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Our ref: MBNL_ARN004

Mr Nick Gibb MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Email: 

VIA EMAIL

8th June 2020

Dear Mr Gibb

**PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION – RADIO BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT MBNL_ARN004
VICTORIA ROAD/CHICHESTER RD, BOGNOR REGIS, WEST SUSSEX, PO22 9LQ. NGRs E:493470
N:99960**

Clarke Telecom Ltd act on behalf of the mobile telecommunications operator MBNL. MBNL undertakes the management and network deployment of telecommunications sites on behalf of both EE (UK) Ltd and Hutchison 3G UK Limited. The proposal is for a new Hutchison 3G UK Limited column, in order to provide the latest 4G and new 5G technologies to the Bognor Regis area.

This letter is sent to you in the pre-planning application consultation phase of the development for a new mast and is simply intended to keep you informed and advised of the proposed development in your area prior to any planning application being submitted.

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

Summary of Proposal

As part of MBNL's continued network improvement program, there is a specific requirement for a new mast at the footway of Victoria Road/Chichester Road to ensure that the latest high quality 2G, 3G and 4G service provision continues to be provided in this area of Bognor Regis. The proposed new column will also ensure that new 5G coverage can also be provided at this location. This ensures that coverage and capacity requirements are maintained.

The proposal relates to the installation of a new monopole upto 20m in height supporting 6 no. antennas with a wrap around equipment cabinet at the base of the column, installation of 3 no. new equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto. Enclosed for reference is a site location plan and an indicative drawing of the proposed monopole.

The proposed height is essential in order to ensure the latest 4G and new 5G technologies are provided in and around this area of Bognor Regis. These latest technologies operate at higher frequency bands than older technologies such as 2G and 3G. The higher the frequency band the greater the radio signal is naturally weakened. This means that the effects of clutter are even more significant than for the provision of older technologies. As a result, a higher column is normally required to maintain the same coverage footprint. The latest 4G technology and new 5G service provision carry higher capacity and data speeds to the user, this leads to such antennas having to be positioned at a higher height than more standard antennae and in turn a taller antenna height for 5G service provision.

The new column is located where there is an existing established radio base station. There are no other more suitable locations within the immediate area for the operator to locate their equipment. As such this is sequentially the most preferable site for the operator to install the new column and associated equipment cabinets.

In line with Best Practice principles we have shared these details with the local planning officers, local ward councillors for Hotham Ward, the county councillor Francis Oppler and Bognor Regis Parish Council.

ICNIRP Compliance

All MBNL 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 please do not hesitate to me.

I look forward to receiving any comments you may have on the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Jennie Hann BSc MTPL MRTPI
Planning Manager

Clarke Telecom Ltd

Tel: 01461 785 4500

(For MBNL on behalf of Hutchison 3G UK Limited)