TELECOMMUNICATION INSTALLATION

FOR

'everything everywhere'
and
'3'

AT

Telecommunications Site,
Barwell Water Tower,
Shilton Road,
Barwell, Leicester,
LE9 8AJ.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

July 2011

Prepared By

Daly International

everything everywhere ref:
95199 Barwell Water Tower

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Site Details

Site Name:	Barwell Water Tower	Site Address:	Shilton Road, Barwell, Leicester, LE9 8AJ.
NGR:	E 445056, N 297125		
Site Ref Number:	95199	Site Type:[1]	Macro

2. Pre Application Check List

Site Selection

Was an LPA mast register used to check for suitable sites by the operator or the LPA?	Yes	**No**
If no explain why:		
Was the industry site database checked for suitable sites by the operator:	Yes	**No**
If no explain why:		

Annual roll out consultation with LPA

Date of last annual rollout information/submission:	October 2010
Name of Contact:	Chief Planning Officer
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised:	It was agreed that the LPA, 'everything everywhere' and '3' would adhere to the 10 Commitments.

Pre-application consultation with LPA

Date of written offer of pre-application consultation:		
Was there pre-application contact:	Yes	**No**
Date of pre-application contact:		
Name of contact:		
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: As the proposed development is considered a minimal addition to an existing site, it was deemed unnecessary to conduct any pre-application consultations.		

Ten Commitments Consultation

[1] Macro or Micro

Rating of Site under Traffic Light Model:	Red	Amber	**Green**
Outline Consultation carried out: The proposal was rated as GREEN, in accordance with the guidelines set within the code of best practice for telecommunication operators. Due to this rating, and the fact that the development is considered as a minor alteration to an existing site, no consultation was deemed necessary.			
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: N/A.			

School/College

Location of site in relation to school/college: The proposed development will be located more than 200 metres from the nearest school.
Outline of consultation carried out with school/college: As the proposed new works are minor in nature and located away from any of the surrounding schools it was deemed unnecessary to carry-out pre-application consultation prior to the submission of this application.
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: N/A.

Civil Aviation Authority/Secretary of State for Defence/Aerodrome Operator consultation (only required for an application for prior approval)

Will the structure be within 3km of an aerodrome or airfield?	Yes	**No**
Has the Civil Aviation Authority/Secretary of State for Defence/Aerodrome Operator been notified?	Yes	**No**
Details of response: N/A		

Developer's Notice

Copy of Developer's Notice enclosed?	**Yes**	No
Date served:	14th July 2011	

3. Proposed Development

The proposed site:	
Telecommunications site, Barwell Water Tower, Shilton Road, Barwell, Leicester LE9 8AJ. NGR: E 445056, N 297125.	
Type of Structure : Rooftop installation	
Description: The installation of 1 no. 300mmØ dish antenna and 1 no. 600mmØ dish antenna onto existing support poles at the rooftop telecommunications site.	
Overall Height:	28.5.m (for both dishes)
Height of existing building :	30.2 m (to top of plant room roof)
Equipment Housing:	N/A
Length	
Width	
Height	
Materials :	
Tower/mast etc – type of material and external colour:	N/A
Equipment housing – type of material and external colour:	N/A

Reasons for choice of design:
It is proposed to install 1 no. 300mmØ dish antenna and 1 no. 600mmØ dish antenna onto existing support poles mounted on the inside of the parapet wall on the top of Barwell Water Tower. Due to the technology involved there is no variation in terms of the design of the equipment it is proposed to install. The dish antennae are of the smallest scale possible to provide the level of service required. It is felt that the proposed works will have only a minimal impact upon views of the building, representing an addition of 900mm to an existing cumulative dish diameter of 7.95m on the building's roof.

4. Technical Information

ICNIRP Declaration attached No ICNIRP certificate is required for the proposed works as dish antennae do not impact on emissions regulated by this standard in any way.	Yes	**No**

5. Technical Justification

Reason(s) why site required e.g. coverage, upgrade, capacity:
Purpose of proposed works The additional dishes are required to optimise the efficiency of the network by improving the links between the application site and surrounding cell sites, and to accommodate the provision of coverage for additional operators from this installation. For confirmation, it is advised that the proposed scheme will provide coverage for 'everything everywhere' and '3'. Under 'everything everywhere', T-Mobile and Orange have developed the capability to share frequencies, allowing a customer of either operator to receive telecommunications coverage from each operators' broadcasting sites. '3' and 'everything everywhere' are now sharing a number of sites around the country. This enables the provision of coverage for three operators through one visible telecommunications installation. These innovative solutions are reducing the overall number of telecommunications sites required throughout the country and have already seen a number of telecommunications sites being decommissioned. To accommodate '3' at this site and to improve coverage two dish antennae must be added in order to link this site effectively with the surrounding base stations.

6. Site Selection Process – alternative sites considered and not chosen

If no alternative site options have been investigated, please explain why: No alternative site options have been investigated as the works proposed are the necessary upgrade of an existing site.
Additional relevant information:

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

This statement forms part of an application on behalf of 'everything everywhere' and '3'. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 42 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 which requires the submission of a Design and Access Statement to accompany planning applications.

Application for Planning Permission

This application for planning permission is submitted pursuant to Article 4C of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 (as amended).

