

Our ref: CTIL_12232131_TEF_92555_VF_3398

Chief Planning Officer

Planning
Manchester City Council
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Via Email

16th February 2021

Dear Sirs

PROPOSED UPGRADE TO EXISTING RADIO BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT CTIL_12232131_TEF_92555_VF_3398 LLOYDS WAREHOUSING, HOLT STREET, NEWTON HEATH, GREATER MANCHESTER, M40 5AP. NGRS E:386792 N:400407

Telefónica UK Limited has entered into an agreement with Vodafone Limited pursuant to which the two companies plan to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK. These arrangements will be overseen by Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (Cornerstone) which is a joint venture company owned by Telefónica UK Limited and Vodafone Limited.

This agreement allows both organisations to:

- Pool their basic network infrastructure, while running two, independent, nationwide networks
- Maximise opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations
- Significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development.

Cornerstone and Telefónica are in the process of progressing a suitable site in the Newton Heath area for a radio base station. We aim to work with you to progress a proposal that is both acceptable to your authority and meets Telefónica's technical network requirements. This approach accords with Telefónica's Best Practice Commitments to ensure consultation with Local Planning Authorities and other appropriate key stakeholders.

As part of Telefónica's continued network improvement program, there is a specific requirement for an upgrade to the existing installation at this location to provide enhanced 2G, 3G and 4G coverage and capacity, and new 5G coverage ensuring that this area of Newton Heath has access to the latest technologies.

Mobiles can only work with a network of base stations in place where people want to use their mobile phones or other wireless devices. Without base stations, the mobile phones and other devices we rely on simply won't work.

This letter therefore invites the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with planning policy guidance and Best Practice Commitments, to enter into pre-application discussions with regard to our preferred site option prior to a formal planning submission. Several steps in the site identification process have already been undertaken. The Local Planning Authority must register and our records of other potential sites have been reviewed, the policies in the Development Plan have been taken into account and we have examined the inter-operator site sharing database.

Our technical network requirement is as follows:

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The site is needed to provide enhanced 2G, 3G, 4G coverage and capacity for Telefónica as well as new 5G service provision to ensure that its customers experience access to the latest technologies currently available. The installation will also meet the extra demands on the network in this area as new technologies improve increasing the demand for 4G and 5G technologies. In line with both operators joint agreement, this upgraded site will ensure that Vodafone as well as Telefónica will be able to utilise the same site and maintain and enhance their coverage in the area as well.

The Government recognises that widespread coverage of mobile connectivity is essential for people and businesses. People expect to be connected where they live, work, visit and travel. That is why the Government is committed to extending mobile geographical coverage further across the UK, with continuous mobile connectivity provided to all major roads and to being a world leader in 5G. This will allow everyone in the country to benefit from the economic advantages of widespread mobile coverage. As well as improved mobile signal, 5G networks are also crucial to drive productivity and growth across the sectors that local areas are focusing on through their emerging Local Industrial Strategies. Enabling and planning for 5G implementation is central to achieving the Government's objective to deliver property at the local level and enable all places to share in the proceeds of growth.

The Government is determined to ensure the UK receives the coverage and connectivity it needs. To this end, the Government wants to be a world leader in 5G, the next generation of wireless connectivity, and for communities to benefit from the investments in the new technology.

The case for 5G is compelling as it will bring faster, more responsive and reliable connections than ever before. More than any previous generation of mobile networks, it has the potential to improve the way people live, work and travel, and to deliver significant benefits to the economy and industry through the ability to connect more devices to the Internet at the same time, creating the so-called "Internet of Things". This will enable communities to manage traffic flow and control energy usage, monitor patient health remotely, and increase productivity for business and farmers, all through the real-time management of data.

The demand for mobile data in the UK is increasing rapidly, and as households and businesses become increasingly reliant on mobile connectivity, the infrastructure must be in place to ensure supply does not become a constraint on future demand.

A number of options have been assessed in respect of the site search process and the preferred Telefónica option is as follows:

LLOYDS WAREHOUSING, HOLT STREET, NEWTON HEATH, GREATER MANCHESTER, M40 5AP. NGRS E:386792 N:400407

The proposed works comprise:

- The removal of the existing 26 metre high Lattice Tower; 6no Antennas; 1no 300mm Transmission Dish and RRU's.
- The installation of a replacement 25 metre high Lattice Tower;
- Re-located 6no Vodafone Antennas and 3no additional Vodafone Antennas and 2no 300mm Transmission Dishes;

- The installation of 9no Telefonica Antennas and 2no 300mm Transmission Dishes;
- The installation of 1no Equipment Cabinet and 2no Racks installed at ground level;
- The installation of RRUs and ancillary development required thereto.

The operators are proposing to upgrade their existing installation to ensure the latest high quality, reliable, secure communications technology is able to be provided from this location. The amendments to the existing scheme are essential in order that customers' handheld devices continue to operate for the purposes in which they have become accustomed, accessible wherever they are whether that be indoors or outside.

As this is an existing ground based installation and the amendments are relatively minor in nature, this is sequentially the most preferable site for the operators to upgrade their existing service provision to this cell area. As such, no other options have been considered.

All Telefónica 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 would be grateful if you could advise us of any pending telecommunications applications or recent planning decisions in this particular area so these can be evaluated.

Finally, we would be interested in any local stakeholders or groups that you consider would like to know more about our proposals. For your information pre-consultation letters and a set of plans have been sent to the local ward councillors for Miles Platting & Newton Heath Ward and the local MP Lucy Powell.

We enclose a copy of our Consultation Plan and welcome your suggestions.

We look forward to receiving your response within 14 days of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Simon Batchelor".

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(for and on behalf of Telefonica UK Limited)