

# North of Scotland KTP Centre

## Case Study

[www.ktp-link.co.uk](http://www.ktp-link.co.uk)

# Aberdeen City Council

The aim was to develop and embed a digital observatory capability designed to facilitate file/data sharing in support of partners' performance monitoring, policy, planning and research functions.

## Challenge

There is a vast amount of knowledge in the form of data held by any local authority. However, this data is often held in disparate and disconnected databases and data sets.

This partnership aimed to enable the potential combination and unlocking of data to the point where it is freely available to decision makers and service users for evidence based decision making on performance, policy and planning based.

## Results

The KTP enabled the Council and its partners to establish a capability where partners and Council staff have ease of access to specific data currently stored in multiple data banks. The Aberdeen Data Observatory (ADO) was created and observed a growing interest in its usage as staff became aware of its capabilities. Additional uptake was gained when staff members realised that it moved beyond the old forms of data and could also overlay the datasets onto heat maps. This raised interest at the national level via Skills Development Scotland, who are interested in how this can be used for their DataHub datasets.

## Benefits

The observatory enabled access to a comprehensive set of data that provided the basis for an evidence based research approach to inform policy and planning decisions. The ADO facilitated and helped those involved in service delivery and service users' access and use the information they need. This approach can now be rolled out to other areas of Aberdeen City Council's operations, as the Council will extend the project for five years.

Knowledge  
Transfer  
Partnerships



UNIVERSITY  
OF ABERDEEN



Aberdeen City Council is a local authority with legislative and administrative responsibility. There are four directorates within the Council and the KTP project was located within Education and Children's Services.



*"Our partnership was extremely successful in terms of achieving the objectives and outputs for Aberdeen City Council and providing the basis for building future collaboration with the University of Aberdeen and wider partners. We deployed simple ideas to achieve great results."*

**Mr Kevin Stelfox**  
Team Leader

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