

Our ref: CTIL_30292601

23 July 2021

Mr Afzal Khan MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA
afzal.khan.mp@parliament.uk

Clarke Telecom Ltd
Unit E
Madison Place
Northampton Road
Manchester
M40 5AG

Dear Mr Khan,

PROPOSED BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT CTIL_30292601, SW ON HYDE ROAD A57, HYDE ROAD, GORTON, MANCHESTER, M18 7JD, NGR E: 389344, N: 395816.

PRE-PLANNING APPLICATION CONSULTATION FOR A MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT **CTIL_30292601, SW ON HYDE ROAD A57, HYDE ROAD, GORTON, MANCHESTER, M18 7JD, NGR E: 389344, N: 395816.**

Cornerstone is the UK's leading mobile infrastructure services company. We acquire, manage, and own over 20,000 sites and are committed to enabling best in class mobile connectivity for over half of all the country's mobile customers. We oversee works on behalf of telecommunications providers and wherever possible aim to:

- promote shared infrastructure
- maximise opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations
- significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development

As a result, we are consulting with communities in line with Best Practice principles where planning applications for new telecommunications installations are required.

This letter is sent to you in the pre-planning application consultation phase of the development for a new mobile phone base station site and is simply intended to keep you informed and advised of the proposed development in your area prior to any planning application being submitted. However, if you do wish to submit comments or have been contacted by your constituents in relation to this matter and wish to send us comments on their behalf, please feel free to do so via the following address:

Community Consultation & EMF Enquiries, Hive 2, 1530 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA.
Email: community@cornerstone.network

What follows is a summary of the proposal and some further information that might be of use.

In the first instance, all correspondence should be directed to the agent.

Cornerstone Planning Consultation Letter to MPs - single site (England) V.2 – 15/04/2021

Registered Address:
Cornerstone Telecommunications, Infrastructure Limited,
Hive 2, 1530 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA.
Registered in England & Wales No. 08087551.
VAT No. GB142 8555 06

 Cornerstone, Hive 2,
1530 Arlington Business Park,
Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA

Summary of the proposal

Cornerstone are in the process of progressing suitable sites in the Manchester area for radio base stations that will improve service provision for Telefonica. 5G rollout has begun and both Vodafone and Telefonica are in the process of upgrading their existing radio base stations in their single grid network wherever possible. As part of this continued network improvement program, there is a specific technical requirement to provide new 5G coverage in this area of Manchester. An existing streetworks style base station has been identified in the area, however it cannot accommodate for both operators latest requirements. In order to fit in to the operator's single grid network, an additional new streetworks style base station is required for Telefónica service in close proximity to the existing streetworks style base station that will be retained and in due course upgraded with improved Vodafone service.

A number of options have been assessed in respect of the site search process, but we consider the best option for the new radio base station to be the installation of a 20m 'Orion' Column supporting 6no Antennas; 1no GPS Module and 3no. Remote Radio Units (RRUs); 1no 300mm Transmission Dish; 1no. equipment cabinet at the base and ancillary development at **SW ON HYDE ROAD A57, HYDE ROAD, GORTON, MANCHESTER, M18 7JD, NGR E: 389344, N: 395816**. This is because the operator is limited in siting options as there is a requirement to provide equivalent replacement coverage and capacity for this area of Manchester. The replacement of an existing site means that the operator has to be located as close as possible to the existing installation in order to maintain the provision of equivalent coverage and capacity to the surrounding local area. This is the nearest suitable location that the operator is able to position their replacement apparatus.

The proposed height at 20m is essential in order to provide equivalent replacement coverage to the target coverage area. 5G new radio technologies operate in higher frequency bands than older technologies. Since it operates at higher frequencies where attenuation of the radio signal is naturally higher and the effects of clutter are greater it will normally require a higher structure to achieve the same coverage footprint.

In order to minimise the width of the proposed column, the antennas are split in to a dual stack formation where 3 antennas will be located at the top of the column and the other 3 antennas will be located underneath. Thus, if the column were to be any lower, the antennas would not be able to operate effectively nor reach the target coverage area.

The column is a simple, functional, vertical structure necessary to provide replacement and new service provision to Manchester and the surrounding area. There are other vertical structures in the streetscene which will help it assimilate in to the local environ. The column is proposed to be finished in a grey colour but can be coloured any other colour that the LPA consider appropriate.

The cabinets are designed to appear like other statutory undertakers equipment cabinets. They are small for telecommunications apparatus and are proposed to be coloured green to assimilate with other equipment cabinets commonly found in urban environments. The cabinets can be installed under the operators permitted development rights, but have been included on the plans and in the description in order to remain fully transparent.

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The RRUs are designed to make the antennas more efficient and reduce the need for equipment cabinets at ground level, therefore minimising ground level clutter in this area. They are located underneath the lowest set of antennas, out of the natural eye line of the casual passer-by and therefore will not appear prominent in the streetscene.

