

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Planning Committee Tuesday, 23 March 2021
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Planning application no.	21/00100/FUL	
Site	Equipment south of U S A M Trading Estate, Wood Lane, Wolverhampton	
Proposal	The removal of an existing 20m high Phosco Phase 1 Monopole and the replacement with an 18.60m high Phosco Phase 4.5 Monopole c/w a new 3.4m high headframe; associated equipment and development ancillary thereto.	
Ward	Bushbury North;	
Applicant	Telefonica UK Ltd	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Stephen Simkins Cabinet Member for City Economy	
Accountable Director	Richard Lawrence, Director of Regeneration	
Originating service	Planning	
Accountable employee	Nyhiem Howl	Trainee Planning Officer
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1.0 Summary recommendation

1.1 Grant subject to conditions.

2.0 Application site

2.1 The land consists of a grass verge area located to the south of the U S A M Trading Estate adjacent to residential bungalows.

2.2 The site is situated in a fairly residential location on Wood Lane adjacent to a railway track used by train operators and an industrial trading estate.

3.0 Application details

3.1 The application seeks full planning consent to remove the existing 20m telecommunications mast and replace this with an 18.60m telecommunications with a new 3.4 metre headframe and ancillary equipment to support the works.

3.2 This application has been made by Vodafone who are a licensed electronic communications code system operator.

4.0 Relevant policy documents

4.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

4.2 The Development Plan:

Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS)

5.0 Publicity

5.1 One objection consisting of numerous signatures of local residents in relation to health effects and visual impacts. The letter also raises noise issues, health issues and devaluation of property. A third party has requested to speak at Planning Committee.

6.0 Consultees

6.1 Transportation/Highways; No Objections

7.0 Legal implications

7.1 There no Legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.
KR/11032021/F

8.0 Appraisal

8.1 The proposed development improves the existing mobile phone signal requirements for the local area enabling enhanced 3G/4G coverage as well as the upgraded 5G network. Given the concerns raised the agent has responded: "*With regards to this and other sites, Telefonica and Vodafone both radiate on frequency bands and at power levels dictated in their licences from Ofcom. An ICNIRP Declaration has been included with the planning application submission*". In these circumstances, where the operator has provided an ICNIRP certificate it is not generally necessary to consider the health implications further, in accordance with the relevant guidance. Although health issues are capable of being a material consideration. The current mast was allowed on appeal following a refusal on health grounds. As this mast is a replacement it is not considered necessary to consider the health issues further in this case.

8.2 Siting and design are the main material considerations, a telecommunications mast has been in this location for the past 15 years. The orientation of the mast is set back from the public highway, which minimises any detrimental impacts on visual amenities. There are a number of mature trees which screen the development. The site is fenced and accessed via the parking area within a private commercial area. We negotiated with the agent to see if we could perhaps address the concerns in relation to visual amenity by suggesting a GPR Shrouds style at the highest point of the mast, however this was not possible due to the requirements of the upgraded network. The proposed mast is

reduced to 18.6 metres from its current 20 metres; however, it will include the addition of a larger head frame. Given the reduction in height the increased size of the headframe would not cause an unreasonable reduction in visual amenity.

9.0 Conclusion

- 9.1 This development creates an improvement for mobile phone signals for local residents, businesses and is sited appropriately. The removal of the existing pole, which will be replaced with a pole where there is no significant increase of height, is deemed acceptable for the location as it is already an existing site for the nature of the proposed works.
- 9.2 The upgrade has been designed in a way which visual impacts have been kept to a minimum and the technical objectives are still complete to ensure coverage requirements are met.

10.0 Detail recommendation

10.1 Grant subject to the following conditions.

- The development hereby permitted shall be in accordance with the particulars submitted within the application – 21/00100/FUL.
- Structure to be removed and the land restored should it no longer be required.
- Subject to the condition that any apparatus or structure provided in accordance with that permission must, at the expiry of the relevant period, be removed from the land and the land restored to its condition before the development took place.
- This development shall commence before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission. Reason: - Pursuant to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA).

