

Review of Mobile Technology and Telecommunications Equipment in Hillingdon Borough and beyond: Witness Session 4

REASON FOR ITEM

To enable the Committee to gather evidence as part of their review of Mobile Technology and Telecommunications Equipment in Hillingdon Borough and beyond

INFORMATION

Aim of review

To look into the future growth of mobile telephone masts and ancillary equipment and the effects on the residents and environment of Hillingdon and beyond.

Terms of Reference

1. To explore the future of mobile phone technology, e.g. 4G/5G and the transmission facilities that will be required
2. To review the Council's existing planning policies on the installation of mobile phone masts generally, e.g. on roofs and specifically in relation to council owned premises;
3. To investigate the new generation of telecommunications and explore new designs of telecommunications masts;
4. To explore how local authorities liaise with mobile phone operators and their subsidiaries over mobile phone mast locations;
5. To investigate the appropriate use of phone masts in localities and their design within the local environment
6. To explore the views of residents, residents' associations and other key stakeholders who experience mobile phone masts in their vicinity or use mobile telephones, e.g. businesses.
7. To identify further opportunities for the sharing of mobile phone masts within the current regulatory framework
8. To examine best practice through information-sharing with other local authorities at home and overseas
9. To present the Committee's findings and any recommendations to Cabinet for consideration as Council policy.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

1. Question the witnesses as required.
2. Ask additional/supplementary questions as required.
3. Highlight issues for further investigation.

WITNESSES

For this witness session, Members will be focussing on the issues faced by Highways Engineers when approving telecommunications cabinets to be placed on highways. The Committee will be seeking clarification regarding

the policy and procedures of the placement of the cabinets, and whether cabinets are regularly inspected by Highways Engineers.

With this in mind, the Committee have invited Highways Officers from the London Borough of Hillingdon's Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services department to the meeting on 07 December 2011.

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

1. Members to question the witnesses and identify issues for their review
2. Members to consider any written evidence provided
3. Members to discuss the evidence gathered to date on their review and note any potential draft recommendations.