Gloucestershire County Council

Gloucestershire County Council is a British county council which administers the most strategic local government services in the non-metropolitan county of Gloucestershire, in South West England. The council's principal functions are county roads and rights of way, social services, education and libraries, but it also provides many other local government services in the area it covers.

Background

Since 2007, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) has been using SAP's ERP Central Component (ECC), the previous generation of SAP's enterprise resource planning software. ECC provides modules covering a full range of applications including finance, logistics, HR, product planning and customer service linked together into a single, customisable system run on a database.

With SAP ECC being replaced by S/4HANA by 2027, organisations like GCC, are making early strides to prepare for the move, and reviewing the data that sits within their systems to ensure a most efficient transition that is both cost-effective and space efficient.

Industry:
Public Sector

Application:
Archiving – SAP Rightsizing

Product:
SAP ILM

"We specifically wanted to source a supplier via the G-Cloud framework because we knew the criteria that was needed to gain approval to this service - this meant our evaluation process could be faster, and more focused. Our criteria were precise, we only wanted to engage with suppliers that had key specialist skills in SAP, predominately SAP Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) and of course experienced with archiving strategy. When we reviewed the suppliers, we found only one that met that criteria and that's when we began our discussions with Proceed Group."

- Nick Lewis, Business Services Technical Lead at GCC

G-Cloud paved the way for engagement with Proceed specialists

In the last year, GCC started its process of looking to rightsize its data in preparation for its future move to S/4 HANA®, and potentially the cloud in the coming months and years. Realising the need to scale back the level of data it retained, GCC looked to the government led G-Cloud framework to find help with the process. The G-Cloud is a government initiative that helps customers in the UK public sector find and buy cloud computing services, both faster and easier. Suppliers to the service are accepted on the basis of meeting strict, and stringent government security standards and to offer services that ease the procurement process and provide value to buyers. Having been an approved supplier of G-Cloud for some years, Proceed Group was one of only a handful of suppliers that were able to meet the needs of GCC precisely.

Analysing existing data in preparation for archiving

The outset of the project focused on analysis of the existing data that sat within GCC's system, gaining an understanding of what data was taking up the most amount of space, and then based upon the findings making a decision about what would be archived. This would make the elimination process easier, but also set a precedent for data that needed to be archived in the future.

This archiving process worked hand in glove with GCC's business retention strategy, with data that needed to remain on their production system and that which could be archived. Importantly, the GCC still needed access to archived data, which has been achieved by the use of SAP ILM which sets and automates the applied rules of data residency on their production system, and retention periods once archived will keep their data growth to a minimum, now and in the future.

With the archiving and deletion process automated using SAP ILM , rules have been built so that the archiving process implemented by Proceed will cap infrastructure and data growth, which in turn will reduce costs and hopes to gain improvements in performance with less data being searched for within applications.
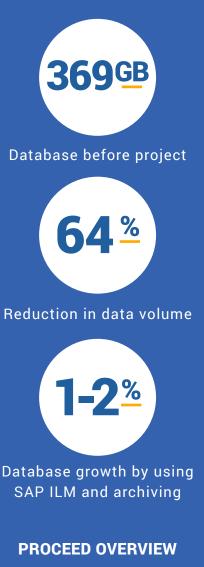
> *"We've been delighted with our experience of working with Proceed Group, their depth of expertise and support they offer through every stage of the process has been excellent. We wouldn't hesitate to using both Proceed and the G-Cloud service again."*
>
> **- Nick Lewis**

Contact us to find out more

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PROJECT STATS

369GB

Database before project

64%

Reduction in data volume

1-2%

Database growth by using SAP ILM and archiving

PROCEED OVERVIEW

Proceed Group has been running data management projects for over twenty years – helping hundreds of customers worldwide.

Our services include SAP archiving, content management as well as the decommissioning of SAP and non-SAP systems.

This combined with our team of expert consultants and our range of state of the art products, is the key to delivering success for our customers.