

Strata Report

Joint Scrutiny Committee & Joint Executive Committee

- JSC Meeting 15th June 2017
- JEC Meeting 20th June 2017

Date Issued: 6th June 2017

Period Covered: March 2017 - May 2017

Working together for East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge

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Strata Management Team

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Purpose of the Strata Report

The Strata quarterly report for the JSC (Joint Scrutiny Committee) and JEC (Joint Executive Committee) is compiled to provide an update on the functioning of the Strata organisation. The aim is to provide background on the core areas of specialisation within Strata, identifying key activities, successes and areas for improvement.

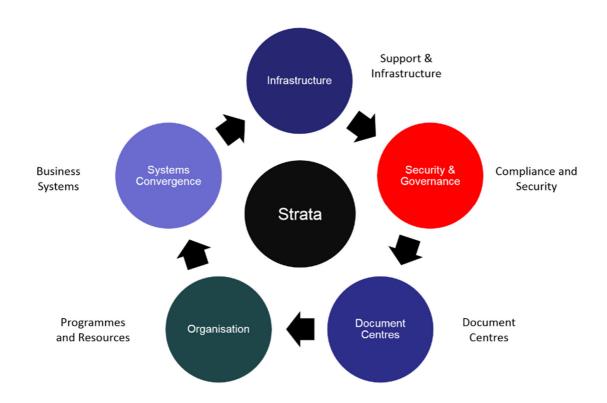
In this report we have tried to give a more visual analysis of the work of Strata, enabling progress against Business Plan objectives to be easily viewed.

Key objectives of Strata are:

- Cost Reduction
- Risk Reduction
- Increasing Capability for Change

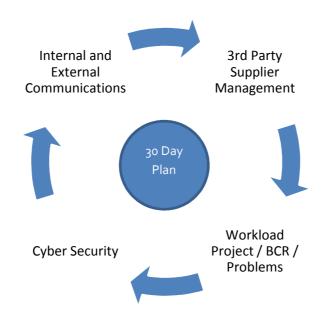
The five core specialisation areas within Strata are defined as:

- Support and Infrastructure
- Compliance and Security
- Business Systems
- Document Centres
- Programme and Resources



IT Director Report

As the newly appointed IT Director, I feel it's useful to give you some understanding of the activities that I have undertaken over the last six weeks (30 days) to understand the Strata organisation, get to know the workings of the authorities, meet key individuals and to improve the levels of communications both internally within Strata and externally to the three authorities and other interested parties. In addition to communications, other key focus areas for the first 30 days have been the management of suppliers, analysis of workload and identification and prevention of cyber threats



Internal and External Communication

With multiple contact routes, it has been important to gain a holistic view of the organisation and the channels of communication, as this was perceived as an area of weakness that needed early phase attention in order to make significant improvement to address perception and staff morale.

A number of activities have been undertaken and I believe that progress has been made, these activities have included:

Internal Communications

- Portal Articles
- Monthly Town Meetings
- Strata Newsletter
- Strata Board
- Photography Day
- 1-2-1 management meetings
- Rolling management site schedule

External Communications

- Council meetings
- IRB's / CMT's / SMB's
- Supplier Engagement VMB (VirginMediaBusiness) /Nexus/VMWare/Stormfront/Capita/Redcentric
- Project Boards iTrent
- Exeter College work experience and apprenticeships team

Supplier Management

Strata currently have a limited supplier management capability, leading to lack of control of 3rd parties, contract and performance management. We are now identifying our suppliers and categorising them as either, key, strategic or business suppliers. This is driving up levels of supplier interactions to enable better understanding of roadmap, supplier capability and performance. Suppliers being given focus include: VMWare (Global Desktop),

VMB Virgin Media Business (performance), Nexus (Global Communications), Midlands HR (HR and Payroll) and Redcentric (credits).

