



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Site Details

Site Name:	HEATHROW TERMINAL 3	Site Address:	TERMINAL 3 CANBERRA ROAD HEATHROW AIRPORT HOUNSLOW LONDON TW6 1QG
National Grid Reference:	E: 507061 N: 175875		
Site Ref:	HGN081	Site Type: ¹	Macro

2. Pre-Application Check List - Site Selection (for New Sites only)

Was a local planning authority mast register available to check for suitable sites by the operator or the local planning authority?		No
Re-use of an existing telecommunications site is the preferred option.		
Were industry site databases checked for suitable sites by the operator:		No
Re-use of an existing telecommunications site is the preferred option.		

Pre-application consultation with local planning authority

Date of written offer of pre-application consultation:	15/07/21
Was there pre-application contact:	
Date of pre-application contact:	
Name of contact:	
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised:	
An offer of pre-application consultation was issued, no response received to date.	

Ten Commitments Consultation

Rating of Site under Traffic Light Model:	Green
The site was rated as Green due to its location on an internal airport location and an existing site meaning the upgrade works would be fully in keeping with the use and design of the site.	



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	
Has the Civil Aviation Authority/Secretary of State for Defence/Aerodrome Operator been notified?	Yes	
Details of response: The proposed upgrade works of the existing telecoms site has been designed and progressed in full consultation with Heathrow Commercial Telecoms team for which this proposal has their consents		

Developer's Notice

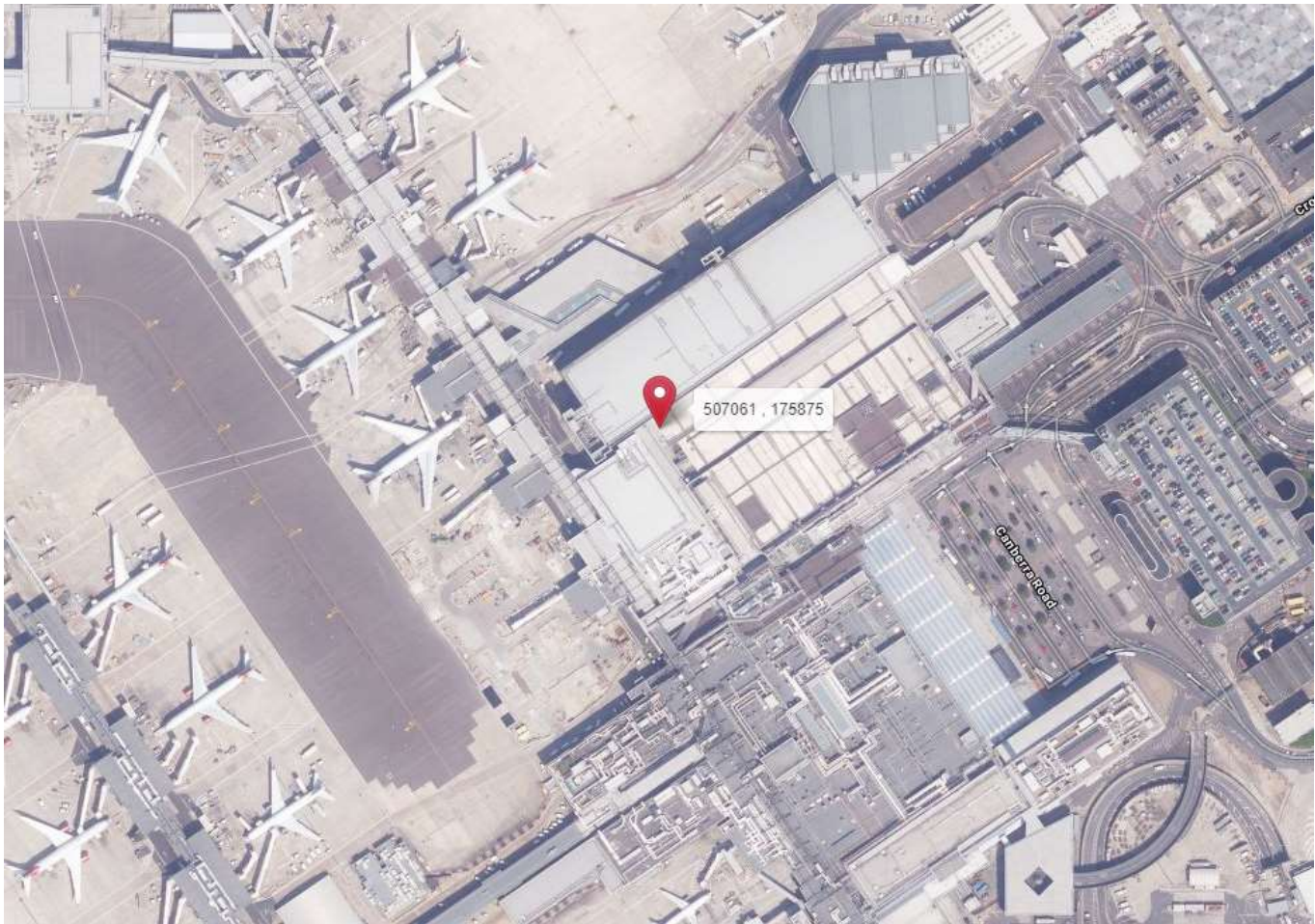
Copy of Developer's Notice enclosed?	Yes	
Date served:	06/08/2021.	



