

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 17 SEPTEMBER 2010

Statement from: Cllr B G Singleton, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Corporate Development

New Ways of Working

Following the recent management changes, Richard Wills has now taken over the chair of the committee with effect from August 2010.

Lincoln

We are now bringing the development of the Lincoln campus forward. This is a major piece of work which will involve staff re-deployed to new touch down sites within the Lincoln area. At the same time there will be a re-allocation of property which will become surplus to requirements following the changes.

Sleaford Campus

Since my last report in May there have been new developments within the programme. The two partnerships, NKDC and the Lincolnshire PCT have had to re evaluate their position on a financial basis and feel they cannot commit to the original plan. This has meant that in order to proceed we will have to reduce the scope of the development to our first design. Planning applications will be submitted to NKDC shortly in order for us to proceed. This has moved the programme back somewhat, but will not affect our proposed plans for the site as envisaged.

Technology

The development of the Unified Communications System is fully on track and the first roll out will begin during November/December. As outlined in my May report this will enable staff to log onto a phone anywhere within LCC buildings within the County, and receive their landline calls, divert and forward call facilities plus use the conference call facility.

This will be the main support to our touch-down environment.

Business Process Redesign

Since my last report, we are having to re-appraise our Employee and Manager Self Service System. This is mainly an administrative system for staff, and it is more a time than a financial saving process. Because of this we are reviewing the procurement costs, which could result in holding back the introduction of the system as it is not financially viable at this time.

Councillor Development

The programme for the year is fast coming to a close and the Councillor Development Group will be looking to improve on member development during 2011 with the inclusion of the County Wide Development Programme (working with the Districts) through the Lincolnshire Improvement and Partnership funding, which has been secured.

We will shortly be rolling out the interactive Councillor Skills Portal; this will allow members to self assess themselves online in terms of skills and development needs. The self-assessment will form the basis of the personal development interviews (appraisal) that you will have with your Group Leader. This information will also assist the Councillor Development Group to decide the best way forward regarding the development programme for 2011. Members of the Councillor Development Group, Cllr Hugo Marfleet, Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Chris Brewis and Cllr John Marriott will be asking for your help in completing this assessment, when launched, which would be greatly appreciated.

Work towards accreditation of Charter Plus will begin to take shape in early 2011, target date of November 2011 for accreditation process.

Property

A new strategic property manager is now in place, (Tony Comer). His role will be to ensure the delivery of efficiency saving through a more integrated approach to our property management which will result in a better property asset base for the council.

Refurbishment

During the past two years a programme has been undertaken to refurbish all of the lavatories within the County Offices. This will be finalised by mid-September with the completion of those next to the Members' suite. These will include facilities for the disabled, together with, a shower and changing cubicles which will be available for all staff/members.