousands of pounds, which subsequently impacted our year-end performance."

ABS' budgeting and forecasting system has enabled the creation and real-time monitoring of financial plans and forecasts, providing a single version of the truth. This web-based system, which has been tightly integrated into Denbighshire County Council's Infor's FMS General Ledger system, has made it quick and easy to input and analyse financial information and produce reports, eliminating the time-consuming consolidation of spreadsheets.

Lloyd Jones comments, "ABS' budgeting and forecasting system has saved us considerable amounts of time by streamlining our budgeting and forecasting processes where it's predicted that in the medium term this will save the authority in the region of two to three FTEs. We are now able to quickly and easily produce year-end reports and statements of accounts and instantly communicate this information to relevant staff across the business."

Lloyd Jones adds, "The system has increased financial transparency as everyone is now working from the same data in a single integrated database. Budget holders also have greater financial control as they have an ongoing real-time and accurate view of their budgets and forecasted spend allowing any budgetary issues to be addressed as and when they occur, reducing overspending."

ABS' system has also enabled the Council to more accurately calculate and monitor projected spend.

Lloyd Jones says, "For the first time, we have a clear picture of staff's budget expectations allowing us to plan properly for the future."

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

About Denbighshire County Council www.denbighshire.gov.uk/

Denbighshire County Council is the governing body for the principal area of Denbighshire, one of the administrative subdivisions of Wales. The council consists of a multi-party cabinet led by Councillor Hugh Evans, Independent Member for Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern.

About Advanced Business Solutions www.advancedcomputersoftware.com/abs

Advanced Business Solutions (ABS) provides leading integrated business applications and services that enable public, private and third sector organisations to retain control, improve visibility and gain efficiencies whilst continually improving corporate performance. ABS prides itself on getting close to its customers by understanding their businesses and responding to their evolving needs.

ABS's software systems comprise core accounting/financial management, procurement, human resource and payroll systems, integrated with a range of collaborative, document management and business intelligence solutions to extend the value and effectiveness of the finance, human resource and payroll departments, which can also be delivered as a managed or bureau service option.

Customers come from both public and private sectors and include Companies House, Newcastle City Council, WH Smith, Royal Bank of Scotland, Aer Lingus, National Express Group, DFS, RSPB and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust.

Advanced Business Solutions is a division of Advanced Computer Software Group plc, a leading supplier of software and IT services to the health, care and business services sectors.

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