Projects & Business Change Requests - Workload

In the last three months we have undertaken an analysis and review of workload across the Strata business. This has identified pinch points where focus on projects has led to a lack of progress on BCR (Business Change Requests) and problem management. A new process has been development to better manage BCR's coming into Strata and also to review existing BCR's. We are now seeing a decrease in BCR's, but there's still considerable work to be done to reduce to a more manageable level.

Security - Cyber Threats

In May there was a significant global cyber-attack, the precautions that Strata had put into place meant that the authorities were not affected, however, Strata have asked for extra vigilance to be applied. The potential risk of cyber threats has also accelerated the patching of servers and new processes are being developed to better manage the patching process.

Other areas we have progressed in the last six weeks are:

- Analysis of Business Plan in terms of convergence plan and action plan see details later in this report
- Induction process checklist produced to ensure effective on-boarding of staff now in place
- Health and Safety all staff to complete H&S (Health and Safety) training and undertake DSE workstation audit
- Monthly performance / SMT / CLT / IRB status reporting
- BCP (Business Continuity Planning) Workshop held
- Councillor application training first trial session in EDDC planned for 13th June
- Drone (unmanned flying device) technology demo day organised for 4th July
- CMBD Configuration Management (Assets, Change, Suppliers)
- Strata Brand standard templates, email signatures
- Global Desktop Improvement Programme in progress

IT Director SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis)

As part of my initial 100 days, I have produced a high level 30 day SWOT analysis of my findings. This information has been shared with the Strata board and Strata teams as part of the Town meeting process, and is based upon my 38 years of experience across varied roles within the IT industry:

Strengths

- The staff are dedicated, hardworking and highly skilled
- Management team work well together
- Underlying technology decisions sound
- High level of Customer Satisfaction
- Buy in from Strata board to the success of the business
- Desire of the Strata team to succeed
- Self Service Portal working well
- Compliance and Security challenging
- Savings being delivered back to the authorities

Weaknesses

- Project Management within Business Systems team
- Managing 3rd Parties contracts and performance
- High level of BCR's and Problems
- Problem gueues not being managed
- Slow resolution of ongoing GD issues
- Staff split across multiple sites, not really creating a single company,
- Lack of understanding of new technology trends
- Managing the HUMP
- Staff onboarding new induction checklist

Opportunities

- Improve levels of communication to become more trusted advisors
- Re-prioritise workloads to reduce BCR's and Problems
- Single phone system enables single number delivery for Service Desk
- Management team to manage and to become less operational
- Atmosphere improving, but more Strata joint activities needed
- More knowledge sharing i.e. councilor training

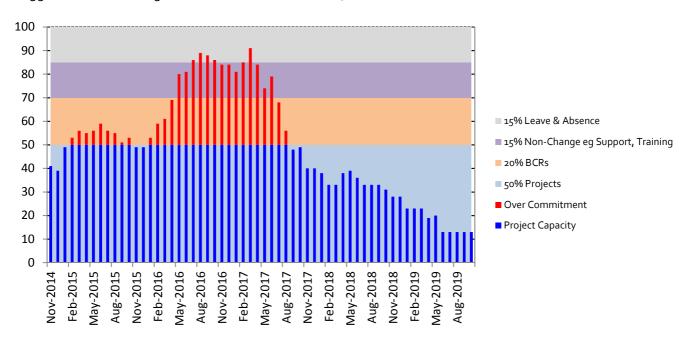
Threats

- Cyber Threats defending against the unknown
- · Workload on BA team
- Failure of key suppliers to deliver
- Strata being seen as an external supplier
- Staff feeling that we are not moving forward
- Delays in the delivery of projects
- Paying more for services than we need too
- Staff retention

Workload Analysis

In order to better understand the workloads across the Strata Business Systems team we've undertaken a review of the last two years and mapped it against available time for core activities, i.e. holiday / absence, training, support, BCR's and project work.

This graph has enabled us to clearly identify why there has been certain aspects of the Strata function which have struggled with the management of workload and hence, work related stress.



