

Essex Shared Services

ESSEX COLLEGES ENJOY £80,000 SAVINGS IN FIRST YEAR OF SHARED SERVICE

Formed in 2014, Essex Shared Services provides back-office finance services for two local FE/HE colleges.



Vertical expertise

Unit4 has supplied administration solutions to education customers since 1993 and currently works with 400+ institutions globally.



VALUE DELIVERED

Savings of £80,000 per year just through more efficient deployment of resources.

Optimized information delivery means hand-delivered 'invoice packs' have been replaced with specifically produced, electronically delivered alternatives.

Tax changes mean potential members of the shared service will make additional savings by sharing costs without bearing 20% sales tax cost.

“Savings are being redirected to front line services and there will be more savings to come. As the solution is cloud there is no underutilization of network infrastructure or IT resources and the institutions will only pay for the services used.”

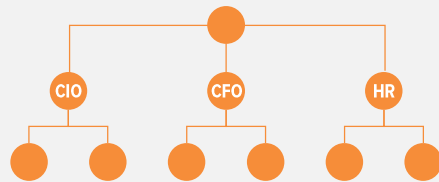
General Manager, Essex Shared Services



OPERATES IN

UK

Customer since
2014



No. of employees
1,400

Why did they need to change?



CHANGE PRESSURES

Governmental Regulations and Compliance

Reorganisation and Restructuring

Mergers and Acquisitions

Business Process Change

Financial Management-Driven Change



ROADBLOCKS

With growth targeted at both colleges coupled with sweeping funding changes, both institutions faced considerable pressure to be more efficient with budgets. In short, they had to do more with less.



RISKS

Without costs diverted from the back office, student services would be negatively affected. This could impact demand for student places and put further pressure on budgets.

How did Unit4 help?

A single back-office sharing finance services to service both institutions.

Crucial to the finance function is a modern, intuitive cloud ERP technology that will scale with the institutions' needs and help to optimize productivity.



What did we achieve?

Monetary savings

Even with growth since go-live we are making savings of £80,000 per year just through more efficient deployment of resources.

Improved operations

Busy teaching staff are dramatically cutting the time they spend on admin and redirecting that time to tutelage. Decisions are being made faster with more accurate information.

Efficiency and governance

A more 'commercially aware' culture has been established. Better information means staff are mindful of the impact budgets have in delivering superb student services.