

**RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
2011/2012 REVIEW OF MITIGATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS AND CABINETS
IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON AND BEYOND**

	Recommendation	Action
1. Future Demand	That the London Borough of Hillingdon Planning Service Officers monitor the development of wireless technology and industry updates and recommend to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation & Recycling how the Council's planning policies may need to be adapted.	Officers will discuss the final Development Document Policy for Telecommunication as soon as the policy is finalised.
2. Technical		
i)	That the London Borough of Hillingdon's Highways Department undertakes random checks to ensure that masts and cabinets are sited where agreed/specified in original application.	These checks are now being undertaken by the Highway Enforcement Team.
ii)	That the London Borough of Hillingdon's Planning Department works with Utility Operators to ensure that telecommunication and broadband cabinets are more secure.	James Rodger, Head of Planning, Sport and Green Spaces has scheduled a meeting with BT and Virgin to discuss this matter.
iii)	That the London Borough of Hillingdon Planning Service requests that when Operators are asked to remove redundant masts and cabinet, they report such activity to the Local Authority Planning Department;	Will be raised at the annual mobile phone operators' rollout meeting on 13 December 2012.
iv)	That the Head of Planning requests that operators, as part of their annual roll out plans, identify any obsolete equipment and a timescale for its removal;	Will be raised at the annual mobile phone operators' rollout meeting on 13 December 2012.
v)	That Hillingdon Planning Department add a condition to mast approvals requiring obsolete equipment to be removed within one month. The Head of Planning has advised a condition wording which would ensure equipment is removed within one calendar month, thus removing the ambiguity: <i>"All equipment not required for telecommunication purposes shall be removed from the site in its entirety and the site returned to its former state either within one calendar month of the equipment no longer being required or as soon as is reasonably practical, whichever is the sooner."</i>	This is now being actioned whereby this condition is being added as a standard condition on relevant telecom applications.
3. Planning		
i)	That the Head of Planning requests that all agents submitting applications on behalf of mobile phone operators be required to ensure that all planning proposal coverage maps submitted with proposals tally with the operators most up to date coverage charts.	This is being actioned and will be raised at the annual rollout meeting.
ii)	That Hillingdon's Corporate Property and Construction Service adopt a more flexible approach to the siting of masts and cabinets	This is now being actioned.

**RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
2011/2012 REVIEW OF MITIGATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS AND CABINETS
IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON AND BEYOND**

	on Council owned land, with the Corporate Director for Planning, Environment, Education & Community Services arbitrating when a conflict of opinion is created between the Planning department and the Corporate Property and Construction Service.	
iii)	That the telecommunications policy in the Development Management Document (DMD) which is being prepared as part of the Local Development Framework reflects the Committee's recommendations.	This is already being actioned.
iv)	That the department of Communities and Local Government is asked to provide more guidance to Local Planning Authorities on dealing with telecommunications infrastructure, taking into account the recommendations of this report;	Work in progress.
v)	The telecommunications operators submit with their International Commission on non-ionizing radiation protection (ICNIRP) certificates the signal strength and exclusion zone parameters with each planning application.	Mobile phone operators do provide this information.
4. Regulation i)	That Office for Communications (Ofcom) communicates their responsibilities under the Communications Act Section 73(3) to Local Authorities nationwide.	Ofcom were written to but merely referred the Council to existing published guidance. .
ii)	That the London Borough of Hillingdon Planning Department request Ofcom's support in ensuring the sharing of telecommunication equipment.	
5. Design i)	That the results of the 'Street Art' research exercise using funding from the Hillingdon Champion for the Arts be reported back to the Committee and act as a model for future design of telecommunications cabinets exercises.	The Competition for designs to decorate British Telecom (BT) cabinets (Green boxes) closed in July 2012. Three designs were selected in consultation with BT and these have been used to decorate 3 BT boxes situated in Uxbridge High Street.
ii)	That Local Authorities ask operators to prepare a	Will be raised at the annual mobile phone

**RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
2011/2012 REVIEW OF MITIGATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS AND CABINETS
IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON AND BEYOND**

	<p>catalogue of designs for masts and cabinets from which Local Authority Planning Department's can choose a design appropriate to an area, particularly conservation and historic areas.</p>	<p>operators' rollout meeting on 13 December 2012.</p>
<p>6. Health i)</p>	<p>That the London Borough of Hillingdon use Freedom of Information (FOI) powers to require ICNIRP monitoring reports of a sample of existing masts in Hillingdon (from a limited sample of sites identified from the planning database) and to report back their findings to the RESPOC committee.</p>	<p>Ofcom regulates the operation of mobile networks in relation to their use of radio frequencies but does not have any duties related to the recommendations for exposure to EMF emissions. Ofcom has published advice on the topic which may be of help at Exposure to Electro Magnetic Fields</p> <p>1) Ofcom does not verify operators' compliance with ICNIRP guidelines; and</p> <p>2) Does not therefore hold any details of validation checks for telecom masts / telecommunications equipment.</p>
<p>ii)</p>	<p>That OFCOM assume responsibility to independently verify that telecommunications operators are complying with ICNIRP health standard.</p>	<p>Ofcom offers a Site Survey service, for measuring radio emission levels near to mobile phone base stations. Between 2001 and 2011, Ofcom funded and conducted a total of 724 surveys. The highest measurement recorded was 1/279th of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) safety threshold. No installation tested by Ofcom exceeded 0.005% of the specified radiation safety limit. The results are published on Ofcom's website: http://stakeholders.Ofcom.org.uk/sitefinder/mobile-base-station-audits/</p>