3.0 Proposed Development

The proposed site:

The site is located on the rooftop of Terminal 3 and is an existing 2G/3G telecoms rooftop site which requires upgrading to 4G/5G through the installation of new antennas, cabinets and supporting steelwork in the same location as those being replaced:













The proposed development represents part of a combined solution to upgrade the existing site. The existing coverage will be maintained and the technology will be upgraded to provide 4G and 5G. It is therefore not considered necessary to provide coverage plots in this instance.

Type of Structure Rooftop:

Description: - A telecommunications base station upgrade for Heathrow Terminal 3

The removal of the existing 3 x 2G/3G antennas and steel supports on the roof of 17.3m roof for 12 x 4G/5G antenna apertures to be located in the same positions on new steel supports and grillage pods to a height of 22.13m AGL with additional feeders, cables, upgraded equipment cabinets and ancillary works

Overall Height: 22.13m

Height of existing building (*where applicable*):

17.3m

Equipment Housing: - internal room

Materials (*as applicable*):

Tower/mast etc – type of material and external colour:

As per attached drawings

Equipment housing – type of material and external colour:

As per attached drawings

Reasons for choice of design:

The upgrade works has been specifically designed for the site in question, taking into account the existing skyline and terminal.

Whilst the proposed replacements result in a taller structure with additional antennas and ancillary equipment, the requirements and context of Heathrow Airport makes these works acceptable, assimilating fully to the roof's existing uses. The proposal needs to be seen in the context of the overall benefits that will occur from the introduction of 5G technologies to Terminal 3.

The proposal has been designed with the aim of achieving a balance between minimising visual impact and achieving the technical requirements needed by the operator. It is necessary for the height of the structure to ensure that interference is avoided, the topography of the landscape does not have an unacceptable impact upon mobile signal quality and that the structure is able to support the 5G antenna and other apparatus



4.0 Technical Information

International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Declaration attached (see below) * International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection public compliance is determined by mathematical calculation and implemented by careful location of antennas, access restrictions and/or barriers and signage as necessary. Members of the public cannot unknowingly enter areas close to the antennas where exposure may exceed the relevant guidelines. All operators of radio transmitters are under a legal obligation to operate those transmitters in accordance with the conditions of their licence. Operation of the transmitter in accordance with the conditions of the licence fulfils the legal obligations in respect of interference to other radio systems, other electrical equipment, instrumentation or air traffic systems. The conditions of the licence are mandated by Ofcom, an agency of national government, who are responsible for the regulation of the civilian radio		Yes	
spectrum. The remit of Ofcom also includes investigation and remedy of any reported significant interference. The telecommunications infrastructure the subject of this application accords with all relevant legislation and as such will not cause significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment, air traffic services or instrumentation operated in the national interest.			
Height of antenna (m above ground level)	22.13		

5.0 Technical Justification

The proposed development represents part of a combined solution to upgrade the existing site. The existing coverage will be maintained and the technology will be upgraded to provide 5G.

