



Scientific Age Assessment

Challenge

The Home Office receive over 5k applications from unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) to the UK but most UASC are unable to provide documentary evidence of their date of birth.

To provide additional evidence and ensure a more robust classification process, the Home Office considered the introduction of scientific age assessments. Biological analysis of 3 different skeletal body parts using two differing techniques will provide a cross reference result to determine person's age: Radiograph (X-ray) teeth combined with MRI analysis of their knee, wrist or clavicle.

Solution

- ✓ Austin Elliot Business Analysts conducted a Discovery phase, collaborating with the Home Office, ACE, Scientific Community, Social Workers, and Local Authorities to establish what a future Assessment tool might look like.
- ✓ The team identified a combination of both functional and non-functional requirements, conducted process mapping to identify pain points and system weaknesses, and conducted market research on available solution options.
- ✓ Recommended solutions were presented at a Capability Demonstration Day, with a detailed Business Requirement Document delivered to progress the business case.

Digital Capability

Results

Project delivery: Austin Elliot's team completed the discovery phase ahead of schedule enabling significant budget savings through their efficiency, versatility, and dynamic working practices.

Business analytics: Austin Elliot delivered a proof-of-concept model, utilising a programme of workshops, and engaging with a diverse body of stakeholders to draw out all possible requirements, and undertake a deep-dive into COTS options.

Technical delivery: Provided the Home Office with the tools and data to appoint the right vendor for the product they required and pursue subsequent phases of the project.