There are functions (project management and supplier management) performed by the Business Systems team which may be better managed within other Strata functions, this would reduce workload and help to improve turnaround on projects and BCR's (Business Change Request).

It is expected that in September 2017, activities should return to more realistic levels once the Global Desktop project has been completed. However, the Global Communications project will kick in and take up resources to deliver the new telephony platform across the three authorities.

Workload Status Update Snapshot 5th June 2017 – All Three Authorities (exc. Projects)

| Incidents | Service Requests | Security | Problems | Maintenance | BCR |
|-----------|---------------------|----------|----------|-------------|-----|
| 8 | 239 | 21 | 333 | 94 | 324 |

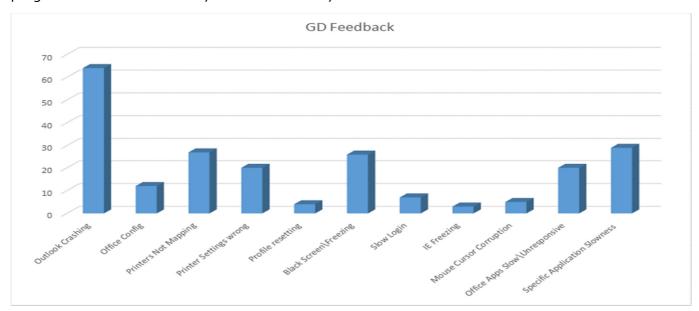
Strata Management Team Reports

Infrastructure Projects Update

Global Desktop

Our main focus remains the Global Desktop. We have now nearly completed the migration of all users at EDDC to the new desktop. There is a break during the General election week, but then the final users will be migrated in June.

Behind the scenes there is a lot of work underway to improve the performance and reliability of the Global Desktop. We have surveyed all 1500 migrated users to gain feedback on key issues being experienced, out of the 200 responses received we have categorised the issues and now have a programme of work underway to address the key issues.



Global Communications

The Global Telecoms project is progressing. We have faced a number of challenges, but the team are working very hard to put into a place an implementation plan. Everything is now in place to begin the initial setup of the new contact centre software, Anywhere 365. A workshop was held on 6th June and an initial project plan drawn up.

During this period, we have also successfully updated the DASS (Digital Access Signalling System) telephony infrastructure and commenced the testing of the SIP environment.

Exmouth Move

Strata are engaged with the team working on the migration to the new Exmouth Town location, VMB (Virgin Media Business) have now performed the survey for the fibre links and we are currently awaiting the confirmed delivery dates. At this stage is in not envisaged that there will be any delay in the delivery of the network links.

The staff moving to Exmouth will be the first to receive the new Global Communications and it is hoped that initial migration will commence in late August 2017.

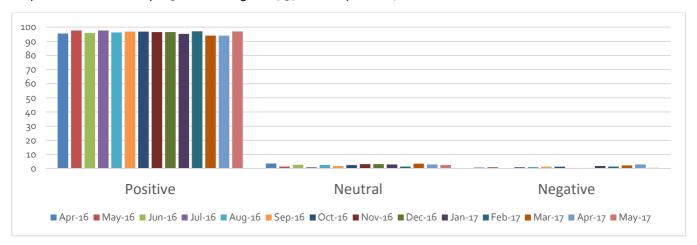
Teignbridge Move

Strata staff are engaging with the team managing the move in Teignbridge.

Service Desk

Customer Satisfaction

The service desk is performing well in supporting both BAU (Business as Usual) activities and also the Global Desktop roll out. The graph below shows the level of customer satisfaction being achieved. In May 2017, out of 200 responses received only 0.5% were negative, 97% were positive, and the remainder neutral.



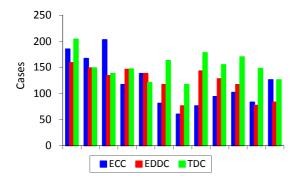
We have reviewed the processes to capture customer satisfaction, and are confident that it is a reflection of the work of the Service Desk.

