



Cell Number: GVM091/30702

31st July 2023

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

Dear Sir/Madam

EE Limited and H3G (UK) Limited

PRIOR APPROVAL NOTIFICATION UNDER PART 16 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) (ENGLAND) (AS AMENDED).

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A 18M MONOPOLE, 9 NO. ANTENNA APERTURES, 2 NO. 300MM TRANSMISSION DISHES, 6 NO. EQUIPMENT CABINETS AND DEVELOPMENT ANCILLARY THERETO AT VALE ROAD, GRAVESHAM, KENT, DA11 9RE. NGR (E: 562865, N: 173525).

We write on behalf of EE Limited and H3G (UK) Limited, to make a formal application for the installation of telecommunications apparatus at the above location. This location has been identified as being necessary for EE & H3G's business development and meets its specific technical and operational requirements. The identification of this location for development follows pre-application discussions with your department.

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.

Base stations use radio signals to connect mobile devices and phones to the network, enabling people to send and receive; calls, texts, emails, pictures, web, TV and downloads. Without base stations, mobiles devices and phones will not work.

Many other everyday items also use radio signals to send and receive information, such as television and radio broadcasting equipment and two-way radio communications. Base stations are connected to each other and telephone exchange buildings by cables or wireless technology such as microwave dishes, to create the network. The area each base station covers is called a "cell". Each cell overlaps with its neighbouring cells to create a continuous network. The size and shape of each cell is determined by the features of the surrounding area, such as buildings, trees and hills which can block signals. When people travel between cells, the signal is transferred between base stations without a break in service. Each base station covers a certain area only and can only handle a limited number of calls at once. As mobile phones and devices become more popular, more base stations are needed to ensure continuous coverage.

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 improved 5G network coverage and has been designed to be future proof, thus enabling other technologies to be deployed depending upon the demand required. As the shift in demand is expected for the foreseeable future and that 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. 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.

EE (UK) Ltd AND H3G (UK) Ltd benefit from permitted development rights for this development as set out under the above Order. Under Schedule 2, Part 24 of the Town and Country Planning General Permitted Development Order 1995 (As amended) 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:

Installation of an 18m monopole, 9 no. antenna apertures, 2 no. 300mm transmission dishes, 6 no. equipment cabinets and development ancillary thereto.

This application follows pre-application consultation dated 18th June 2024. It is proposed to introduce new infrastructure to the area to allow new technology which will allow networks to be able to handle more data and connect more devices simultaneously at much faster speeds. This will enable the area to remain competitive and will support the Government's ambition for the UK to become a world leader in telecommunications technologies and development.

It is imperative that support is given to the introduction of new infrastructure to allow new technology as this will allow networks to be able to handle more data and connect more devices simultaneously at much faster speeds than is possible using the existing technology.

In support of the application the following information is enclosed:-

- Application form and relevant certificates
- Planning drawings
- Prescribed fee - £648 including the Planning Portal fee.
- Supplementary Information Template
- ICNIRP

In selecting the site, the applicant has had regard to national and local planning policies, the site context, potential alternative solutions, visual impact, health and safety considerations as well as operational need. It is considered that the application site and the proposed form of development provide the optimum solution in this instance.

Should you have any queries in respect of the information submitted or indeed require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, I await your earliest positive response.

Yours faithfully,

Helen K Bolam

Helen Bolam
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For and on behalf of EE Limited and H3G (UK) Limited

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