

City of Gold Coast



CITY OF **GOLDCOAST.**

The Challenge

The City of Gold Coast was seeking to replace its existing manual, spreadsheet-based long term planning processes to improve the overall efficiency of the planning process and to deliver high quality, accurate data to support Council's decision-making.

The Solution

The City of Gold Coast has chosen to replace its existing spread-sheet based long term planning model with MAGIQ Financial Planning. Council's existing MAGIQ Budgeting application is fully integrated with the MAGIQ Financial Planning application, which means that the budgetary data is automatically populated within the Long Term Plan model eliminating manual re-entry and processing of data.

The Benefits

The City of Gold Coast is working towards reducing the current quarterly Long Term Plan 'recycle' time of one day to less than an hour to deliver a significant time saving and improvement in business efficiency. Council has chosen to invest the required amount of time and resources to build its long term planning model in order to achieve greater accuracy and transparency of the business data in the long-term.

About City of Gold Coast

Local Government industry

3,500 staff members

580,000 residents

\$1.17b annual budget

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The City of Gold Coast, the second largest local government authority in Australia has invested in the MAGIQ Performance software application to meet its Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) requirements.

MAGIQ Performance is a suite of highly sophisticated and easy to use Budgeting, Financial Planning and Strategic Planning software. The MAGIQ Financial Planning application is designed to provide organisations with a sophisticated and highly automated tool to model and produce their Long Term and Annual Financial Plans.

The City of Gold Coast has chosen to replace its existing spreadsheet based long term planning model with MAGIQ Financial Planning to meet a number of business imperatives including improvements in data transparency and the overall efficiency of the planning process. The MAGIQ software will also address an element of business risk identified by Council's auditors.

Council's existing MAGIQ Budgeting application is fully integrated with the MAGIQ Financial Planning application, which means that the budgetary data is automatically populated within the Long Term Plan model. This removes the need for any manual re-entry of data saving considerable time and improving the overall accuracy and integrity of the data.

According to Steven Corbett, Financial Planning and Business Improvement Accountant, City of Gold Coast, the ultimate goal is to reduce the current quarterly Long Term Plan 'recycle' time of one day to less than an hour.

“Using the spreadsheet based system it currently takes us roughly a day to re-populate and check the data and produce the required reports,” he said. “I'm confident that using MAGIQ we can reduce the time to 'recycle' the Long Term Plan and deliver the key reports to less than an hour and that's a pretty significant business improvement.”

Steven commented that the introduction of MAGIQ Financial Planning would also eliminate business risk associated with the current planning process.

“The current planning system is based on an extremely complex series of spreadsheets and only one person in our team has the required level of expertise and understanding to effectively use them,” said Steven.

Our Auditors have identified this as an area of risk, and consequently we are aiming to have 3 or 4 of the team fully trained in the MAGIQ Financial Planning system.”

The City of Gold Coast has committed to investing the required amount of time and resources to the project upfront, in order to achieve a more efficient and accurate planning process in the long-term.

“We're undertaking a very thorough and thoughtful process initially to make sure we fully understand the planning model and the data requirement,” said Steven.

“MAGIQ Financial Planning has the sophistication and flexibility to deliver pretty much anything and we have identified a number of areas where it will significantly improve the quality of information we can provide, particularly in relation to our Asset Management plans.

It's about fully understanding the level of detail we need to achieve and then building and consistently applying the relevant business rules.”

Council has chosen to run the current system and MAGIQ Financial Planning in parallel, while Steven and his team continue to work to analyse and refine the model.

“We have a very collaborative working relationship with the team at MAGIQ Software and we're working closely with them to make sure we have the necessary system knowledge to create our own business rules and adapt our model over time as we need to,” said Steven.



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About City of Gold Coast

The City of Gold Coast is located in southeastern Queensland and is the second largest local government in Australia. The sixth largest and one of the fastest growing cities in Australia, Council's staff of 3500 deliver a diverse range of services, organisations, activities and facilities for residents and visitors to enjoy.

About MAGIQ Software

MAGIQ Software is an international software business focused on the delivery of the MAGIQ Cloud Enterprise-wide Finance and Administration Platform. MAGIQ Software has more than 500 customers throughout Australia, New Zealand, the USA, the UK, Singapore and South Africa. Key markets include Local Government, Health and Community Services, Utilities, Education and Not for Profit. A highly experienced and skilled team of more than 100 staff deliver local support and development from offices in Napier, Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland, Christchurch and Los Angeles.

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