

Lancashire County Council
Lancashire Fire and Rescue
Lancashire Police Authority

Lancashire, England

www.lancashire.gov.uk
www.lancashire.police.uk
www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk

Industry

Public Sector

Employees

44,000

Excel4apps products

and services:

GL Wand



“GL Wand has given our finance users a very flexible tool with the ability to produce financial data efficiently and in the presentation format required. As a vendor, Excel4apps was easy to establish communication with and always available when we needed support.”

– Paul Simpson, Lancashire County Council.



Background

Lancashire County Council (LCC) is the 5th largest council in the UK and the upper-tier local authority for the non-metropolitan county of Lancashire, England. Lancashire Constabulary provides policing services across Lancashire and the Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service is the countywide, statutory emergency fire and rescue service for the Shire county of Lancashire, England.

Challenges

- There are some 1400 Oracle Financials users in LCC including 800 GL users.
- LCC needed a package that was flexible, user-friendly and which provided summary information.
- Training the end users needed to be easy, with minimum intervention by the implementation team.
- Core Oracle reporting was not delivering on any of this.

Solution

- GL Wand is licensed for over 180 users as part of LCC’s Oracle implementation, the licenses are split between the County Council, Fire and Rescue and Police Authority.
- GL Wand enabled instant transfer to Excel, and proved to be user-friendly, easy to install and compatible with existing practices. Training was exceptional, effortless and quick, delivered in-house in a half-day informal classroom session, followed by several brief workshops.
- As stated on the GL Wand packaging, the software “installs in minutes” and this was done at each PC. It is effectively an Excel add-in and is installed via a .exe file.

Benefits

- There is no summary account templates used in the LCC Oracle Core, but “parent data” can be extracted quickly via GL Wand.
- Data from the Oracle financial system was instantly available in Excel.
- LCC accountants were familiar with Excel and only required minimum additional knowledge to get the data they require.
- No restrictions on layout, as each individual cell is defined.
- Dynamic data or snapshot.
- Reports can be shared via end users rather than system administrator.
- Data is easily combined with “non-Oracle” data.
- No import/export required.
- One click refresh within Excel, at row, range, sheet or workbook level.

GL Wand typical uses

- Budget Monitoring Statements
- Management Accounts
- Government Returns
- Grant Claim Forms
- Forecasting
- Control Reports
- Reconciliation Reports

Support

- The vendor provided effective support through their Website, via Email and with Web conferencing software.