The other site options that were considered and then discounted are as follows:

- **Existing Telecommunications Site – Existing VF SW Site, A57 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7JD, NGR E: 389378 N: 395737**

The operator has fully investigated upgrading this site to provide the latest technologies for 4G services as well as new 5G coverage/capacity in to the Telefonica network. However, the slim line street furniture base stations that have been inserted into the local street scene are not capable of accommodating all of the differing equipment that is required to meet the site specific demand of both operators and customers for this area from a single street furniture pole, being mindful of the spectrum variations. To this end, many existing shared street-work installations are being removed from the 'single grid', meaning the existing pole will become operator unilateral for 5G provision. This creates the necessity for an additional new street furniture base station in the cell to accommodate the technological requirements of the other unilateral operator – either Vodafone or Telefonica (O2).

To continue to share an existing structure at this location would require significant redevelopment of the existing structure to a much more structurally robust mast capable of hosting all the differing antennas and equipment from both operators to address their spectrum variations. This would move away from the relatively uniform and slimline street furniture poles proposed and therefore it is felt that a secondary, more slimline, street-pole is a more appropriate and sensitive solution to 5G service provision whilst minimising impact for a street furniture setting.

This existing telecommunications site has been discounted for Telefonica's new technology requirements for this reason. A new replacement site for Telefonica is therefore needed to provide this operator with the latest 2G, 3G 4G and 5G technologies. The existing site will remain in place for Vodafone technologies.

- **Greenfield – McDonald's Car Park, Wall Way, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7WY, NGR E: 389375 N: 395852**

There is insufficient space for the Operator to acquire 2-3 spaces without having a detrimental impact on the business and will increase parking issues on the adjoining roads. This option was therefore discounted.

- **Greenfield – Debdale Outdoor Centre, Wall Way, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7LJ, NGR E: 389437 N: 395877**

There are mature trees located to the north east of the site and the Operator would require a mast in excess of 22m to clear these and provide the replacement coverage required from this site.

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- Greenfield – SW on A57 Central Reservation, A57 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7LN, NGR E: 389453 N: 395737**

There is a Subway located beneath this area therefore no excavation for the pole's foundation will be possible. This option was therefore discounted due to issues in constructing the site.
- Greenfield – Debdale Park, Wall Way, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7LN, NGR E: 389453 N: 395737**

The Park is Public Outdoor Space. Installing a ground based mast within the Park grounds was deemed unacceptable by the applicant within such a protected setting such as Debdale Park.
- Greenfield – SW adj. to Bus Stop, A57 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7LH, NGR E: 389505 N: 395720**

It is not possible to install a street furniture installation at this location due to unresolvable underground services in order to deliver the required level of coverage to the target area. This site has therefore been discounted for this reason.
- Greenfield – Footway Outside Park, Reddish Lane, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7JN, NGR E: 389439 N: 395616**

It is not possible to install a street furniture installation at this location due to unresolvable underground services in order to deliver the required level of coverage to the target area. In addition, there are numerous underground services at this location which will not allow the site to be built safely without major diversions of the utilities.
- Greenfield – GF on Large Verge, Wall Way, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7JN, NGR E: 389417 N: 395817**

The operator investigated installing their equipment on the large verge adjacent to the McDonalds, however on title investigations, the presence of an underground canal were discovered within this area, consequently the Mast could not be built within this location due to the stability of the land beneath.
- Greenfield – Debdale Leisure Centre (Shared Access), A57 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7LJ, NGR E: 389407 N: 395928**

The Centre is set back from the A57 and there are mature trees which would block the operators replacement coverage along the A57 Hyde Road and this would have a detrimental impact on the network. This option was therefore discounted based on poor replacement coverage.

In line with Best Practice principles we have shared these details with local councillors, planning officers, and the local ward councillors for Gorton & Abbey Hey.

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ICNIRP Compliance

All Cornerstone 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.

Radio Technology and Health

Useful information sources on this include:

Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development

<http://www.mobileuk.org/cms-assets/documents/259876-147086.code-of-best-practice-2016-edition-pub>

National Planning Policy Framework

www.communities.gov.uk

World Health Organisation Electromagnetic Fields

www.who.int/peh-emf/en

International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection

www.icnirp.de

I trust all is clear from the enclosed but if you have further questions on this or any other matter concerning Telefonica please do not hesitate to contact us through Community Consultation & EMF Enquiries within 14 days from the date of this letter.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me (quoting cell number CTIL_30292601)

Yours faithfully,



Simon Batchelor
Consultant Surveyor
Clarke Telecom Ltd
Email: simon.batchelor@clarke-telecom.com
Tel: 07841 684860

(for and on behalf of Cornerstone)

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