The Application Site

The applicant site is located on the roof of a 30.2 m tall (to top of plant room roof) concrete water tower. The vicinity of the water tower consists of a mainly low rise residential area composed of dwellings built in the last quarter of the twentieth century with a leafy aspect. Further to the south residential development gives way to open farmland some of which is used for market gardening.

Barwell Water Tower is the tallest structure in the area, making it a suitable location for telecommunications equipment. There are consequently numerous antennae and related installations on top of the structure.

Site Design and Appearance

The proposed dish antennae are to be located atop Barwell Water Tower, a 30.2 m tall (to top of plant room roof) structure. The dishes are to be 300mmØ and 600mmØ respectively and will be attached to existing support poles on the inside of the parapet wall on top of the tower.

Great care has been given to ensuring that the dish antennae proposed are the smallest that can be employed whilst ensuring that satisfactory network coverage is achieved. The proposed dishes will share the rooftop with numerous existing antennae and dishes. It is suggested that the overall visual change effected by the proposed works will be close to indiscernible.

Possible Electrical Interference

We can advise on behalf of our client that the proposed installations should not cause any undue electrical interference for nearby residents. 'everything everywhere' and '3' operate within radio frequency bands which are licensed and specific to them, and this is regulated in the UK by the Office of Communications (Ofcom).

Health and Safety

The latest government research conducted by the Independent Expert Group on Mobile Phone Technology titled "Mobile Phones and Health" (also known as the Stewart Report) concluded that "the balance of evidence indicates that there is no general risk to the health of people living near to base stations on the basis that exposures are expected to be small fractions of the guidelines".

However, the report also recommended, as a precautionary approach, that the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure be adopted in the UK. In response to the report, the Government has stated that emissions from base stations should meet the ICNIRP guidelines and that if they do then local authorities need take no further action.

As no changes are to be made to the transmitting antennae at this site, with only two microwave dishes being installed, no new ICNIRP certificate is required for this application.

Noise

As this proposal simply involves the addition of 2 no. dish antennae, there will be no noise issues related to this site.

Planning Policy Framework / Development Plan Policy

The development plan currently guiding development in the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council area is the local plan adopted in February 2001. To assess the appropriateness of this proposal one key policy relating to telecommunications developments need to be consulted. It states:

POLICY BE23 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS

PLANNING PERMISSION FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS MASTS AND ANTENNAE WILL BE GRANTED UNLESS:

A THERE ARE FEASIBLE OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE EXISTING FACILITIES; OR
B THE SPECIAL SITING NEEDS OF THE EQUIPMENT ARE OUTWEIGHED BY SIGNIFICANT DETRIMENTAL VISUAL IMPACT, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS OF PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE COUNTRYSIDE.

The proposed works are the most minor possible to facilitate the effective operation of the existing telecommunications site, the technical need for the installation having been detailed in this application; essentially the improvement of service provision for the customers of three service providers. The result of the proposed works will be the addition of 900mmØ to a substantial existing cumulative dish diameter on the structure, which it is considered to represent a minor augmentation, resulting in negligible visual change when viewed from ground level. In summary it is felt that this minor development is in full compliance with the planning policies of the local council.

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Guidance Note 8 – Telecommunications (Revised) August 2001 (PPG8) provides guidance on the planning requirements of telecommunications development and attention is drawn to the following paragraphs of PPG8:

Paragraph 1 states: "The government's policy is to facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum." Paragraph 2 continues: "The aim of telecommunication policy is to ensure that people have a choice as to who provides their telecommunications services, a wider range of services from which to choose and equitable access to the latest technologies as they become available."

In respect of need, paragraph 6 states: "Authorities should not seek to prevent competition between different operators and should not question the need for the telecommunications systems which the proposed development is to support". Paragraph 14 requires that "Protection from visual intrusion and the implications for subsequent network development will be important considerations in determining applications."

Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Deployment – (November 2002)

The office of the Deputy Prime Minister released the Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Deployment in November 2002. Though the Code is a non-statutory document, as it was prepared jointly by representatives of central and local government and the mobile phone industry, it is a material consideration in this instance. The Code provides a principled approach to best practice for the voluntary and compulsory planning procedures, and for the siting and design of telecommunication installations.

General design principles for the siting and design of all telecommunication installations is contained in paragraph 125 of the Code, though it is acknowledged in paragraph 126 that the options for design can be affected by site conditions, technical constraints, landscape features and capacity requirements.

Paragraph 135 of the Code outlines key considerations when siting equipment on an existing building. These include:

- Be painted to correspond with the background or to reduce contrast;
- Keep in proportion to the building or structure;
- Have minimal impact above the roof line;
- Not be detrimental to views and general skyline;
- Avoid creating clutter.

In summary, the planning application submitted herewith fully embraces both the voluntary and compulsory good practice principles contained within the Code

Conclusions

National planning policy as set out in PPG 8 is to facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems, and operators have obligations to meet customer demands for improved quality of service. This application details the technical need for the installation to provide improved customer service for customers of three mobile operators.

'everything everywhere' and '3' have identified that this upgrade is required to improve the service provided and to meet the demands of customers in this area. The proposed installation represents both the optimum planning/environmental and technical solution in this instance. As such, the development as proposed is in accordance with both local and national planning guidance as defined above.

For the reasons set out above, we consider that this application should be approved.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents may be of assistance in determining this application:

- PPG 8 – www.planning.odpm.gov.uk/ppg/ppg8/index.htm
- Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development – www.odpm.gov.uk
- Office of Communications (Ofcom) – www.ofcom.org.uk

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