



# Support to a mobile, high-capacity communications network

## THE CLIENTS' CHALLENGE

A government department required support to run the concept phase and secure Initial Gate Business Case (IGBC) approval for a £400M, high-capacity communications network. Success would move the project onto the assessment phase.

To support this project, VIMA Group (VIMA) was tasked with establishing project controls and to provide skills training support for the team, as well as provide specialist commercial advice.

## BRINGING A LASTING LEGACY

Our project management consultants facilitated upskilling within the team through coaching and mentoring. VIMA also produced a Project Controls Start-Up Guide for new-in-post project managers. These best practices were implemented within the MOD team and throughout the department.

## HOW WE HELPED

VIMA worked collaboratively alongside the project team and provided the following support:

- Created the project schedule and facilitated monthly schedule reviews.
- Produced the project's Resource Management Strategy and Plan.
- Facilitated monthly risk, issue, assumption and dependency reviews and maintained the associated registers and plans.
- Performed schedule risk analysis on critical path activities.
- Worked with the Programme Management Office to develop a 'model schedule template' for Concept Phase activities.
- Engaged with the Government's Scrutiny and Assurance community to obtain buy-in to Initial Gate Business Case (IGBC) approvals strategy and route to IGBC.
- Worked with the Cabinet Office, HMT and Government Digital Services departments to understand the external controls applicable to the project.
- Provided specialist commercial advice.
- Engaged with the wider department community to understand cross-project dependencies and assumptions.
- Developed Costed and Evidenced Options to present at Initial Gate.
- Developed the cost model and a defined and credible set of acquisition options.



## ACHIEVING SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

The IGBC was approved, and the project moved onto the assessment phase. Additionally, VIMA:

- Provided knowledge and skills transfer to the client's project team, via one-to-one training, coaching, development support and mentoring. This included training for scheduling, time-recording and project controls activities.
- Introduced effective project controls, including risk, opportunity, issue and dependency management processes. This best practice was implemented and embedded within the MOD team and throughout the department.
- Employed an evidence-based approach to justify and substantiate findings for the Initial Gate Business Case.
- Produced a defined and credible set of acquisition options for the project, which were matched to the technical content, wider programme views and supply chain characteristics, with an assessment of time, cost, and performance. This enabled the Senior Responsible Owner to make an informed decision on the project's direction.



## CAPABILITIES WE PROVIDED



*"VIMA have supplied a perfect match of skills to budget ratio in an extremely austere climate. This high performing team has produced excellent results over a very short time and is performing above expectations, delivering more than the sum of the CVs alone would indicate."*

**Sean Mallon**, *Project Director*



Contact **Darren** to find out how our capabilities can meet your requirements



Connect with **Darren**



[darren.matthews@vima-group.co.uk](mailto:darren.matthews@vima-group.co.uk)