SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

March 2019

On behalf of
MBNL, EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd

Site Ref. ROD020 Land off Whittle Farm

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Site Details

Site Name:	Land off Whittle Farm	Site Address:	Whittle Lane, Birch, Heywood, Greater Manchester, OL10 2RB
NGR:	E 384651, N 407738		
Site Ref Number:	ROD020	Site Type:[1]	Macro

2. Pre Application Check List

Site Selection

Was an LPA mast register used to check for suitable sites by the operator or the LPA?	Yes	No
If no explain why: N/A – upgrade of existing site		
Was the industry site database checked for suitable sites by the operator:	Yes	No
If no explain why: N/A – upgrade of existing site		

Pre-application consultation with LPA

Was there pre-application contact:	**Yes**	No
Date of pre-application contact:	13/03/2019	
Name of contact:	N/A	
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: Pre-application consultation information was issued to the Local Planning Authority on 13th March 2019 in accordance with the Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development in England 2016. At the time of writing, no consultation response had been received.		

[1] Macro or Micro

Community Consultation

Rating of Site under Traffic Light Model:	Red	Amber	**Green**
Outline Consultation carried out: The proposal was rated Green in accordance with guidelines set out within the Code of Best Practice 2016. Consultation information was sent to the Council Members for West Middleton Ward and the Middleton Township Committee on 13th March 2019.			
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: Councillor Phil Burke responded on 13th March 2019 stating that as a member of the Planning Committee he was unable to make any remarks on the matter.			

School/College

Location of site in relation to school/college: No schools were identified as being located near to the site.
Outline of consultation carried out with school/college: N/A
Summary of outcome/Main issues raised: N/A

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	**No**
Has the Civil Aviation Authority/Secretary of State for Defence/Aerodrome Operator been notified?	Yes	No
Details of response: N/A - Not applicable to applications for 'full' planning permission.		

Developer's Notice

Copy of Developer's Notice enclosed?	Yes	**No**
Date served:	27/03/2019	

Proposed Development

The proposed site:

Agricultural land approximately 65 metres east of existing telecommunications site ROD020, as shown on the Site Location Plan which accompanies this application.

The existing site presently consists of multiple items of telecommunications apparatus and ancillary development located within a fenced compound. This includes a 15 metre monopole accommodating radio antennas, and equipment cabinets at ground-level. Collectively this apparatus forms a base station providing mobile communication services to customers on the Everything Everywhere and Three networks.

Type of Structure:

Description:

Removal of existing telecommunications mast, equipment housing and all associated apparatus and ancillary development and installation of new 25 metre mast approximately 65 metres east of the existing site, including 6 no. antennas and 4 no. 600 millimetre dish antennas and associated apparatus, 10 no. equipment cabinets at ground level and associated ancillary works.

Overall Height:	25 metres
Height of existing building:	N/A
Equipment Housing:	

Equipment ID	Quantity	Status	Equipment Description / Type	Equipment Manufacturer	Dimensions (W x D x H)	Weight (kg)	Colour (RAL Colour)
CAB1	1	Proposed	Shared 3G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB2	1	Proposed	2G/4G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB3	1	Proposed	2G/4G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB4	1	Proposed	5G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB5	1	Proposed	5G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB6	1	Proposed	2G/4G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB7	1	Proposed	2G/4G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB8	1	Proposed	5G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB9	1	Proposed	5G	-	770x770x2100	-	Green
CAB10	1	Proposed	PWR/TX	-	1200x500x1500	-	Green

Materials:	
Tower/mast etc – type of material and external colour:	Galvanised steel lattice mast
Equipment housing – type of material and external colour:	Steel housing coloured green

Reasons for choice of design:

MBNL Limited, a partnership between the mobile operators EE (UK) Ltd. and Three (UK) Ltd., has identified a specific requirement to upgrade the existing telecommunication base station as part of its planned upgrade program in the local area. Once implemented, the upgrade will result in an improved service for local customers, including future 5G data services.

The replacement antennas and associated apparatus, which are larger than those in situ, mean that a stronger mast is required.

In addition, the new antennas and dishes are required to be located at a higher position, to reach all customers and ensure that radio signal clears all surrounding features, including trees and buildings.

The decision to re-locate the site was taken due to the sloping land conditions to the north of the existing site, meaning that the existing site could not be upgraded without re-aligning the adjacent farmer's access track, which would use productive land and impact negatively on the farm. The proposed site is an area which is used for temporary agricultural storage and will not impact negatively on the land or farm business.

Further relevant information is contained within the document '5G and Future Technology – Delivering the UK's Telecoms Future' prepared by MBNL which accompanies this application.

3. Technical Information

	Yes	No
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. When determining compliance the emissions from all mobile phone network operators on or near to the site are taken into account. In order to minimise interference within its own network and with other radio networks, EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd operate their networks in such a way, that the radio frequency power outputs are kept to the lowest levels to commensurate with effective service provision. The proposed telecommunications infrastructure, which is 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.		

