Choosing the future

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Who are Christian Aid?

- An international development agency working in 37 countries
- Set up by the churches of Britain and Ireland and are still serving them over 70 years later
- Supporting communities to fight the injustice of poverty, with people of all faiths and none
- Our work in Britain and Ireland is focussed on fundraising and campaigning





Who are Adapta?

- A specialist information systems consultancy
- We only work with membership organisations, charities, associations, trusts and others in the NfP sector
- We are completely supplier-independent
- Our consultants have held senior positions in a broad range of different organisations
- Our advice and guidance is based on practical experience gained over many years





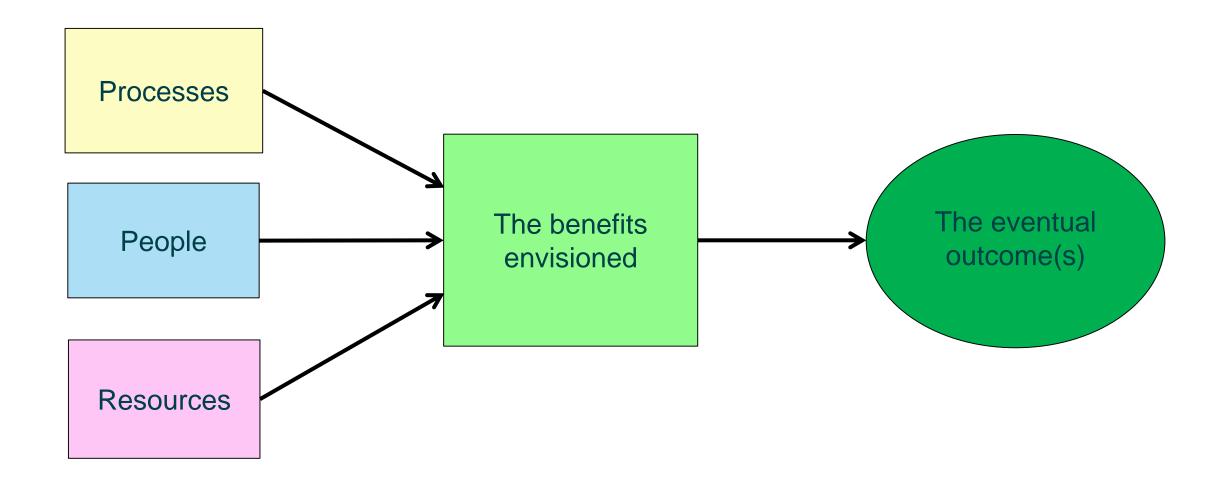
Mapping out a future

- Worked with Adapta Consulting to help us to determine what our vision was for the future
- Existing CRM, Ascent, reaching end of its life
- Drew on stakeholders throughout our supporter-facing teams to workshop their vision for the future
- Used Benefits Mapping
- Clear idea of hopes, and a foundation

