

Board Direction BD-004872-20 ABP-305050-19

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on January 8th, 2020.

The Board decided to refuse permission for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

It is considered that, on the basis of the documentation submitted with the application and appeal, the applicant has not provided evidence for the need for the proposed telecommunications structure at this location, and that possible opportunities for co-location do not exist in the surrounding area. Accordingly, the proposed development would lead to an unnecessary proliferation of telecommunications structures, which would be contrary to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities relating to Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures, issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July 1996. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to grant permission, the Board was not satisfied that the applicant had provided a robust justification for the provision of the proposed telecommunications structure, had adequately demonstrated that opportunities for co-location on existing structures was not possible, and that there was an actual need for increased telecommunications coverage at this location, and accordingly did not comply with the provisions of the Ministerial Guidelines, to which the Board is statutorily obliged to have regard. In making its decision, the Board noted the submissions made at planning authority stage and also the observation submitted with the appeal in relation to this aspect.

Board Member

Date: 9th January 2020

Philip Jones