

How LocalGov Drupal continues to innovate

Sheffield City Council and Big Blue Door

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Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Phase 1

- **Initial migration of both public site and Intranet for speed into LGD**
    - Automated content migration from Adobe Experience Manager
- **Initially carried across the previous look and feel for speed and efficiency**
- **Drivers for the project initially:**
    - Cost (LGD has proven to be much more cost effective)
    - Adobe was complicated and custom built - LGD comes with so much to start with
    - The ability for the Council to co-work on its own platform across disciplines
    - In house hosting so the deployment pipeline was challenging - took a significant amount of in-house team resource for core support tasks

Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Phase 1

- **Drivers continued:**
    - Expensive AEM developers and difficult to source even with a partner agency
    - AEM is often used by large companies (BP, Formula 1 etc) rather than the public sector
        - We felt like a small / niche client
    - Wanted a CMS that could be extended internally for more control
    - Liked the LocalGov Drupal collaboration aspect – could start small and build over time
    - Needed a more resilient hosting environment which was supported by an agency for resilience, redundancy etc – allowing our team to focus on content design, UX and customer journeys
    - We wanted wider security considerations to predominantly sit with a partner

Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Phase 1

- **Partnership approach:**
    - Agency support (Big Blue Door initially for the main site and Intranet builds including content migration)
    - Hosting taken care of and testing, standards, deployments
    - In house development which has grown gradually (we like the flexible model)
        - Not Drupal, PHP or LGD specialists initially but knew CSS and HTML
        - Started with theming tasks to build confidence
        - Now much more established - still quite a high learning curve (~12 months into this journey)
    - Open transparent platforms to collaborate e.g. PivotalTracker, Slack
    - Development tasks split across the group (in-house and agency)

Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Phase 2

- **Retheme of core content types and global styles to reflect LGD templates**
- **Originally had a large UX project for phase 1 - now moving back towards LGD to exploit functionality that is already there**
- **More engagement with LGD community as the core team has grown**
    - Decision to actively push code & features to the community
- **Microsites - huge push in this area: over 10 sites and more to come**
    - advertising.sheffield.gov.uk, council-plan.sheffield.gov.uk, fostering.sheffield.gov.uk, health-wellbeing.sheffield.gov.uk, knowledge.sheffield.gov.uk, lifelong-learning.sheffield.gov.uk, local-area-committees.sheffield.gov.uk, seeitbeit.campaign.sheffield.gov.uk, south-west.sheffield.gov.uk, bigchallenge.campaign.sheffield.gov.uk

Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Phase 2 - Expanding the partnership of involved parties

- **Sheffield City Council**
    - Product Owner
    - Delivery team: 2 x in-house developers (BE & FE), design and UX lead, interaction designer and user researcher, content production
- **Big Blue Door**
    - Devops (Hosting via AWS), Support and Maintenance, Delivery standards (Drupal coding standards), Deployment pipeline
- **Entec Si**
    - Consultants supporting with digital strategy and implementation plan
- **Rohallion for development of phase 2 (new theme across more traditional LGD content types)**
- **Independent designer**

Ability to bring in external support as needed in terms of capacity, skills etc – supplier agnostic

Our LocalGov Drupal journey

Innovative uses of LocalGov Drupal

- **LocalGov Drupal as an Intranet**
    - Sheffield City Council
        - Intranet redesign and purpose review currently underway
        - Considering using LGD for a new knowledge base with global search
    - Rutland County Council
    - Worcestershire County Council
- **Features:**
    - Single SignOn - integration with SAML-based SSO solutions (e.g. Azure Active Directory, Entra ID, Shibboleth)

Any questions?