

DIGITISING SHORT TERM PLANNING

A TIDEWAY EAST CASE STUDY

BACKGROUND

Costain, VINCI Construction Grands Projets and Bachy Soletanche (CVBJV) are the Tideway Delivery Partners for the East Section of the 25km long Thames Tideway Tunnel - London's new Super Sewer. When open, the sewer will prevent the tens of millions of tonnes of pollution that currently pollute the River Thames ever reaching the river.

In 2018, CVBJV implemented Apex (www.aphex.co), a cloud based, short-term planning system developed by a London based startup.

CASE STUDY APPROACH

In 2021, Carolina Toczycka, PHD candidate at the University of Edinburgh undertook research with CVBJV with the goal to understand the impact, if any, of the Apex system on their team and project performance. The study followed the Digital Benefits Toolkit methodology*

RESULTS

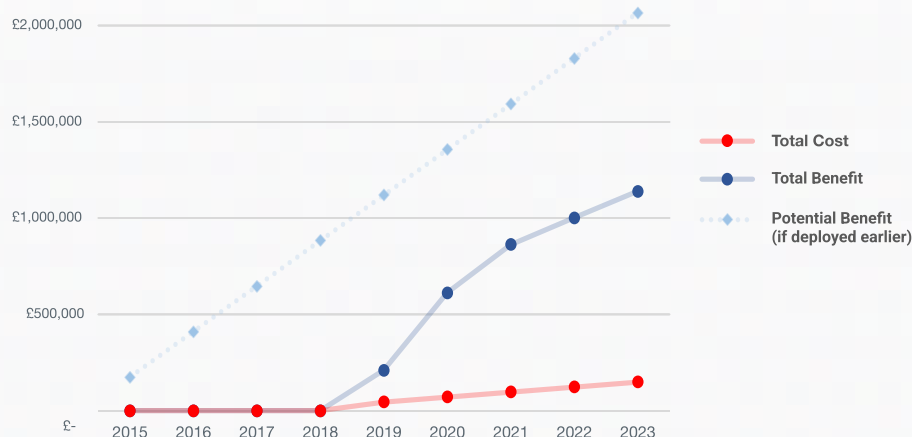
Overall, the implementation of Apex exceeded expectations for CVBJV with the project realising the following benefits;

- **Project benefits of £990,000** to June 2021 with an expected **additional £925,000** of benefit possible had the software been implemented from commencement.
- **Cost benefit ratio of 7.6:1**, with around a third of the impact being financial i.e. real cost savings, as opposed to identified efficiencies.

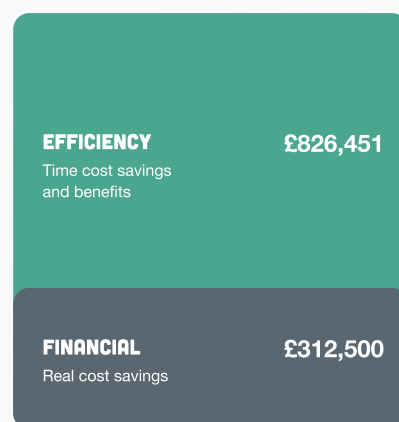
This outcome was driven by positive impacts in a number of areas;

- **Reduction of Claims:** The project identified that objective performance records generated by Apex reduced claim impact by around 5%
- **Planning Efficiency:** Team coordination meetings were able to be reduced to around just 30 mins, resulting in an estimated £167,000 of efficiency savings
- **Increased Accountability:** The use of decentralised planning increased the level of accountability in front line leaders and managers. This resulted in better and more efficient plans that saved programme duration
- **Reduced "Firefighting":** Clear visibility of plans and objectives across the entire team, with reduced reactive activities, or fire fighting, as a consequence of the right people being notified at the right time valued at £170,000
- **Information Availability:** The ability of the system to hold in one place all project plans and targets as well as the information required to deliver those plans resulted in 4 to 5 hours a week in time saved across key roles

COST VS. BENEFIT OVER TIME



PROJECT BENEFITS



*The Digital Benefits Toolkit was developed by the research partnership, and is available on request by contacting Jeremy Galpin (Jeremy.Galpin@costain.com) or Chloe Haynes (chloe@aphex.co)



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