



Procurement Trial Projects Case Studies - Background

The Government Construction Strategy aims to change the relationship between clients and industry. The trial projects perform a central role in delivering the Strategy's sustainable 15-20% reduction in costs (when compared with the 2009/10 baseline).

The trial projects test 3 new procurement models (Cost Led Procurement; Integrated Project Insurance; Two Stage Open Book) that were proposed by industry and incorporated within the Strategy. These models draw together and utilise a range of common characteristics, together with specific features, in changing the way government buys construction. In doing so, they therefore bring together existing effective practices and behaviours that leading practitioners are already using in generating the FY 2012/13 savings of £447m.

A delivery group, a support group and trial project mentors are overseeing the programme of trial projects in terms of maintaining progress and gathering evidence of outcomes, with the support of academics led by Constructing Excellence.

Case study reports are therefore an output of monitoring the progress and outcomes of the trial projects. They help ensure government learn from the trial projects, so that the effective characteristics can be rolled out rapidly across government construction projects. Case study reports are produced at four stages: Kick-off Meeting; Brief / Team Engagement; Decision to Build; Build and Occupy.

The reports address savings achieved and highlight the full extent to which the common characteristics, specific features and other key initiatives such as Building Information Modelling, the Infrastructure Procurement Routemap and Government Soft Landings have been implemented. They also highlight important enablers for efficiency relating to the strategic procurement context.

In reporting savings, organisations are using the standard counting method developed for assessing the overarching Strategy related savings. The audited FY 2012/13 cost reductions reported for DEFRA / Environment Agency and Ministry of Justice therefore provide further validation of the savings reported in the two case studies from these central government departments. Moving forward, Cabinet Office will also work with local authority clients to further validate their positions.

The monitoring of the trial projects uses a method developed by the Trial Projects Support Group that is based on an established method used by Constructing Excellence. Nonetheless, given these are the first case studies to be produced, the approach will be refined in the light of industry feedback.

In addition to the full reports related to the four stages, short form case study reports have also been prepared which introduce the other trial projects within the programme. These also identify the project stage that will be covered when the first full report is published for each trial project.

For more information about the case studies or to contact the relevant clients and authors, please e-mail us at: GovernmentConstructionTeam@cabinet-office.gsi.gov.uk