Service Requests

A Service Request is a request for one of the standard services listed in the Strata Service Catalogue such as new IT or telephone equipment, access to existing systems or data, or to tell Strata about a new starter or someone moving desk. The pie chart below shows that new service request demand per month broken down by activity. By far the greatest workload on the Service Desk comes from Moves, Adds and Changes.



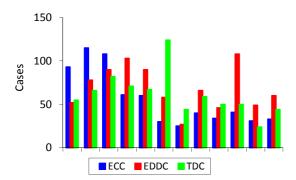
The graph below shows the split of service requests raised by authority for the last 12 months



| Series Name | | | Aug 2016 | | Oct 2016 | | | | | | | May 2017 |
|----------------|-----|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| ECC | 185 | 167 | 203 | 117 | 138 | 81 | 60 | 76 | 94 | 102 | 83 | 126 |
| EDDC | 159 | 149 | 134 | 146 | 138 | 117 | 76 | 143 | 128 | 117 | 77 | 83 |
| TDC | 204 | 149 | 138 | 147 | 121 | 163 | 117 | 178 | 155 | 170 | 148 | 126 |

Incidents

An incident is when something is broken and needs to be fixed.



| Series Name | | | _ | - | Oct 2016 | | | | | Mar 2017 | | May 2017 |
|----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|-----|----|----|----|-------------|----|-------------|
| ECC | 93 | 115 | 108 | 61 | 60 | 30 | 25 | 40 | 34 | 41 | 31 | 33 |
| EDDC | 52 | 78 | 90 | 103 | 90 | 58 | 27 | 66 | 46 | 108 | 49 | 60 |
| TDC | 55 | 66 | 82 | 71 | 67 | 124 | 44 | 59 | 50 | 50 | 24 | 44 |

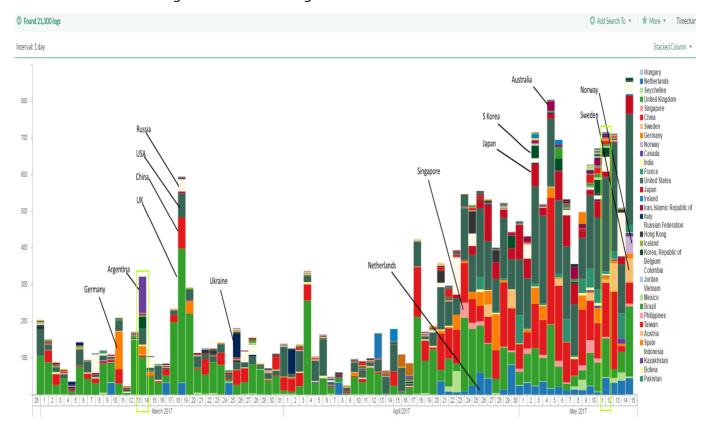
Selection of the comments received as part of the feedback process:

- "Quick and efficient, thank you"
- "Thanks to Kieran for his very efficient service, he is very helpful and nothing is too much trouble"
- "Many thanks to Fiona for getting on to this so quickly and to Kieran for re diverting his route to work and coming to my rescue"
- "A big thank you to Ann-Marie for dealing with this so quickly"
- "Resolved quickly, thanks"
- "Dealt with very quickly and good communication"
- "Thank you Neil for getting me out of a hole. It is nice to know our contingency plans work"
- "Prompt and great support"
- "Great service from Sharon once again. Thanks"
- "Dealt with really quickly as soon as IDOX sorted their side! many thanks"

Compliance and Security

The level of system outages and causes during the past quarter has returned to a more normal level despite an issue with a power failure at East Devon and a global cyber threat. Our security position remains relatively stable even though we have seen a spike in threats and spam during this period with subtly differing attack-approaches that Strata have needed to defend against.

The graph below shows the recent defending Strata has undertaken against the attack that impacted much of the NHS and organisations including Santander Bank:



The PSN CoCo (Public Services Network Code of Connection) remediation work continues with a number of servers fixed in this period. The CoCo submission is due to be submitted in June 2017.

