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Our ref: CTIL_30320101_TF_89139

Ms Lucy Powell MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Email: contact@lucypowell.org.uk

VIA EMAIL

18th August 2020

Dear Ms Powell

PROPOSED RADIO BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT CTIL_30320101_TF_89139 SW NEAR TO SMITHFIELD MARKET, WHITWORTH STREET EAST, OPENSHAW, MANCHESTER, GREATER MANCHESTER. M11 2NQ. NGRS E:388527 N:397334

Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (Cornerstone) is a joint venture company owned by Vodafone Limited and Telefónica UK Limited, commonly known as O2, who manage a single grid network across the UK for these companies. This agreement allows both organisations to pool their basic network infrastructure, while running two, independent, nationwide networks. It maximises opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations and where possible can significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development.

5G rollout has begun and both Vodafone and Telefónica 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 Openshaw. 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.

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 for Telefonica. It 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@ctil.co.uk

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

Summary of the proposal

A number of options have been assessed in respect of the site search process but we consider the best option for the new service provision to comprise the installation of a 20m slim-line column supporting 6 no. antennas, 2no. transmission dishes, 2 no. equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto including a GPS module and 3 no. Remote Radio Units (RRUs) at the **SW NEAR TO SMITHFIELD MARKET, WHITWORTH STREET EAST, OPENSHAW, MANCHESTER, GREATER MANCHESTER. M11 2NQ. NGRS E:388527 N:397334**. 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 Openshaw. 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 Openshaw 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.

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:

Site ³	Site Name and address		NGR	Reason for not choosing ⁴
ETS - existing Telecom site	Name	Existing VF SW Site	Eastings 387999 Northings 397363	SP - Site Provider
	Line 1	Bertha Street		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.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2NB		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Development Land	Eastings 387957 Northings 397462	RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	Jct. Welcomb Street & Ashton Old Road		This is a plot of development land that is on the market for sale. The installation of a new ground based mast at this location would impact on the ability of this land being developed on this key transport route into the city centre. This option was therefore discounted.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2NL		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Clayton Court	Eastings 388033 Northings 397407	T - Technical Difficulties
	Line 1	Welcomb Street		This location is situated at a ground height circa 8m lower than the land to the north. Radio would therefore require a mast height in excess of 25m to provide the replacement coverage and this was deemed to have a greater detrimental affect on the visual amenity of the surrounding area than the preferred option. This site has therefore been discounted for this reason.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2NB		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Car Park of Tile Store	Eastings 387913 Northings 397475	RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	South Street		The Car Park is extremely small and if the operator install a new site, it would reduce the Car Park by 2-3 space and this is likely to have a detrimental impact on the business. This was therefore discounted based on this reason.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2FY		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Wood Street SW	Eastings 387804 Northings 397472	RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	Jct Wood St. & South St.		The footway at this location is too narrow to accommodate the operator's equipment. As such, it would lead to highway safety issues. A site in this location has therefore been discounted for this reason.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2FB		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Development Land Redby	Eastings 387856 Northings 397466	RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	Jct. Redby St. & Ashton Rd.		This is a plot of development land that is on the market for sale. The installation of a new ground based mast at this location would impact on the ability of this land being developed on this key transport route into the city centre. This option was therefore discounted.
	Line 2	Openshaw		
	Town	Manchester		
	County	Greater Manchester		
	Postcode	M11 2NL		

GF - Greenfield	me	SW Bertha Street		RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	Bertha Street	Eastings	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.
	Line 2	Openshaw	387984	
	Town	Manchester	Northings	
	County	Greater Manchester	397408	
	Postcode	M11 2NB		
GF - Greenfield	Name	SW adj. City Works Centre		RD - Redevelopment not possible
	Line 1	Ashton Old Road	Eastings	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.
	Line 2	Openshaw	388217	
	Town	Manchester	Northings	
	County	Greater Manchester	397433	
	Postcode	M11 2NH		
GF - Greenfield	Name	Existing Mast		T - Technical Difficulties
	Line 1	off Cornwall Street	Eastings	An installation at this location is located too far to the East to deliver the required level of coverage to the target area. This site has therefore been discounted for this reason.
	Line 2	Openshaw	388624	
	Town	Manchester	Northings	
	County	Greater Manchester	397340	
	Postcode	M11 1AA		

In line with Best Practice principles we have shared these details with planning officers, the local ward councillors for Clayton & Openshaw Ward and the head teacher and Chair of Governors for Varna Community Primary School..

ICNIRP Compliance

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.

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 Telefónica please do not hesitate to contact us through Community Consultation & EMF Enquiries within 14 days from the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Simon Batchelor
Consultant Surveyor



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(for and on behalf of Telefonica UK Limited)

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