



Leicestershire. Leicester and Rutland Councils

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Councils select VisionWare's MultiVue Identification Server™ to Bridge Information across Multi-Agency Environments and Improve Children's Services for their Identification Referral and Tracking (IRT) project, "Bridges".

National Trailblazer

As one of ten national 'Information Referral Tracking (IRT) Trailblazers', "Bridges" - a development programme - is working to improve services to build better futures for children, young people and families.

Bridges

"Bridges" is a key part of the plans to carry out the vision of the Government's Green paper, 'Every Child Matters'. By improving information sharing between agencies, it will ensure that all local authorities have a list of services in their area, the services each child has had contact with and the contact details of the relevant professionals who work with them.

Comprehensive Information and Communication System

This exciting project will ensure that children have the best

possible start in life by ensuring that help is available at the right time. Supported by VisionWare's MultiVue Identification Server, an enterprise-wide data integration tool, "Bridges" is creating comprehensive information and communication system and a shared approach to make sure services for vulnerable children work.

Child and Young Person Index

MultiVue will provide a complete child and young person index, from pre-birth to the age of 18. MultiVue will match and integrate demographic data from a multitude of disparate sources, including education, social services, health and Connexions. This demographic data, in addition to an electronic contact directory for all service providers linked to an individual child, will be accessed via a unified, single screen. The index will ensure that the right services are delivered to the right child/young person, based on the most up-to-date information and holistic view of a child/young person.

Joint Working

The councils have a strong record of joint working, good cross-agency information sharing and communication. As "Trailblazers", they will build on this good practice with the aim that all children can reach their full potential.

David Parsons, the County Council's Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care said: "We are delighted to

have achieved this "trailblazer" status and welcome this award. It will enable us to strengthen further our services to vulnerable children. It is a further indication of the Government's confidence in the services Leicestershire County Council provides along with its partners."

[Cllr Gordon Getliffe, Leicester City Council's Cabinet lead for Social Services and Personal Health](#) said: "This offers potential for significantly improving the services offered to children, young people and their families, through strengthening the way the many agencies work together and share information. It will support the development of a local preventive strategy in Leicester."

[Rutland County Council's cabinet portfolio holder for Social Services and Housing, Peter Golden](#) said: "We are delighted to be awarded this additional funding. Working with our partners with this extra funding, we can ensure the most vulnerable people in our community have the best start in life possible."

[Willie Clinton, Sales Director of VisionWare plc](#) said: "The Bridges project involves better communication between agencies and a more common approach between different professionals and better shared information systems. Developments for IRT and effective delivery of joined up services rely heavily on arriving at practical solutions for data sharing. Additionally the challenge of correctly identifying the child across the disparate systems involved has to be solved. MultiVue provides this solution and has acted as the lynchpin of Bridges IRT project providing an open, yet secure architecture that enables the identification, referral and tracking of children and the sharing of key information. MultiVue has enabled the Councils to put in place a highly effective mechanism that ensures the decisions on what services children should receive are based on integrated and up-to-date information"

Adherence to Standards

Based on the Microsoft .NET technology framework, MultiVue is fully eGIF-compliant and adheres to BS7666 – Spatial Datasets for Geographic Referencing – and BS8766 – Person Naming Convention. MultiVue incorporates the highest levels of interoperability and security and fully complies with the Data Protection Act to protect the confidentiality of citizens.

About Bridges

Bridges is for children, young people and families who need extra help. Bridges aims to make getting advice and support easier and, in the long term, improve services. The aim is to make sure all agencies (including schools, health, youth work and social services), work and link well together.

To do this Bridges will set up ways of safely sharing information, helping identify those children that have needs, and help make sure those needs are met. Bridges will:

- Strengthen the way services are provided for children and young people that need help
- Make it easier to get help, and check whether the help is provided properly
- Help find out where more services might be needed
- Make it easier to share information - so avoiding the need to keep repeating the same information

The agencies involved in the Bridges project include:

- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicester City Council
- Rutland County Council
- Connexions Leicestershire
- Connexions Lincolnshire & Rutland
- Children's Fund Sure Start
- Leicestershire Offending Services
- NHS

More information can be found at www.irtbridges.co.uk