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"WE'VE PIONEERED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN DEAL WITH THE SCALE AND COMPLEXITY OF GENOMICS SEQUENCING DATA."

Dave Brown, Head of Infrastructure, Genomics England

Who is Genomics England?

Sector: Health and social care

Headquarters: London

Size: 1,500 NHS staff, 2,500 researchers

Genomics England is a company owned by the Department of Health and Social Care. It runs the 100,000 Genomes Project – the largest national sequencing project of its kind in the world. The project aims to sequence 100,000 genomes from NHS patients with a rare disease and their families, and from patients with cancer.

THREE MONTHS TO GET READY TO RECEIVE DATA

When Dave Brown joined Genomics England as Head of Infrastructure, he had to get things moving fast. He had just three months to get a platform ready to receive the first data from the 100,000 Genomes Project.

"We needed infrastructure that was quick to buy and set up. Only a cloud platform available on a government framework contract could deliver," says Brown.

The main challenges he faced were finding a platform that:

- Could be up and running to meet the deadline
- Met security and resilience requirements
- Offered a range of connectivity options for different types of user

SERVICES

Sovereignty and security

Accreditation and certification

Multiple connectivity options including N3

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SECURE, RESILIENT AND READY TO USE

Brown used the Digital Marketplace to find a cloud provider on the G-Cloud framework. Why did he choose UKCloud?

"UKCloud is a leader in its field: a mature company with the resources and breadth of services we needed. And unlike some of the other providers we looked at, their cloud platform was real and ready to use."

The UKCloud platform's location does away with data residency and protection issues. The platform has all the industry accreditations and certifications Brown was looking for, as well as dual–data centre resilience. And it offers dedicated, internet and N3 connectivity options to meet the needs of different user groups.

PIONEERING A REPEATABLE PLATFORM

Genomics England and UKCloud worked together to get the platform ready in time to support the project. UKCloud:

- Provides the Compute as a Service platform for data processing and analysis
- Hosts and manages specialised storage equipment for up to 24Pb of data, which is owned by Genomics England and integrated into the cloud environment

"Working with UKCloud, we've pioneered the definition and development of a computing environment that can deal with the scale and complexity of genomics sequencing data," says Brown.

It's also a repeatable environment. So other NHS bodies and hospitals doing genetics sequencing can buy the infrastructure they need from UKCloud, quickly and easily via the G-Cloud framework.

Business benefits:

• Rapid procurement and setup
UKCloud infrastructure procured via the Digital Marketplace and ready to use in three months

• UK sovereignty
UK-based cloud platform meets security, residency and protection requirements for sensitive data

• Repeatable infrastructure
A repeatable cloud infrastructure designed to handle the scale and complexity of genomics sequencing data

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