

**APPROVAL TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S MOBILE
VOICE AND DATA SERVICES**

COMMENTS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

At its meeting on 28 October 2021, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the report and unanimously agreed to support the recommendations to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT.

The following points were confirmed:

- Vodafone was the only provider who submitted a bid for the contract. However, the Council would have been open to moving to an alternative provider if a better offer had been submitted, regardless of the challenges this would have presented.
- The contract would be administered by Serco irrespective of who the provider was.
- The proposed contract was a significant improvement on the current contract with a saving of £549,982 and would ensure business continuity across the county.
- The Board welcomed savings of £549,982 that would be made as a result of the contract.
- The Board was reassured that Vodafone was one of the leading providers for network coverage across the county, including where roaming was available. This was evidenced by the network coverage information that providers published to Ofcom. For Lincolnshire, the coverage provided by Vodafone and O2 was approximately the same. Good coverage was important for emergency services who would want the assurance that they could get coverage wherever they were in the county, and Vodafone would provide that assurance.