15 May 2020



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**SENT BY PLANNING PORTAL** 

Dear Sir / Madam,

MBNL (EE (UK) LTD AND H3G (UK) LTD)
PRIOR APPROVAL NOTIFICATION UNDER PART 16 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2016
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT SKIMMINGDISH LANE, BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE, OX26 5AD

We write on behalf of MBNL (EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd), with regard to the installation of telecommunications apparatus at the above location. EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd are licensed operators of an electronic communications network in accordance with the Communications Act 2003. EE Ltd and H3G are obliged to provide a mobile telecommunications network in the United Kingdom and to meet all reasonable customer demands.

EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd benefits from permitted development rights for this development as set out under the above Order. Under paragraph A.3.(3) of Part 16 EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd are required to apply to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority will be required to the siting and appearance of the development set out below:

• The installation of a 16 metre phase 8 pole with wrap around cabinet built around the base, 3no. new equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto.

The notification includes the following supporting information and technical justification for the siting and appearance of the proposal:

- Completed planning application forms generated by the Planning Portal
- Planning Drawings ref: 002 Site Location Plan with the proposed site, 100 Existing Site Plan, 150 Existing Site Elevation, 215 Proposed Site Plan and 265 Proposed Elevation
- Supplementary Information form,
- ICNIRP Certificate.
- £462 made payable via the Planning Portal in respect of the planning application fee
- Copy of the Developers Notice and letter with proof of delivery served on the owner(s) of the site and any
  agricultural tenant.
- Copy of the letter sent to the CAA or Aerodrome operator, as required.

The proposed new mast has been sited and designed in order to provide 5G coverage and to support the existing mobile network. At present it is paramount that digital connectivity is supported and maintained throughout the country. In particular, the current massive shift in user demand from city centres and places of work to residential areas and suburbs requires an improvement in coverage and capacity throughout the whole network. The current proposal therefore provides such additional capacity to the network whilst still promoting the improved 5G technology.

The proposed development is within the limits set out in Part 16 for permitted development with prior approval. The location enables the whole of the surrounding area to benefit from 5G network coverage and has been designed to be future proofed, thus enabling other technologies to be deployed depending upon the demand required. As the shift in demand is expected for the foreseeable future and as Central Government considers digital communications to be a critical national infrastructure, we intend to support customers and local residents by ensuring as little disruption as possible. The existing site will therefore be retained so that all existing users may benefit at this difficult time. In addition, EE will become the Emergency Services Network Provider and in order to dedicate the 4G network for that use, the intention is to support all users during the current climate and to maintain all current services without the removal of any existing equipment.

While we appreciate that your Council may have ongoing difficulties in progressing applications due to the current restrictions, we would urge you to try and progress this application as a 'Priority Submission' within the 56 day timeframe due to its critical national importance communications have at this time.

If appropriate, we would be keen to arrange a presentation or meeting with your officers and members to discuss this proposal and we would be happy to provide any additional information that is required to assist in the determination of this application. We look forward to receiving your acknowledgement that this application has been registered.

Yours faithfully,



Chris Taylor

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For and on behalf of MBNL (EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd)

Enc.