



Solutions for government

Forde House
Newton Abbot

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5 February 2024

STRATA - JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Dear Councillor

You are invited to a meeting of the above Committee which will take place on **Tuesday, 13th February, 2024** in the **Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX** at **3.00 pm**

Yours sincerely

Phil Shears
Managing Director

Distribution:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| (1) The Members of the Strata - Joint Scrutiny Committee: | |
| Councillor Marcus Hartnell | East Devon District Council |
| Councillor Yehudi Levine | East Devon District Council |
| Councillor Susan Westerman | East Devon District Council |
| Councillor Andrew Leadbetter | Exeter City Council |
| Councillor Paul Knott (Chair) | Exeter City Council |
| Councillor Susannah Patrick | Exeter City Council |
| Councillor Chris Clarence | Teignbridge District Council |
| Councillor John Radford | Teignbridge District Council |
| Councillor Martin Smith | Teignbridge District Council |

A link to the agenda on the Council's website is emailed FOR INFORMATION (less reports (if any) containing Exempt Information referred to in Part II of the agenda), to:

- (1) All other Members of the Council
- (2) Representatives of the Press
- (3) Requesting Town and Parish Councils

If Councillors have any questions relating to predetermination or interests in items on this Agenda, please contact the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting

AGENDA

Part I

1. Apologies for absence

2. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests that relate to business on the agenda.

4. Questions from the Public Under Procedural Rules

A period of up to 15 minutes will be set aside to deal with questions to the Committee from members of the public.

Each individual will be restricted to speaking for a total of 3 minutes.

Where a question does not relate to an agenda item details of questions should be notified to the Proper Officer of the Relevant Council at least two working days prior to the meeting.

5. Question from Members of the Councils under Procedure Rules

To receive questions from Members of the Councils.

Where a question does not relate to an agenda item details of questions should be notified to the Proper Officer of the Relevant Council at least two working days prior to the meeting.

6. Scrutiny of Strata Joint Executive Committee decisions 30 January 2024

7. Appointment of nominated representatives

8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Exclusion of Press and Public

It is not considered that the Committee would be likely to exclude the press and public during the consideration of any of the items on this agenda but, if it should wish to do so, then the following resolution should be passed: -

That, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for particular item(s) on the grounds that it (they) involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Part II: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public excluded

Date of Next Meeting

To Be Arranged

If you would like this information in another format, please e-mail
info@teignbridge.gov.uk

STRATA - JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**TUESDAY, 16 JANUARY 2024**Present:

Councillors Levine, Westerman, Knott (Chair), Clarence, Radford and Smith

Members Attendance:

Councillors Wrigley

Apologies:

Councillors Hartnell, Leadbetter and patrick

Officers in Attendance:

Trish Corns, Democratic Services Officer

Simon Davey, Strata Board Director

Suzanne Edwards, Strata Finance Director

Steve Mawn, Director of IT and Digital Transformation

**These decisions will take effect from 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 6 June 2017
unless called-in or identified as urgent in the minute**

14. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Knott and seconded by Councillor Radford that the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

Resolved

That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

16. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER PROCEDURAL RULES

None

17. QUESTION FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCILS UNDER PROCEDURE RULES

None

18. OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director of IT and Digital Transformation presented the overview of roles and responsibilities to the Committee. The Committee heard that they would have sight of Strata JEC minutes in order to scrutinise decisions and that they were available on the Teignbridge and Exeter Councils' websites. The Committee also discussed how Strata JEC and JSC meetings are administered between the three councils.

19. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The Strata Finance Director updated the Committee on the organisation's financial performance.

The Committee heard that:

- The increased staffing cost resulting from the pay award had been offset by cut in contract spending and increased profit.
- 6500 incidents had been logged in the previous month
- The average feedback rating for strata support was 4.5 of 5
- Differing levels of time required for differing scale of incidents
- The two lowest levels on the scale were combined
- The next update would include the SLA
- Strata was created to replace previous Teignbridge IT system
- Each council has unique goals that are covered by Strata
- Benchmarking and structure of accounts to determine cost

It was noted that there is not currently a Councillor consideration for the IT Strategy.

20. 2024/25 STRATA BUSINESS PLAN

The Director of IT and Digital Transformation introduced the plan to the Committee.

The Committee were informed about the following:

- Thousands of projects had been completed by Strata last year
- Transformational changes were requested by the Executive
- Linking of council strategies
- Positive staff survey results
- The move towards digital infrastructure and away from copper
- Loss of Skype system soon, requiring further transformation

The Committee discussed the impact of generative AI which was highlighted in the presentation. It would provide benefits for local residents and work as a tool to aid officers. One example given was calculating the dangers of skidding cars on roads

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in order to target areas for salting. The Committee also discussed the moral and ethical questions that would arise from the use of AI.

The meeting started at 4.00 pm and finished at 6.00 pm.

Chair
Cllr Paul Knott

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