

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

DATE: **22ND JULY 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT)**

SUBJECT: **FULL APPLICATION – INSTALLATION OF A 25 M LATTICE TOWER ACCOMMODATING 4 NO. ANTENNAS AND 2 NO. TRANSMISSION DISHES, INSTALLATION OF 3 NO. EQUIPMENT CABINETS AT GROUND LEVEL, ALL WITHIN 1.8 M HIGH CHAINLINK FENCE COMPOUND AT CHESTER ROAD, BROUGHTON.**

APPLICATION NUMBER: **053321**

APPLICANT: **VODAFONE LIMITED**

SITE: **AIRBUS,
CHESTER ROAD, BROUGHTON**

APPLICATION VALID DATE: **24TH FEBRUARY 2015**

LOCAL MEMBERS: **COUNCILLOR W MULLIN**

TOWN/COMMUNITY COUNCIL: **BROUGHTON/BRETTON COUNCIL**

REASON FOR COMMITTEE: **HEIGHT OF PROPOSAL CAN'T BE DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS.**

SITE VISIT: **NO**

1.00 SUMMARY

- 1.01 This full application relates to the installation of a 25 metre high lattice tower accommodating four antennas and two transmission dishes including the installation of 3 equipment cabinets at ground level. The mobile mast will be enclosed within a 1.8 metre chain-link fence compound located at the AIRBUS site Chester Road, Broughton.

2.00 RECOMMENDATION: TO GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:-

- 2.01 1. Time limit on commencement (5 years)
 2. In accordance with approved plans.

3.00 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.01 Local Member
 Councillor W Mullin
 No response at time of writing.

Broughton Bretton Council
No objections.

Head of Public Protection
No adverse comments to make regarding this application.

Natural Resources Wales
Request further information from the applicant to justify the proposed location as the only suitable location and recommend that a limited Flood Consequences Assessment is produced. This information has now been submitted and no objection is raised to the proposal.

Airbus Operations
No objection to the proposal

4.00 PUBLICITY

- 4.01 Press Notice, Site Notice
 No response at time of writing.

5.00 SITE HISTORY

- 5.01 **053321**
Retrospective installation of a temporary 24 metre high moveable mast

053219
Full Application for the erection of a radar mast and associated development.-Approved

052843
Erection of ground support equipment shelter – Approved 19th December 2015.

051621
Relocation of the existing fuel farm- approved 18th February 2015.

051469

Construction of a new catering facility- approved 7th January 2014.

6.00 PLANNING POLICIES

6.01 Flintshire Unitary Development Plan

GEN1 - General Requirements.

D1 - Design Quality, Location & Layout.

D2 – Design.

EM3 - Development Zones & Principal Employment Areas.

7.00 PLANNING APPRAISAL

7.01 Introduction

Vodafone Ltd, are seeking planning permission to erect a temporary 24 metre high telecommunications mast along with associated development on land to the north-western corner of the Airbus complex at Broughton, Flintshire. The site itself is located in an area of the site comprised of numerous buildings and associated development used in the construction of aircraft wings. The site of the existing factory is located on a floodplain located to the south of the River Dee. With the exception of Broughton and the shopping complex to the south, the site itself characterised by industrial development at Manor Lane, to the west and agricultural land and small settlement to the north and east.

7.02 Site Location

The application site itself is located to the north-west of the main Runway adjacent to the A380 wing assembly building near to the A380 wing storage building. To the north and east of the application site are aviation services hangars, with associated access road ways, hard standing and grassed areas. To the south is hard standing areas for aircraft parking and the main A380 factory. The application site itself consists of a grassed area to the side of an existing building.

7.03 The Proposal

The proposed development by Vodafone is to ensure that the operational efficiency of the site is not compromised by improving telecommunication links within the boundary of the site. It has been identified that there are deficiencies in the network coverage at the AIRBUS site, with the level of indoor coverage being generally poor. At present there are no existing Vodafone sites in the general area which could be upgraded to provide Airbus Operations with the coverage required and hence the requirement for a new base station. The mast proposed consists of a 25 metre high lattice work tower which accommodates 4 antennas and 2 transmission dishes. The scheme also involves the installation of 3 equipment cabinets at ground level surrounded by a 1.8metre high chain link fence.

7.04 Main Planning Considerations

It is considered that the main planning issues in relation to this application are as follows:-

- a. Principle of development having regard to the site in question and its surroundings.
- b. Proposed scale of development and impact on the character of the site and its surroundings.

7.05 Principles of Development

The site of the mast is located within an area identified as an Airport Development Zone EMP3 within the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan (UDP) which encompasses Air Operations Ltd. In policy terms Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 12: Design (TAN 12) provides the objectives for development with regard to character. The proposal is considered to meet the relevant policies by virtue of its scale, layout and appearance.

- 7.06 In terms of layout the floor plan is modest in scale only having a slab Area measuring 5 metre by 5 metres in area. Clearly the location of the mast and its overall layout is dictated by the need to ensure that the effectiveness and efficiency of the equipment are maintained. As with the design the scale of the mast is dictated by its function. As noted the mast is located within the Airbus complex which itself is characterised by large manufacturing/industrial buildings. Given the scale of the existing structures the location of the mast and the fact it is of a similar height to other structures in the vicinity the scale of the development is considered to be appropriate to its location and complies with the relevant policies.

8.00 CONCLUSION

- 8.01 The scale of the proposed development is dictated by its intended function to provide telecommunication reception on the site. Notwithstanding, the mast and associated development is to be located within the Airbus site, a location which is characterised by large manufacturing /industrial buildings. Given the scale of the existing buildings on site, and the fact that the mast would be of a similar height to existing buildings, the scale of the development is considered to be appropriate to its location and to its intended function
- 8.02 In considering this planning application the Council has acted in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998 including Article 8 of the Convention and in a manner which is necessary in a democratic society in furtherance of the legitimate aims of the Act and the Convention.

LIST OF BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Planning Application & Supporting Documents

National & Local Planning Policy

Responses to Consultation

Responses to Publicity

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