to build requirements from







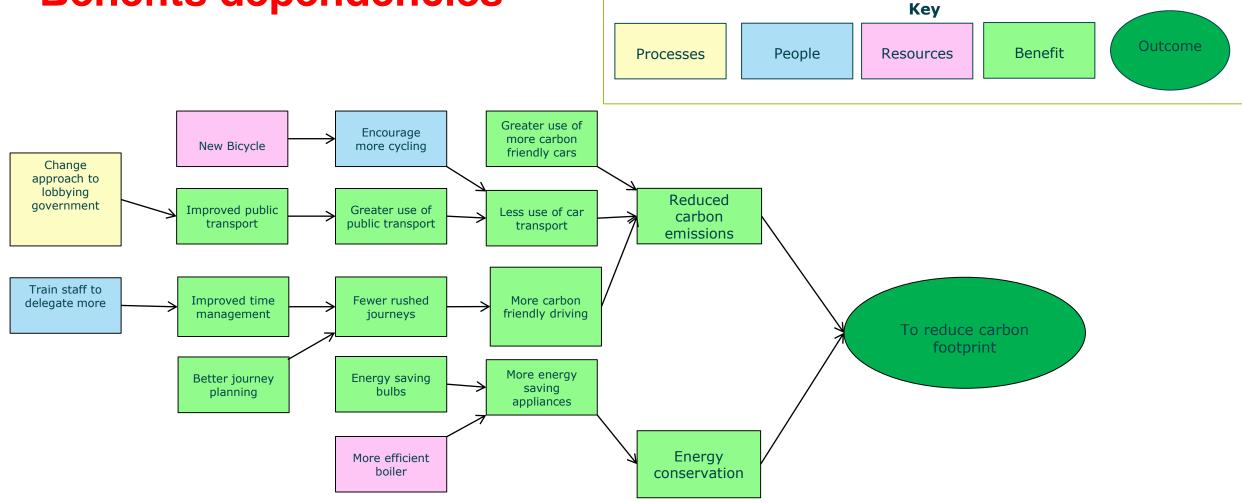
Basic Concept of a Benefits Map

Starting at the desired end result, you look at what needs to happen to reach that goal: some of those actions will be a benefit in themselves, some will be people, resource or process changes





