

Challenge

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) had partnered with a FTSE 100 listed Systems Integration supplier (SI) to run the FCO's Technology Overhaul Programme. Their role was to provide a turn-key solution and expert resource to migrate legacy-based IT systems to the Cloud.

However the SI's inability to provide appropriate resources quickly enough had left the programme behind on both time and budget and in danger of not meeting the objectives of reducing costs and modernizing and the IT Estate.

Solution

Methods created a delivery team led by a senior director with oversight from the Chief Executive. The day to day running of the service was led by a senior account manager, supported by a team of dedicated delivery and administration staff, including a security officer to expedite the required security clearances.

The service was underpinned by a stringent governance process, including review meetings, onsite visits, telephone/e-mail contact and tailored progress/MI reporting to ensure that the overall service and individual work packages met agreed KPIs and quality standards.

Methods delivered consultancy services across three work packages with agreed outcomes, as below:

Work Package 1

Decommissioning Strategy for Technology Overhaul Programme

Methods delivered:



A decommissioning and migration strategy document.



A decommissioning plan including dependency mapping and resource planning.



Tabulated commercial contract milestones (including breakpoints and extension arrangements) across the full footprint of the TO program.



A commercial strategy document supporting procurement and spend decisions.



An Excel financial model, which captured tracking and totalising of savings / benefit realisation, including an options model with pricing data so that scenarios could be modelled for unidentified migrations.

Why did the FCO select Methods?

Following a competitive tender process, Methods was engaged to provide skilled and experienced consultants at pace. Methods demonstrated a detailed understanding of the FCO's requirements having successfully delivered similar services to many other public bodies. Methods provided profiles of experienced consultants who could be deployed to the client's site quickly and offered value for money. Methods also demonstrated its ability to work collaboratively to deliver the FCO's desired outcomes.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Technology Overhaul Programme

Work Package 2

Exit Strategy for ECHO WAN and Telephony contract

Methods experience of this type of contract exit supported the move to a disaggregated Crown Commercial Service model and the delivery of uninterrupted telecommunication services to the FCO' network of over 550 offices in over 170 countries, and early time-to-benefits realisation

Work Package 3

ERP Replacement Cloud Readiness Assessment

This included:

- Technical and business roadmaps, plans and milestones
- Business improvement priorities – a hierarchy with outline costings – with cost / benefit analysis and scale of business change delta / challenge
- Options analysis and recommendations for the migration to the Cloud, spanning applications, data, infrastructure and support / maintenance .
- Technical route map
- The bill of materials with commentary on Oracle licensing and input to inform the procurement / negotiation
- Input into the detailed Business Case such that it can go forward for approval
- ROM cost model – extremely robust because we were sharing our extensive commercial / financial benchmarks in this area



Results

All aspects of the three work packages were delivered to time and within budget.

Saving the FCO
approximately

£3million

over the course of the contract.

Feed back from FCO

"I had high-performing, credible people doing challenging jobs arriving mid-project and having to pick-up and run. I am attracted to the collegiality of Methods...the mixed Methods and (incumbent) team are working well together. This enabled us to up our game, progress at a faster rate, delivering a more comprehensive and professional service, resulting in the budget being back on track..."

Office locations:

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