

Planning Committee

Tuesday, 25 April 2017

Planning application no.	17/00278/TEL	
Site	Severn Trent Water Authority, Regis Road, Wolverhampton	
Proposal	The installation of a 15m green monopole with 3 antennas and 1 microwave dish, 3 equipment cabinets and a meter cabinet within a fenced compound and works ancillary thereto	
Ward	Tettenhall Wightwick	
Applicant	Chris Dalby	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Cabinet Member for City Economy, Councillor John Reynolds	
Accountable Director	Keren Jones, Service Director, City Economy	
Originating service	Planning	
Accountable employee	Haley Johnston	Planning Officer
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1.0 Summary recommendation

1.1 Grant prior approval.

2.0 Application site

2.1 The application site sits within the Severn Trent Water Depot and to the east and south by houses along Manor St and Limes Rd, within a wider residential area.

3.0 Application details

3.1 This is an application for prior notification not a planning application. Part 16 of Schedule 2 to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 gives deemed planning permission, subject to exclusions and conditions, for certain development to be carried out by, or on behalf of, an electronic communications code operator for the purpose of the operator's electronic communications network in, on, over or under land controlled by the operator or in accordance with the electronic communications code. The planning authority must be served with prior notification of the proposal. If the planning authority does not approve or refuse the application within a certain timeframe it is deemed to have consent. The matters which the planning authority are entitled to consider are siting and appearance of the apparatus.

3.2 This is an application for prior notification not a planning application. The proposal is for the installation of a 15m green monopole with three antennas and one microwave dish, three equipment cabinets and a meter cabinet within a fenced compound and works ancillary thereto. The 15m monopole will be painted green and is situated directly beside a 14m high tree.

4.0 Relevant policy documents

4.1 Wolverhampton UDP
Black Country Core Strategy

4.2 National Planning Policy Framework

4.3 Tettenhall Neighbourhood Plan.

5.0 Publicity

5.1 A petition with twenty-six signatures and three individual letters objecting to the proposal have been received. The comments are summarised below:

- Severe detrimental effect on people's health
- Proximity to residential properties
- Impact on visual amenity.

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report (LD/12042017).

7.0 Appraisal

7.1 The proposal, which is an application for prior notification, comprises the erection of a 15m green monopole including cabinet equipment and ancillary development. The proposed location of the telecommunications development is just off Manor St of the Severn Trent Tettenhall Depot. The site is situated approximately 28 metres from the nearest adjoining property on Limes Road and 74m from the nearest property on Manor Street.

7.2 Unitary Development Plan Policy EP20: Telecommunications clearly stipulates that "it is the view of Central Government the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. In the Government's view, if a proposed mobile phone base station meets ICNIRP (International Commission for Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection) guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them." Therefore, the proposal should not be refused on the grounds of concerns on health.

- 7.3 The location of the site is positioned on a paved surfaced on the land of the Severn Trent Tetterhall Depot which is surrounded by residential properties. The area is a mix of commercial and residential properties and within 28 metres to the nearest properties on Limes Road to the south of the site.
- 7.4 The proposed location, situated adjacent to a 14m high tree within in the site minimises the effect on visual amenity as the colour of the monopole would be green. Due to the setting of the Severn Trent Tetterhall Depot directly to the north and west of the site, this also reduces the impact of the proposal on the character and appearance of the street scene. Therefore, on balance, its visual impact is considered to be acceptable.

8.0 Summary and Conclusion

- 8.1 Whilst residents have concerns on health issues, the proposal should not be refused on the ground of health as Central Government clearly states that the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. The proposed location of the monopole situated beside a 14m high tree, at a height of 15m and painted green is considered to be acceptable. The impact of the proposal on visual amenity is not to an extent to justify refusing this prior notification.

9.0 Detailed recommendation

- 9.1 Grant prior notification.

