

## **STRATA - JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2020**

**Present:**

Councillors Arnott, Hassan, Williams, Shears, Bialyk and Dewhirst

**Non-Voting Members:**

Karime Hassan, Phil Shears, Mark Williams

**Councillor in Attendance:**

Councillor C Clarence

**Officers in Attendance:**

Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Robin Barlow, Head of Security & Compliance

Simon Davey, Strata Board Director

David Hodgson, Strata Service Director

Martin Millmow, Head of Document Centres

Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

Paul Nicholls, Strata Board Director

David Sercombe, Head of Business Systems & Business Intelligence

Adrian Smith, Head of Infrastructure & Support

Laurence Whitlock, Strata IT Director

**13. APOLOGIES**

None received.

**14. ELECTION OF A CHAIR**

Councillor Paul Arnott of East Devon District Council was elected Chairman for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

**15. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**17. IT DIRECTORS REPORT**

The Strata IT Director presented the report on activity from 1 January to 31 May 2020, identifying key activities, successes and areas for improvement (presentation attached to minutes).

He brought members attention to the resilience and the adaptability of Strata during the current crisis. There was a rapid move to remote working over a nine day period from 25% of staff to 82% of staff. Strata had supported the three councils in their response to the pandemic this included virtual committee meetings.

During discussion members raised questions regarding the suitability and compatibility of different communications platform for both officers and members and the performance of the global desk top (questions and responses attached to minutes).

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**18. STRATA BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20**

The Finance Director presented the report advising on the financial position of Strata at the end of 2019/20, including both revenue and capital spend. He highlighted that Strata had delivered £1,073,529 of revenue savings in 2019/20 and had refunded £573,529 to the three councils.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**19. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**20. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - CONVERGENCE - BUSINESS CASE APPROVAL**

The Head of Business Systems & Business Intelligence presented the report advising on the convergence of the Financial Management Systems used by the three authorities which was highlighted as a potential project in the Strata Business Case 2014/24.

Members recognised the need to move this project forward although due to the impact of COVID 19 could have on budgets and the tender process, consideration of the project should be deferred to the next meeting of this committee.

**RESOLVED** that the Financial Management System - Convergence - Business Case report be brought back to the next meeting of Strata Joint Executive Committee for consideration.

**21. STRATA BUSINESS PLAN 20/21 AND BEYOND**

The Strata IT Director presented the report to explain the Strata Business Plan 20/21 and beyond.

Members felt that the Business Plan should be taken to the respective councils for formal ratification.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted; and

**RECOMMENDED** that the three Councils formally ratify the Strata Business Plan 20/21 and beyond.

**22. STRATA - COMMERCIALISATION REPORT**

The Strata IT Director presented the report which was undertaken into the commercialisation findings.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

The meeting started at 4.05 pm and finished at 5.20 pm.

Chairman