

22nd January 2021



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Dear Sirs,

PROPOSED NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR 'FUTURE PROOFING' TECHNOLOGY – MBNL ON BEHALF OF EE (UK) Ltd AND THREE (UK) Ltd

On behalf of MBNL, EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd we wish to update you with regards to proposed new installations and the upgrading of telecoms equipment providing the latest and advanced new technology. MBNL is a joint venture owned by EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd. MBNL undertakes the management and network deployment of telecommunications sites on behalf of both EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd.

Mobile telecoms networks are now ubiquitous throughout the UK. It is an expectation that an individual can connect and use their mobile phone whenever and wherever they so require. With the advent of new technology, under the banner of 5G, further advances are proposed, and central government has seen the telecoms industry, and in particular 5G, to be at the forefront of economic development.

The expectations are that future telecoms technology will support government policy regarding digital inclusion; improvements in health and social care; assisting in local economic growth; advancing the development of Smart Cities and supporting innovative uses throughout the transport sector for both personal and public travel. In addition, EE (UK) Ltd will be supporting the communications requirements of Emergency Services where further rollout and improvements in the 4G signal is currently being progressed.

At the beginning of March 2017 the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) issued an updated UK Digital Strategy (UK Digital Strategy) with the goal of ensuring that the UK delivers a “world-leading digital economy that works for everyone”. The strategy focuses on seven key strands:

- Building world-class digital infrastructure for the UK
- Giving everyone access to the digital skills they need
- Making the UK the best place to start and grow a digital business
- Helping every British business become a digital business
- Making the UK the safest place in the world to live and work online
- Maintaining the UK government as a world leader in serving its citizens online
- Unlocking the power of data in the UK economy and improving public confidence in its use



The government has noted within the Digital Strategy that the UK lags behind other similar nations in the delivery of fast, reliable, consistent connectivity for its population, wherever they are in the Kingdom. In conjunction with the new Electronic Communications Code (2018), the DCMS wishes to make it easier for operators to upgrade and share their equipment with other operators in order to help increase coverage. The DCMS also sees new technology and improved connectivity and coverage as key to the future growth, both socially and economically, of the UK.

The proposed new installations and upgraded equipment provides the latest technology and the ability to prepare for new technology such as 5G. At the heart of the new legislation and one of the Government's key aims is to deliver on the public benefit of having access to a choice of high quality electronic communications services. We, together with MBNL, EE and Three are committed to following through on the Government's aims and delivering that high quality service that the public has come to expect and that they deserve. We need your help with this and we are all going to need to work together for Digital Britain.

Applications and Notifications will shortly be submitted to the Local Planning Authority as part of this new investment and commitment. It is important that the economy, both locally and nationally and the general public, receives the benefits proposed by these new installations and upgrades. Further Pre-application consultation will be issued relating to specific sites and development, but it is considered important to connect with you as the Planning Authority so that the wider improvement in connectivity can be realised.

We intend to develop a close relationship with all Local Planning Authorities and welcome further consultation or clarification where needed. If you have any questions in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or telephone as set out below.

Yours faithfully,

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Mono

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For and on behalf of MBNL (EE (UK) Ltd and H3G (UK) Ltd).