Background:

As part of EE Ltd.'s and H3G Ltd.'s continued network improvement program they wish to upgrade the existing site to facilitate additional coverage and capacity requirements, incorporating new technologies. Section 10 of the NPPF sets out the Government's general overview regarding supporting high quality communications infrastructure, recognising that advanced, high-quality communications infrastructure is essential for sustainable economic growth. In order to keep the number of base stations to a minimum, the use of existing sites is considered to provide the optimum solution and accordingly the proposed site upgrade should be viewed positively. As such, no alternative locations were sought in this instance.



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.

It is imperative that support is given to the introduction of new infrastructure 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 places to remain competitive and will support the Government’s ambition for the UK to become a world leader in telecommunications technologies and development. Whilst it is acknowledged that there is a significant increase in the scale of telecommunications development on the site, it should be noted that the new technologies will provide advanced high-quality communications infrastructure essential for economic growth as sought by the NPPF. Any perceived negative impacts will be far outweighed by the overall benefits of the scheme and the location of the apparatus on a building which already supports extensive telecommunications equipment will minimise its potential impact on the immediate environment.

All EE & H3G 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 planning submission.



11. Additional relevant information

Planning Policy Assessment

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires planning applications to be determined in accordance with policies of the adopted Statutory Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

National Planning Policy Framework (2018)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in July 2018 and supersedes previous versions of the document and national planning guidance contained in the various Planning Policy Guidance notes and planning Policy Statements. The NPPF sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies and how these are to be applied in relation to all planning applications.

Under Section 6 paragraph 80 the NPPF advises...." *Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development.*

The proposed upgrades have been designed with the approvals of Heathrow Airport's Heathrow Commercial Telecoms team to allow MBNL to progress and deliver upgraded telecommunications whilst not interfering or hindering the operations of Heathrow Airport.

The scheme will not cause any undue impact on the services outlined above and fully complies with ICNIRP standards. An ICNIRP certificate is enclosed with the application. The proposal has been designed with the aim of achieving a balance between minimising visual impact and achieving the technical requirements for EE Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd to enhance telecommunications services in the area to the benefit of the local community and visitors to the area. It will make effective use of the land as set out under Section 11 of the NPPF. It is considered the proposed development complies with the broad aims of the NPPF. It assists in the aim to keep the number of installations to a minimum, by utilising an existing site. The equipment has been sympathetically designed, with the heights being kept to the minimum practicable height for the required to accommodate 5G network coverage.



Local Planning Policy

The statutory development plan for the area is comprised of The London Plan (2016), London Borough of Hillingdon Strategic Infrastructure Plan (May 2017), Local Plan Strategic Policies (Adopted 2012) and Saved Unitary Development Policies.

Local Plan Strategic Policies (Adopted 2012)

"Policy BE37

Telecommunications developments will be acceptable in principle provided that any apparatus is sited and designed so as to minimise its effect on the appearance of the surrounding areas. The local planning authority will only grant permission for large or prominent structures if:

(i) There is a need for the development in that location;

No satisfactory alternative means of telecommunications is available;

(iii) There is no reasonable possibility of sharing existing facilities;

(iv) In the case of radio masts there is no reasonable possibility of erecting antennae on an existing building or other structure; and

(v) The appearance of the townscape or landscape is not seriously harmed."

Network planners have identified the need to upgrade this existing telecommunications site and it is proposed to introduce up to date technologies to the area. It is imperative that support is given to the introduction of 5G 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 now. This will enable places to remain competitive in and will support the Government's ambition for the UK to become a world leader in 5G.

The proposal has been designed with the aim of achieving a balance between minimising visual impact on Terminal 3 and achieving the technical requirements for EE Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd. In all these circumstances it is contended that the proposed development complies with the aims and objectives of Policy BE37 and accordingly planning permission should be granted.

CONCLUSION

We consider that the development complies with both national and local planning policy guidance where the underlying aim is to provide an efficient and competitive telecommunication system that will be of significant benefit to Heathrow Airport's staff and customers both facilitating the operations and customer requirements at this location.

Taking into account the factors of technical constraints, available sites, we consider that this site and design clearly represents the optimum environmental solution.



National planning policy 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 explains the technical need for the installation to provide improved customer service.