



Our ref: 25739/RDG049

The Chief Planning Officer
Reading Borough Council
Civic Offices
Bridge St
Reading
RG1 2LU

Via Email: plgadmin@reading.gov.uk

Friday 18th April 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED BASE STATION REPLACEMENT UPGRADE AT, JUNC 11, SOUTH SIDE OF M4, READING, RG7 1NR (NGR: E: 471522 N: 168534) AND PROPOSED NEW TELECOMMUNICATION BASE STATION AT JUNC 11, SOUTH SIDE OF M4, READING, RG7 1NR (NGR: E: 471522 N: 168504)

We act for MBNL on behalf of EE Limited and Hutchison 3G UK Limited who have an existing telecommunications site at the above address.

As part of EE Ltd's and H3G (UK) Ltd's continued network improvement program they wish to install a new base station and upgrade the existing site to facilitate additional coverage and capacity requirements, incorporating new technologies. The NPPF sets out the Government's general overview regarding supporting high quality communications infrastructure, recognising that advanced, high quality communications infrastructure is essential for sustainable economic growth.

Base stations use radio signals to connect mobile devices and phones to the network, enabling people to send and receive; calls, texts, emails, pictures, web, TV and downloads. Without base stations, mobiles devices and phones will not work.

This letter therefore invites you, in accordance with planning policy guidance and Best Practice Commitments, to enter into pre-application discussions with regard to our preferred site options, prior to a formal planning submission.

The sites in question are located upon the grass verge at Junction 11, off the M4. Adjacent to Three Mile Cross Interchange, with Reading International Business Park some 314m to the North West and the M4 115m to the North. The sites are not located within any specific planning designations and the nearest listed building is The Milestone at Three Mile Cross, 316m to the South. Being located on Junction 11 off the M4, the roadway is subject to heavy traffic with a total of 13 lanes passing the installation at one time, accommodating for a high capacity of road and mobile phone users alike. Existing vertical features including an overhead footbridge, motorway signage and street lighting provide a level of screening to apparatus.

The height of the proposed apparatus is the minimum capable of providing the technological improvements sought whilst achieving ICNIRP compliance. It should be noted that the new technologies will provide advanced high quality communications infrastructure essential for economic growth as sought by the NPPF. Furthermore, the existing pole and cabinets will be removed to allow the proposed equipment to be located on or near to the same location.



The upgraded site will include the installation of a 20m monopole, 6 no. antennas, 4 no. equipment cabinets. The removal of the existing 17.5m pole, 3 no. antennas, 4 equipment cabinets, alongside associated ancillary equipment.

The new site proposed will include the installation of a 20m monopole, 6 no. antennas, 4 no. equipment cabinets, alongside associated ancillary equipment.

It is imperative that support is given to the introduction of new infrastructure to allow new technology which will allow networks to be able to handle more data and connect more devices simultaneously at much faster speeds. This will enable places to remain competitive and will support the Government's ambition for the UK to become a world leader in telecommunications technologies and development. It should be noted that the new technologies will provide advanced high quality communications infrastructure essential for economic growth as sought by the NPPF. Any perceived negative impacts will be far outweighed by the overall benefits of the scheme and the location of the apparatus on a building which already supports extensive telecommunications equipment will minimise its potential impact on the immediate environment.

During the design phase a number of different locations and solutions for the installation were considered, however there are no suitable rooftop locations or land-based tower options within the immediate area that would meet the needs of the two sharing network operators in order to support the 5G rollout.

All EE and H3G installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning submission.

We enclose a copy of our Consultation Plan and General Arrangement drawing and would welcome your suggestions. We look forward to receiving your response within 14 days of the date of this letter.

Should you wish to respond, please include the reference no. 25739/RDG049 in order for us to be able to answer your query.

Yours faithfully,

Jenna Allen
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Beacon Comms
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Beacon Communications Services Limited
For and on behalf of MBNL, EE Limited and H3G (UK) Limited