Work is being undertaken to review the patching process to ensure that servers are kept at the latest version to ensure levels of security are maintained.

Cyber threats will be a continuing challenge for Strata and the three authorities and extra vigilance is required to ensure that we are not exposed to cyber-attacks.

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) is now coming to the fore and Strata need to consider compliance with GDPR directives as a priority moving forward. The Compliance and Security team are now analysing the requirements of GDPR and will be updating Strata personnel in due course.

In the next edition of Strata Insight, we will be focussing on cyber security.

Document Centres

Strata and Ricoh are completing the surveying of Exeter Civic Centre and satellite offices in preparation for the rollout of new printing devices to replace the current aged printer fleet. The new devices will bring enhancements such as Follow Me Printing and significantly improved reliability. Rollout of the new devices will begin in June.

The Document Centres have been busy supporting the elections work with high volumes of incoming post and various print job at all three sites.

The Strata web design team have worked on a wide range of communication materials to support the second phase of the new EDDC Waste and Recycling scheme, the produced work has been of a high standard and well received.



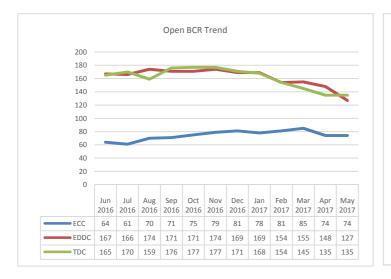
Business Systems

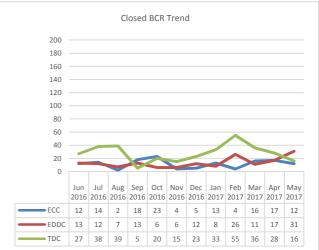
The team are continuing to deliver the 70+ system implementation and business case projects currently in progress across the partnership. This is a particularly high number, and has been abnormally high for a number of months now ... a more typical level being around 50. This high demand for projects continues to place pressure on our ability to deliver BCRs, however we are working closely with service managers to ensure that critical BCRs continue to be delivered while we work through this hump of project demand. Some of the main projects the team are currently delivering include iTrent HR & Payroll and Garden Waste Renewals for Teignbridge, Firmstep digital transformation and UNIform Planning & Building Control implementation for Exeter, Document Management and Waste & Recycling rollouts for East Devon.

The team has also seen a couple of staff changes, with both David Stephens and Chris Frankum joining us to replace staff members who have left the business.

Good progress is being made on the backlog of BCR's and we are in the process of reviewing all current BCR's and determining the time required to complete each request.

As can be seen in the graphs below, the trend for open BCR's is showing a downward trend across all three authorities



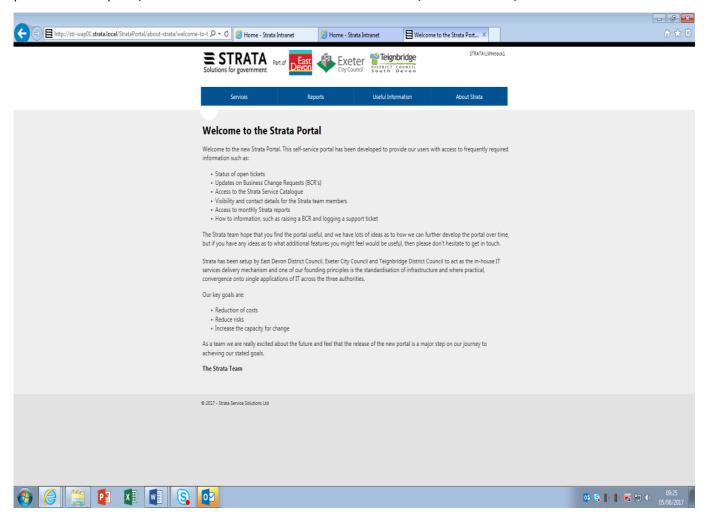


Programmes and Resources

Strata run a combination of systems convergence projects and projects requested by Council service managers. Convergence projects are agreed by the partner councils in the annual Strata business plan. The current number of scheduled projects in the 2017/18 financial year are 16 convergence projects and more than 60 service projects. The previously shown chart (Workload Analysis on page 8) shows these known projects. The information is as known in June 2017, however, there will be other, as yet unknown projects requested by service managers through the remainder of 2017/18 that will add to this picture.

