







SFT Outcomes

Demonstrating progress with impact

PRIMARY OUTCOME



TECHNOLOGY ENABLED CONSTRUCTION, ASSET MANAGEMENT & USAGE OPTIMISATION



SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Operational PPP Knowledge Forum established to share expertise and best practice

Across Scotland, there are many essential buildings such as schools and hospitals built and maintained through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs).

PPP contracts require the public sector to make monthly payments to a private sector company who in turn ensure the buildings are properly looked after. These historic contracts are often complex and need active management by the public sector.

For over ten years, SFT's Operational Contract Management team has offered and provided support to public bodies on their operational PPP projects which in many cases has led to improved public service delivery and financial savings. The team also formed a collaborative working groups with the NHS to create a specialist team to support all NHS boards in improving PPP contract management.

To help share expertise and best practice across the PPP public sector community across Scotland, the Operational Contract Management team established the Knowledge Forum for PPP public sector professionals to collaborate through the utilisation of an online 'knowledge base'.

The concept was initiated through the north of Scotland collaborative group, developed by SFT using Microsoft SharePoint.

SFT's internal corporate team was instrumental in delivering the proof of concept which was stress tested before being launched in March 2021.

The Forum promotes greater collaboration between public bodies. The benefits for public sector PPP managers are to work closer together, to publish and share new documents, information and lessons learned and to provide a facility to ask questions or seek support from other public sector colleagues in a user friendly and inclusive way.

The Forum benefits individuals where they can sometimes be the only person within their own organisation managing and monitoring operational PPP projects. Instead of the risk of participants becoming isolated, users are actively encouraged to communicate with each other through the Forum when in the process of creating new knowledge, sharing information

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and/or seeking guidance, help or insight from other participants across the operational PPP community.

Once the Forum is fully rolled out, participants within an organisation with relevant experience will only have to upload an answer once for the benefit to be realised across the entire operational PPP community irrespective of geographic location.

Sharon Smith, NPD Contract Manager at NHS Orkney, said: "I have found the PPP Knowledge Forum extremely helpful and easy to use. The forum is user friendly and easy to navigate around, I particularly like the "ask a question" option which I have used to ask for advice from more experienced contract managers. The response to my question was very quick and the advice helped me settle an issue that I had."