

Our ref: CS 24156921

25 October 2024

The Chief Planning Officer
Gravesham Borough Council
Civic Centre
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 1AU

Avison Young
6th Floor
11 York Street
Manchester
M2 2AW

By Email: Planning.general@gravesham.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED BASE STATION UPGRADE AT A227 WROTHAM ROAD STREET FURNITURE, MEOPHAM, KENT, DA13 0AH (NGRs: E 564349 / N 165882)

Cornerstone is the UK's leading mobile infrastructure services company. We acquire, manage and own over 20,000 sites and are committed to enabling best in class mobile connectivity for over half of all the country's mobile customers. We oversee works on behalf of telecommunications providers and wherever possible aim to:

- promote shared infrastructure
- maximise opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations
- significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development

Cornerstone are in the process of improving their service provision and have identified an existing site that is suitable for an equipment upgrade on behalf of Vodafone Limited. We aim to work with you to progress a proposal that is both acceptable to your authority and meets our customer's technical network requirements. This approach accords with Cornerstone's Best Practice Commitments to ensure consultation with Local Planning Authorities and other appropriate key stakeholders.

As part of the operator's continued network improvement program, there is a specific requirement for a radio base station upgrade at this location to replace existing equipment with the latest technologies, which will improve existing coverage provisions for better signal strength, capacity and speed.

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

In the first instance, all correspondence should be directed to the agent.

Cornerstone Planning Consultation Letter to LPA V.2 – 15/04/2021

Registered Address:
Cornerstone Telecommunications, Infrastructure Limited,
Hive 2, 1530 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA.
Registered in England & Wales No. 08087551.
VAT No. GB142 8555 06

 Cornerstone, Hive 2,
1530 Arlington Business Park,
Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA

with regard to the proposed works. Following this consultation, we will proceed to issue the formal notification letter outlining the operator's intention to utilise permitted development rights.

The Local Planning Authority mast 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. As the proposed works involve the upgrade of an existing base station, it was not necessary to identify alternative site options in accordance with the Code of Best Practice for telecommunications development.

Description of Development: Removal of 1no existing 12.5m monopole and 3no existing antennas to be replaced with 1no new 17.5m monopole and 6no new antennas, installation of 2no new equipment cabinets and other associated ancillary works thereto.

All Cornerstone 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 subsequent notification letter.

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. We enclose a copy of our Consultation Plan and welcome your suggestions. We look forward to receiving any comments you may have within 14 days of the date of this letter.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me (quoting cell number CS 24156921).

Yours faithfully



Mandy Poon MRTPI

Associate Planner, Technology

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6th Floor, 11 York Street, Manchester M2 2AW

(for and on behalf of Cornerstone)

Enc. Drawings

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