Benefits dependencies





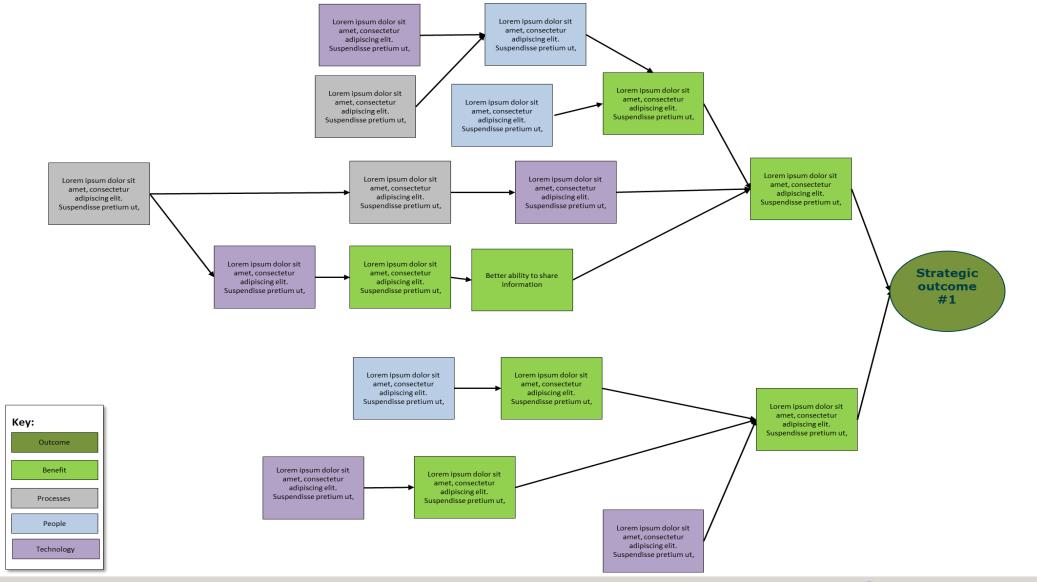


Post-it heaven



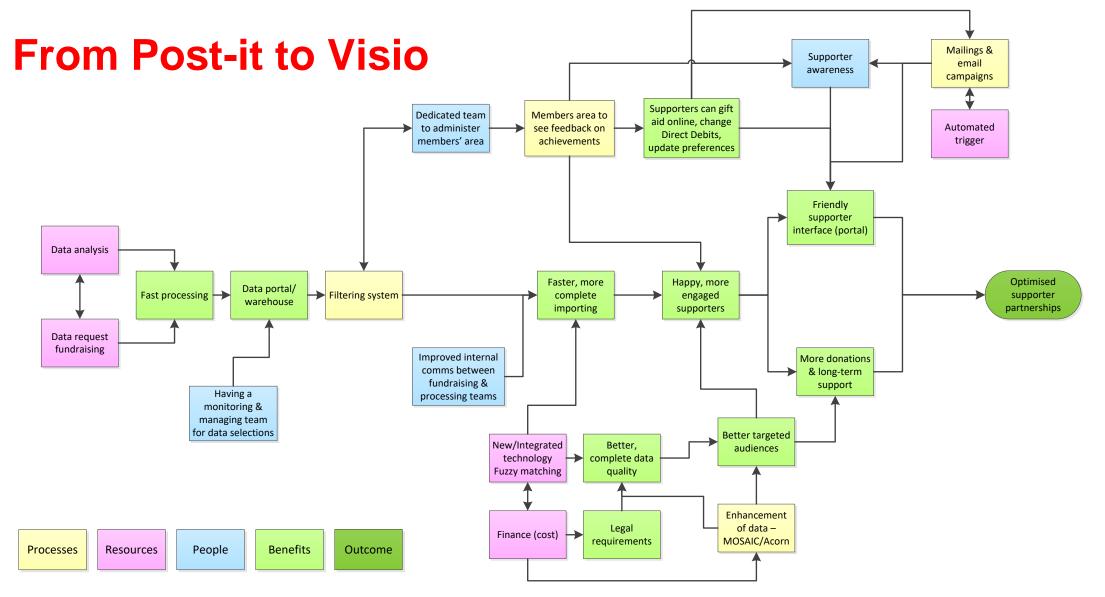






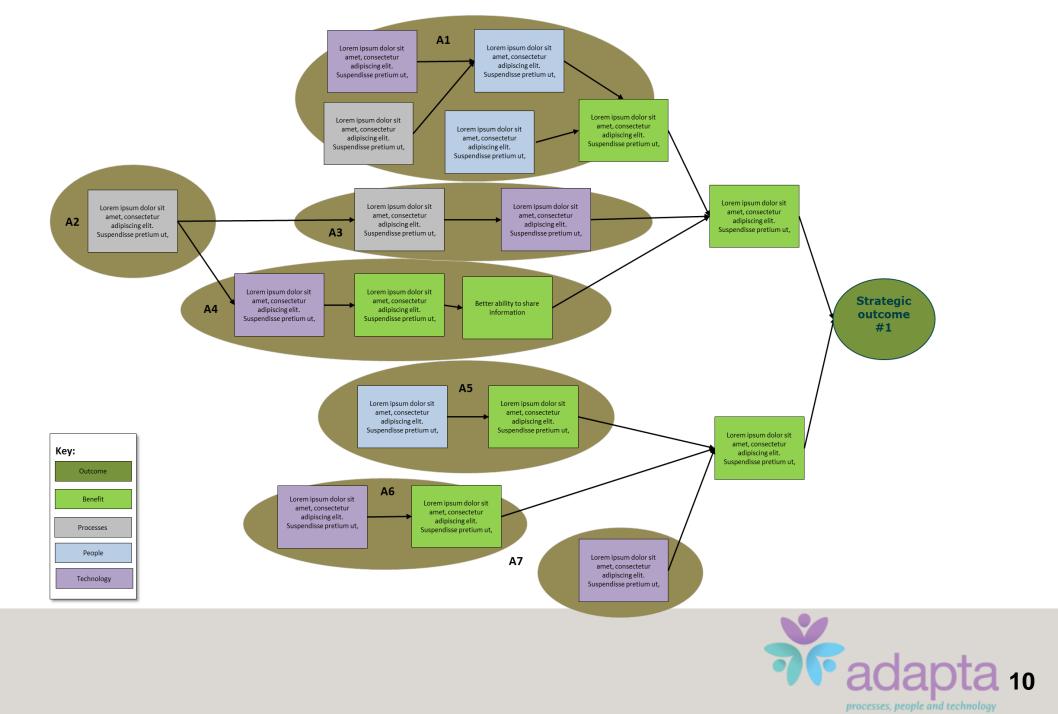






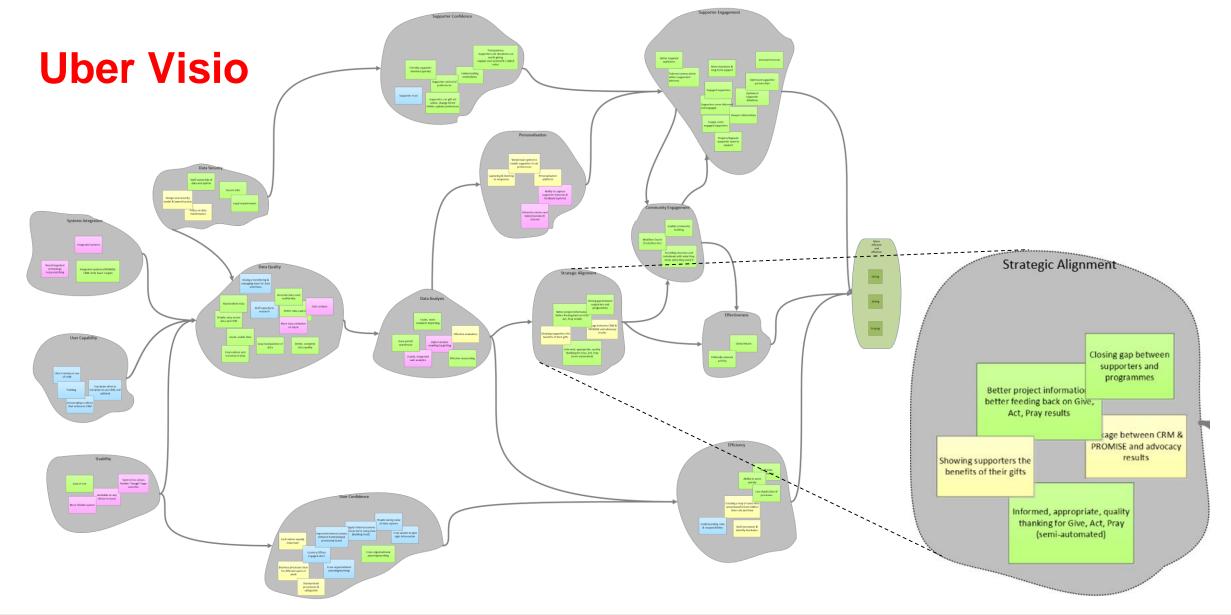






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processes, people and technology







	Project	Project ownership	SI staff effort	Dept. staff effort	External cost											
	complexity		(days per month)	(days per month)	(£000s)	W1	W2	W3 W4	W5	W6 W7	W8	W9 V	V10 W	11 W1	2 W13	3 W14
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Desired benefits

- A CRM which gave us a 360° view of our supporters
- A tailored supporter journey; recognising their interests and engagements with Christian Aid through Give Act Pray
- A more user-friendly, intuitive system
- An integrated digital marketing platform
- A system that allowed supporter self-service
- A solution that fitted and grows with the evolving digital landscape
- A GDPR-ready solution





Our key questions from Benefits Mapping

- Can our current system, Ascent, live up to the way we want to work now and in the future?
- What are the CRM software packages available on the market for the not-for-profit sector?
- Which of those systems are the best fit for the way we would like to work?





Selection Process

We took our time to ensure we made the right choice

6 month process

- Longlisting suppliers
- Invitation to tender
- Shortlist to 4
- Supplier presentations
- Shortlist to 2
- Prototyping, due diligence and reference site visits





Why Dynamics?

- Little difference in capability between Salesforce and Dynamics
- A "Microsoft first" policy
- Integration with existing software
- Familiar look and feel for users
- Clarity on pricing
- A supplier which suited Christian Aid





Fast forward a year

- Christian Aid went live with phase one on 1 May
- It hasn't been easy
- It hasn't always gone to plan
- We have learnt a huge amount
- However, we know we made the right choice for Christian Aid
- Our staff and supplier's technical team work together as one





Learning Points

- You need a good project manager
- It helps to have the project manager involved in the selection process
- Be clear about what matters to you and your organisation
- Expect it to take a long time and for things to go wrong
- Data migration takes a massive amount of time and energy
- Don't be afraid to ask for external help you are not expected to know how to do this from scratch!
- Find a supplier who will work alongside you as a partner, and will be there with you when things go wrong





Any questions?

If you would like to chat further about Christian Aid's CRM journey, please feel free to contact us:

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