4. Technical Justification

Reason(s) why site required e.g. coverage, upgrade, capacity:
The proposal is for an upgrade to an existing site to provide improved coverage, capacity and to introduce new 5G signal to the area.

5. Site Selection Process – alternative sites considered and not chosen

N/A – upgrade of existing site. (For re-location of site within farm, see Section 2 – *Reasons for choice of design*)
Land use planning designations: The site is located within the Greater Manchester Green Belt as defined within the Rochdale Unitary Development Plan 2006 (saved policies).
Additional relevant information: **<u>Relevant Planning Policy Framework</u>** ***National Planning Policy Framework 2019*** The National Planning Policy Framework, Paragraph 112 states: *'Advanced, high quality and reliable communications infrastructure is essential for economic growth and social well-being. Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.'* Paragraph 113 continues: *'The number of radio and electronic communications masts, and the sites for such installations, should be kept to a minimum consistent with the needs of consumers, the efficient operation of the network and providing reasonable capacity for future expansion. Use of existing masts, buildings and other structures for new electronic communications capability (including wireless) should be encouraged.'* Paragraph 116 clarifies that: *'Local planning authorities must determine applications on planning grounds only. They should not seek to prevent competition between different operators, question the need for an electronic communications system, or set health safeguards different from the International Commission guidelines for public exposure.'* ***UK Digital Strategy*** In March 2017, the UK Digital Strategy was published by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). The strategy is directly relevant to this proposal. Section 1 of the Strategy states: *'...Broadband and mobile must be treated as the fourth utility, with everyone benefiting from improved connectivity. This will play a crucial role in ensuring that everyone, wherever they live and however they connect, can make full use of digital services and benefit from participation in the digital economy. Improved connectivity also increases innovation and productivity across the economy,*

bringing significant economic rewards'

[...]

'5G is the next generation of mobile connectivity, and is currently in development. It is expected to represent a significant upgrade: providing ultrafast, low latency, and more reliable mobile connectivity, able to handle our ever-increasing data requirements. This should present huge opportunities to boost productivity and grow the economy. In addition to giving consumers and business users high quality connectivity, it will also support the development of the Internet of Things: the rapidly-increasing number of connected devices, from connected cars to digital health applications.'

The goal of the Digital Strategy is to ensure that the UK delivers a *'world-leading digital economy that works for everyone'*. 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.

Saved Rochdale Unitary Development Plan 2006 Policy D/4

Saved Rochdale Unitary Development Plan 2006 Policy D/4 controls development in the Green Belt. Paragraph 7.11 supports development by statutory undertakers providing essential public services in the Green Belt, where such development would maintain openness and not conflict with the purposes of including land in the Green Belt.

Planning Assessment

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.

The proposed development is consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework's support for advanced, high quality and reliable communications infrastructure. The proposed development is consistent with the UK Digital Strategy goal of ensuring that the UK delivers a *'world-leading digital economy that works for everyone'*.

The upgrade of an existing telecommunications site removes any requirement to develop a new base station in the local area. The use of existing sites as a framework for the expansion or development of new networks is in accordance with national policy. The proposal is also consistent with policy in respect of the sharing of existing base stations by multiple operators (in this case EE and Three). Appendix A to the Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development in England echoes national policy's emphasis on the redevelopment or sharing of existing telecoms sites as a means of reducing the number of such sites to the minimum consistent with the efficient operation of the network.

The design of the proposed development has been determined in accordance with relevant technical considerations and limitations while aiming to minimise impacts on the character and appearance of the local area. In respect of the Green Belt, it is submitted that the proposed development should be considered acceptable given that it is an upgrade of an existing telecommunications site located within the Green Belt providing essential services to customers within the Green Belt, including motorists on the M62. The development will replace one telecoms installation with another and will not materially affect the openness of the Green Belt or conflict materially with the purposes of including land in the Green Belt.

The proposed base station is designed to operate in accordance with all health and safety requirements, including the guidelines issued by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP).

Further relevant information is contained within the attached documents '5G and Future Technology – Delivering the UK's Telecoms Future' prepared by MBNL and 'Councils and Connectivity' prepared by Mobile UK.

Conclusions

In summary, the proposed development is considered to be consistent with the relevant planning policy framework and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, and therefore to merit approval by the Local Planning Authority.

Contact Details

Name: (Agent)	Steven Peck MRTPI	Telephone:	+44 (0)7988 609394
Operators:	EE (UK) Ltd and Three (UK) Ltd.	Fax no:	N/A
Address:	Commons Road, Dromiskin, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 NP3F, Ireland.	E-mail Address:	steven@stevenpeckplanner.com
Signed:	Steven Peck	Date:	27/03/2019
Position:	Planning Consultant	Company:	On behalf of MNBL and above operators