

Notes for Strata JEC 16 June 2017

Past Chairman's Comments

When I was elected to take the chair last year the committee faced new challenges. The planning phase for Strata was complete and implementation was getting under way.

Following our meeting in March I gave the Joint Executive Committee the following update:

- Global Desk Top rollout completed at Exeter and Teignbridge. East Devon by end April 2017. A years delay caused by faulty software. The Supplier has responded with software fixes and compensation is being negotiated.
- Convergence now well under way and Strata have presented us with completion target dates with progress reports for the various systems being converged.
- The Scrutiny Committee was reassured that priorities and progress updates were fully discussed with programme managers in each council.
- When the new COO Laurence Whitlock arrives in April I have undertaken to work with him to agree a Performance Management reporting system for future meetings. I believe this will enable us to have effective scrutiny going forward.
- The other major point we considered was the Business case for upgrading the telephone systems changing from analogue to digital. The existing systems in all three councils are twenty years old and no longer in production.
- The proposed new digital system will link with Skype and provide a much better internal communication link for all staff. The Scrutiny Committee supported the Business Case and await the decision of the Strata Board whether or not to proceed.

Within that report I thanked the Strata team for their hard work and and I now believe we have a good working platform for the future.

Since then I have met with Laurence Whitlock and we have agreed that for the JSC meetings Strata will provide us with updates on their progress in a format that is readily comprehensible for laymen. Today's meeting will be the first for these revised Performance Management reports.

For the next Year it will be Exeter's turn to chair this committee and I wish my successor well and thank the committee for the support and encouragement they have given me over the challenges of the last twelve months.