50% is our guideline resource allocation for project work, leaving the remaining 50% for all other tasks such as support, BCRs and all other activities. The current high demand for projects, seen to run until August / September is impacting our capacity for delivery of BCRs. We are currently reviewing these project commitments exploring alternative delivery options that may release resource for BCR and other work.

At the end of April we launched our Strata Portal. The portal can be accessed either through the Strata Portal shortcut on the global desktop, or is also accessible through each of the council intranets. The Portal provides online forms for submitting service requests and BCRs to us as well as providing access to job status, project and performance reports, and other useful information on our structure, contact details, and service standards.



Business Plan Convergence Update

| 2017/2018 convergence | 2017/18 Business Plan | Current | Status | Business Plan Impact | Comments |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| BACs convergence | Jan 16 to Apr 17 | Jan 16 to Jun 17 | Finishing Later | Neutral | Change still occurs in 17/18 financial year |
| Car Park Systems | Sep 15 to Mar 17 | Sep 15 to Dec 17 | Finishing Later | Positive | Business Plan assumes increased costs of £500 from convergence, so the delay delays these increases |
| Cemeteries | Jul 17 to Dec 17 | Jul 17 to Dec 17 | Planned, not yet started | Neutral | |
| CMS and Website (TDC) | Feb 16 to Apr 17 | Feb 16 to Oct 17 | Finishing Later | Neutral | Goss maintenance has been terminated so no financial impact |
| Door Access | Apr 16 to Jun 17 | Apr 16 to Jun 17 | Running to Plan | Neutral | · |
| Financial Management System | Oct 17 to Mar 19 | Oct 17 to Mar 19 | Planned, Not yet started | Neutral | |
| GIS ESRI Convergence | Oct 16 to May 17 | Oct 16 to Jul 17 | Finishing Later | Neutral | Change still occurs in 2017/18 financial year. |
| Grounds / Streets / Public Realm | Jun 17 to Dec 18 | Jun 17 to Dec 18 | Planned, Not Yet Started | Neutral | |
| HR and Payroll (ECC) | Apr 17 to Mar 18 | Jul 17 to Mar 18 | Starting Later | Neutral | Change still occurs in 2017/18 financial year. |
| HR and Payroll (TDC) | Jan 16 to Mar 17 | Jan 16 to Jan 18 | Finishing Later | Negative | |
| Idox TLC Land Charges | Feb 17 to Jan 18 | Feb 17 to Jan 18 | Running to Plan | Neutral | |
| Idox Uniform Env Health (ECC) | Apr 17 to Mar 18 | Jul 17 to Jun 18 | Finishing Later | Neutral | Intending to terminate incumbent Northgate M3 contract before renewal is due in August 2018. |
| Idox Uniform Planning (ECC) | Apr 16 to Mar 17 | Apr 16 to Jul 17 | Finishing Later | Neutral | Idox costs transition from Acolaid to UNIform preagreed in Idox negotiation. |
| Legal Case Management | Jan 17 to Dec 17 | Mar 17 to Oct 17 | Starting Later | Neutral | Change still occurs in 2017/18 financial year. |
| LLPG GGP Convergence | Jul 16 to Mar 17 | Jul 16 to May 17 | Finishing Later | Neutral | No impact provided incumbent Aligned Assets system can be retired before 1st August 2017. |
| Time and Attendance | Apr 16 to Jan 18 | Apr 16 to Jan 18 | Running to Plan | Neutral | |

