

REPORT TO CABINET

26 June 2019

Subject:	Award of Mobile Telephony, Voice and Data Contract
	Wasim Ali - Cabinet Member for Resources and Core Services
Director:	Executive Director – Resources – Darren Carter
Contribution towards Vision 2030: <i>(Insert all that apply from drop down choice).</i>	 
Key Decision:	Yes
Cabinet Member Approval and Date:	Cllr Ali
Director Approval:	Darren Carter
Reason for Urgency:	Not an urgent item
Exempt Information Ref:	Exemption provisions do not apply
Ward Councillor (s) Consulted (if applicable):	This does not affect local wards
Scrutiny Consultation:	Scrutiny consultation has not been undertaken
Contact Officer(s):	Sue Knowles (Head of ICT and Revenue & Benefits) Andy Saunders (ICT Service Manager) Richard Griffiths (Principle Lead Officer)

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the award of a 3-year contract to Vodafone Limited for the provision of the council's mobile telephony, voice and data using the Crown Commercial Services Framework - Network Services Agreement (RM1045), for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022 at an estimated value of £435,000 (£145,000 per annum).
2. Subject to (1) (above), authorise the Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer to enter into, or execute under seal, any documentation in relation to the award of the framework contracts and/or other agreements with Vodafone Limited, as may be deemed necessary.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to award a contract to Vodafone Limited for the provision of the council's mobile phones, voice and mobile data services.
- 1.2 The Crown Commercial Services Framework - Network Services Agreement (RM1045) has been used for this procurement and the contract will cover a 3-year period commencing 1 July 2019.

2 IMPLICATION FOR THE VISION 2030

- 2.1 Sandwell's workforce relies on effective ICT to deliver services. This reliance has increased considerably in recent years as the council digitally transforms services and introduces agile/smart working.
- 2.2 The award of this contract directly links to ambition 3 in ensuring our workforce is geared up to respond to changing business needs and ambition 10 – National reputation for getting things done. It could however be argued that regular investment in the council's technology contributes to all ten ambitions.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The previous contract for mobile telephony covering voice and data services expired was provided by Vodaphone Limited. This contract ended on the 31st March 2019.
- 3.2 In accordance with the council's procurement and contract procedure rules, tenders were invited via the Intend procurement portal.
- 3.3 The tender exercise ran for 3 weeks with a closing date of 5 February 2019
- 3.4 Two tenders were returned by the closing date. These were from:
 - Gamma Telecom Limited
 - Vodafone Limited
- 3.5 Following evaluation of the returned tenders, it is recommended that Vodafone Limited be awarded the contract. This was based on 60% Price and 40% Quality.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The previous contract for mobile telephony covering voice and data services expired on 31 March 2019. Approval is now being sought to award the new contract to Vodafone Limited using The Crown Commercial Services Framework - Network Services Agreement (RM1045) for a three year period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022.
- 4.2 The total cost of the three-year contract is estimated at £435,000. This cost of the is based on current usage and would be paid monthly over the three-year period with each payment being £12,000.
- 4.3 The cost each month could flex up or down on a monthly basis dependent on increases or decreases in the number of connections held by the council and also by the amount of mobile data used across all connections.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 Consultation and engagement has taken place with the following:
 - Corporate Procurement: Andy Jukes
 - Head of ICT and Revenue and Benefits: Sue Knowles
 - Democratic Services Unit: Suky Suthi-Nagra

- Finance Officer: Steve Lilley
- Legal Officer: Del Singh
- Risk Management Officer: Narinder Phagura
- Equalities Unit: Kashmir Singh

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 The are no alternative options. The provision of mobiles phones is essential to support modern service delivery. They also ensure we have the ability to contact our officers working away from council offices on a regular basis.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The total cost of this contract is estimated to be in the region of £435,000. Exact figures are not available due to the unpredictable nature of the mobile phone connections across the council. Flexibility has been built into the contract to allow for additional connections when required and to allow for a reduction in the number of connections should the council need to reduce these, which would in turn reduce the cost of the contract.
- 7.2 In order to prevent waste, regular monitoring of connections is carried out by the ICT service that highlights devices with zero usage, these connections are then investigated and terminated if no longer required. This ensures that the council only pays for the connections it needs.
- 7.3 The shared data package that is associated with the contract allows the council to purchase flexible amounts of data that are then shared across all connections meaning that we only pay for what is used. The data bundle can be re-sized on a monthly basis to ensure proper utilisation.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 Procurement Services worked with the ICT Service to consider procurement options and it was agreed that the most suitable course of action would be to advertise through an established framework agreement. This complies with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules.
- 8.2 Legal Services have reviewed the RM1045 framework and confirmed that the award for this contract is permissible under the terms of the agreement.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 An equality impact assessment is not required.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT (DPIA)

10.1 A DPIA has been carried out and reviewed by the Data Protection Officer. An information processing agreement will be served following the contract award.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 No crime and disorder issues have been identified.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 There are no sustainability implications arising from this contract.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 This is a call off contract using the Crown Commercial Services Framework Agreement RM1045, using the Further Competition route. As part of the evaluation for award of contracts, Crown Commercial Services considers Social Value, this is built into the procurement activity and measures the Social Value elements of bids received. Crown Commercial Services also review current deals to identify Social Value Opportunities. There are no health and wellbeing implications in awarding this contract.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 The award of this contract helps to provide mobility to an agile workforce and helps in the delivery of the workplace vision project

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 Having evaluated all tender responses, it is of our opinion that this contract should be awarded to Vodafone Limited.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

None

Darren Carter
Executive Director – Resources