



Streamlining Business Rules with OGRE: Grant Computation with MSF



What was OGRE used for?

The Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) manages 150 grants with its own unique computation rules, processes, and funding models. The diversity and complexity of these rules makes it unsustainable to repeatedly hardcode logic across multiple systems.

This resulted in the following challenges:

1. Long system development cycles where one new grant could take up to a year to implement.
2. Officers spend significant time on manual work, relying on Excel to compute grants.
3. Audits and compliance difficulties as processes differ across divisions.

The Optimal Government Rule Engine (OGRE) provides a “golden template” approach where new grants can be deployed quickly without reinventing the wheel. This is by standardising grant computation and reducing manual effort.

A rules engine is a key component of MSF's modernisation journey. Beyond grants computation, there is a range of possible use cases. Having a secure technology stack enables faster time-to-market and serves as a building block to streamline and simplifying implementation of complex business rule.



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What are the benefits?

1. Automating funding calculations saved about 56 hours per year (~14 hours per quarter for 2 officers combined) for MSF's proof-of-value testing with OGRE for the Family Service Centre programme.
2. Officers can focus on serving citizens, rather than wrestling with complex rules, as MSF lays the foundation for a holistic and future-proof grants management framework.
3. Faster time-to-market for grants, with a secure technology stack.
4. Minimise reliance on vendors to make grant rule changes.



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With OGRE, we can make policy changes and see them take effect immediately. It's a huge improvement from our vendor reliance process. OGRE's development team is highly responsive, providing guidance, sharing best practices, and supporting users to ensure smooth adoption and effective rule authoring.

How to adopt it?

MSF referenced OGRE's [developer documentation](#) and worked closely with the OGRE team for support and training. MSF piloted the use of OGRE as a central rules-based computation engine for grants. This enabled the creation of reusable funding blocks templates that can be applied across different schemes/programmes.