Business Plan Appendix 5 - Action Plan Update

| Action | Completion Date | Status | Comments |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| Converged email connection for all councils | Feb 2017 | Completed | Completed |
| Migrate PSN connectivity to VMB | March 2017 | Not Started | This will not happen for at least a year due to the Vodafone contract fiasco. Needs a review of the position in early summer 18 to review the options then |
| Complete Global Desktop Roll out to all councils | April 2017 | Ongoing | Project nearing completion – June 2017 |
| Converged web filtering system | April 2017 | Ongoing | Only delayed by the few users at TDC & EDDC users not using the GD. Technically we moved off the Smoothwall (TDC) and Messagelabs filtering in 2016 onto 3 instances of Clearswift. |
| Government Secure Email accreditation | April 2017 | Ongoing | Implemented protocols in Jan 17. Whole government initiative now delayed until 'summer 17'. |
| Information Security Policy | April 2017 | Ongoing | Implemented in Strata. Acceptable Use policy provided to councils by Karen Jenkins. Overarching policy now deployed Strata will be provided to SIROs to take forward through their council processes |
| Review contract conditions for Document centre staff who work cross-council rather than solely at individual Councils | As the situation arises | Ongoing | |
| Decommission the Teignbridge server infrastructure | June 2017 | Ongoing | Ongoing, 55 Servers remain due for completion early Sept 2017 |
| Decommission the East Devon server infrastructure | June 2017 | Ongoing | Ongoing, Some larger systems across, due for completion September 2017 |
| PSN CoCo accreditation | June 2017 | Ongoing | Submission due in June 2017 |
| Carry out recommendations of governance audit including review of IRB organisation | June 2017 | Not Started | Strata IT Director is now looking into this as part of the 100 day plan |
| IT Recovery test for key systems | August 2017 | | Given the issues with the VMware recovery system (SRM) and Oakwood storage, other than the more limited Veeam Surebackup this will be dependent on a wider review of BCP |
| Select and implement new Skype contact centre system | Dec 2017 | Ongoing | Anywhere 365 selected, implementation plan being compiled |
| Develop an out-of-hours support proposal in consultation with Councils and create a costed business case for Councils to fund. If business case approved carry out contractual consultations with affected Strata staff and implement service. | Dec 2017 | Ongoing | Proposal being created in conjunction with HR. |
| Implement "Global Comms", the telephony replacement at all three sites | March 2018 | Ongoing | Implementation plan being drawn up |
| Develop options for "pay-for-use" accounting and budgeting and implement chosen method ready for FY 18/19 Looking at the options – 18 / 36 months | March 2018 | Not Started | |

Key Project Update

The table below shows the key projects that Strata currently have underway across the three authorities:

| Project | Authority | Status |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|
| HR & Payroll (iTrent) | TDC | Phase 1 being deployed, expected delivery July 2017. |
| Firmstep Digital Transformation | TDC and ECC | Work underway scoping requirements |
| Waste & Recycling | EDDC | Project Ongoing – Strata team engaged with EDDC team, multiple testing underway to ensure no further repeat of issues experienced in March deployment. |
| Garden Waste Renewal | TDC | Project Ongoing - team are confident that issues experienced in 2016 will not be repeated. |
| Global Desktop | All | Project nearing completion – EDDC currently being migrated, plan being drawn up for remaining users. SWAT project underway to identify GD issues across all three authorities. |
| Global Communications | All | Project kick off planned – project deployment plan to be drawn up on 6 th June 2017. |
| MFD (Multi Function Devices) | All | Surveying underway, ECC Roll out in 2017, TDC in late 2017 as the Xerox contract expires on 31st Dec 2017. |

Summary

Reviewing the three core objectives of Strata, the indicators show that progress is being made in all areas.



Further analysis is being undertaken to ensure that the investments made are delivering value for money, and gaps in capability are understood and actions plans are drawn up to mitigate risk.

A more detailed analysis and report will be produced after 100 working days.

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