

Service Definition: Mercur Business Control

1. Executive Summary & Mission

Mercur Business Control is a premier Performance Management solution designed to become the **de facto standard for Section 151 (S151) Officers** and their finance teams within the UK public sector.

Our mission is to empower Local Government finance leaders with a unified platform for both **Revenue and Capital Budget Setting and Monitoring**. By replacing disjointed spreadsheets or outdated systems with a single, secure source of truth, we enable S151 officers and their team to deliver financial sustainability, transparency, and rigorous control over public funds.

2. High-Performance Technology

At the heart of our service lies Mercur's **Veloxic** database technology. Unlike traditional tools that force you to aggregate data, Veloxic is built for **transactional-level detail**.

- **Scalable Architecture:** Designed to handle massive volumes of data without performance degradation, ensuring you can drill down from a high-level dashboard to an individual invoice or journal entry instantly.
- **In-Memory Processing:** Delivers sub-second response times even when crunching complex allocations or multi-year forecasts.
- **Transactional Granularity:** maintain a complete audit trail and granular insight into every penny of spend, supporting the rigorous audit requirements of the public sector.

3. Comprehensive Capabilities

3.1. Unlimited Dimensionality & Data Sources

Mercur Business Control removes the structural limits that hold back finance teams.

- **Unlimited Dimensions:** Analyse your data by an infinite number of attributes—Cost Centre, CIPFA Code, Project, Fund Source, Supplier, or Strategic Objective—without compromising speed
- **Unlimited Data Sources:** Seamlessly integrate data from ERPs (SAP, Oracle, Unit4, etc.), HR and Establishment cost systems, Project, Property Management, and Housing systems into a unified model.
- **Unlimited Scenario Planning:** Model "What-If" scenarios without restriction. distinct versions for Best Case, Worst Case, Inflationary Pressures, or Grant Reductions to stress-test your financial resilience.

3.2. Full Business Intelligence (BI) Suite

The solution converges CPM (Corporate Performance Management) with high-end BI, eliminating the need for separate reporting tools.

- **Dynamic Dashboards:** Visualise KPI trends, RAG (Red-Amber-Green) status, and variance analysis on a single screen.
- **Drill-Through Analysis:** Navigate intuitively from a strategic board report down to the underlying transactional evidence.
- **Self-Service Reporting:** Empower non-financial budget holders to run their own reports, reducing the burden on the central finance team.

3.3. Revenue & Capital Management

Specifically engineered to handle the complexities of public sector accounting:

- **Revenue Monitoring:** Detailed variance analysis, salary forecasting, and virements management.

- **Capital Programme:** Manage multi-year capital schemes, funding sources (grants, borrowing, receipts), and slippage profiling with ease.

4. Operational Excellence

4.1. Live Proof of Concept (PoC) & Test Environment

We believe in proving value before purchase.

- **Live PoC:** We offer a "Live Proof of Concept" trial using your **own data**, allowing you to validate the solution against your specific Budgeting, Planning & Reporting requirements.
- **Test Environment:** A dedicated test environment is included, enabling you to safely trial new report structures, data integrations, or budget models without impacting your production data.

4.2. Security & Compliance

- **Gov-Ready Security:** Hosted on ISO 27001 / SSAE-18 certified infrastructure.
- **Cyber Essentials Plus:** Fully certified organization
- **Role-Based Access:** Granular control ensuring budget holders only see their relevant cost centres.

5. Why Mercur Business Control?

We are not just providing software; we are partnering with the public sector to 'upscale' financial forecasting. By combining **unlimited scalability** with a specific focus on the needs of **S151 Officers**, Mercur Business Control provides the robust, transactional-level insight required to navigate the complexities of modern local government finance.