Infoshare helps Nottinghamshire County Council meet Government Troubled Families targets

ClearCore Solution reduces time taken to identify at-risk families from three months to two hours

Kingston-upon-Thames. 22nd May 2013. Infoshare, a leading provider of intuitive software to build single views of people, organisations, and locations, has enabled Nottingham County Council (NCC) to effectively execute the recent Government Troubled Families programme. Under this legislation, which came into effect in 2011, councils are incentivised to identify the families struggling to cope and to find new ways to work with them in the future. Identifying, collating and compiling this data previously took NCC up to three months, but using Infoshare's ClearCore solution reduced analysis time to two hours.

NCC found that pinpointing the families with the greatest need was taking months of painstaking data processing. The complexity of matching information from varied sources was extremely time consuming. A particular issue was that the last names of many children did not match those of the head of the household.

The council selected Infoshare's ClearCore solution to automate matching across multiple agency data sources from the police, youth offending service, health, probation service, education and anti-social behaviour registers. The linked information provided increased detection of Troubled Families, resulting in greater access to additional government funds to support them.

Currently, these families are estimated to cost the country £9 billion per year. The Trouble Families Programme was set up in 2011 to help 120,000 troubled families in England turn their lives around by 2015. In return for its support, and reducing the burden of certain families on the public purse, the Council will receive £2.3m during the lifetime of the programme - saving current and future tax-payers' money.

"Instead of manually checking thousands of pieces of data by hand, we're now able to sift information much more effectively, taking hours rather than months," comments Mary Jarrett, manager of Nottinghamshire County Council's programme of support. "Using the Infoshare product has enabled us to target families who need help much more quickly than in the past.

"Families are responding well to our approach which has included offering parenting advice and support; helping families back into education; and making sure families get to appointments and meetings with doctors, school and probation on time,"

added Mary.

"Successful family intervention reduces the involvement of challenging families in anti-social behaviour by 59%, halves incidents of truancy, exclusion and bad behaviour at school and cuts their involvement in crime by 45%. So identifying the families quickly and accurately is vital," commented Pamela Cook, managing director, Infoshare. "We are currently the only supplier of an evidence, or 'deterministic', based data matching software and it is this approach that has enabled Nottinghamshire County Council to identify families in need that would have previously been lost in the system."

ClearCore works on a unique evidence methodology based on profiling, cleansing and matching data from any application across an organisation. With the emphases on checking that data is fit for purpose by, for example, checking it against any locally created or proprietary Gazetteer (such as post office address files), ClearCore's diagnostic capabilities review and resolve any anomalies and duplications.

It scans all known permutations of historical addresses, individual's names and pseudonyms alongside other possible identifiers, including date of birth, in the match process. The software processes multiple iterations of matching data to identify probably links and can browse hierarchical data as well as incomplete and inaccurate information.

About Infoshare

Infoshare provides intuitive software to build single views of people, organisations, objects and locations to transform inconsistent data into high quality information. This creates a trusted strategic asset from which to gain a real competitive advantage and make evidence-based business decisions to increase revenue, assess risk, control costs, detect fraud and comply with regulation.

The ClearCore "in-a-box" product line provides the power of Infoshare's award winning ClearCore Enterprise software in flexible incremental packages for rapid deployment within data quality initiatives or projects on a rental basis; either on-premise or in the cloud; or across an organisation on a subscription basis.

The ClearCore "in-a-box" suite of products includes gold, silver and bronze packages which provide progressively greater functionality. The technology is widely used across the public and private sectors and has the ability to deliver a unified single view from a few data sources through to best record creation and a fully comprehensive enterprise wide data management solution