



Restoring accuracy and efficiency: Streamlining Grants Computation with OGRE



The Context

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

This resulted in long system development cycles where one new grant could take up to a year to implement. Officers also spent significant time on manual work, relying on Excel to compute grants. Processes differed across divisions, which made audits and compliance difficult.

MSF needed a way to standardise and accelerate grant computation, reduce manual effort, and move closer to a “golden template” approach where new grants could be deployed quickly without reinventing the wheel.

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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The Solution

MSF piloted the use of OGRE (Optimal Government Rule Engine) 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.

MSF manages approximately 150 grants today. During their proof-of-value testing with OGRE for the Family Service Centre (FSC) programme, automating funding calculations saved about 56 hours per year (~14 hours per quarter for 2 officers combined). Given that this represents just one programme among MSF's 150 grants, expanding OGRE's usage could deliver significantly greater time savings and operational impact.



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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.

By adopting OGRE, MSF is laying the foundation for a holistic and future-proof grants management framework. Grants can now be computed consistently, faster, and with less manual effort, allowing officers to focus more on serving citizens rather than wrestling with complex rules.