

**Board Direction BD-014222-23 ABP-313616-22** 

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 19/10/2023.

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

## **Reasons and Considerations**

Having regard to the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures: Guidelines for Planning Authorities", Department of the Environment and Local Government 1996, and the prominent location, scale and height of the structure, notwithstanding the revised monopole design, it is considered that a 24m or 30m high mast would represent a significant and visually discordant feature in the landscape on a main approach road to Tramore, R675, forming part of the Copper Coast designated scenic route and would seriously injure the visual amenities of the area. The proposed development would be contrary to Policy Objective LS 04 of the Waterford City and County Development plan 2022-2028 and would not therefore, accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to grant permission, the Board, having regard to Policy Objective LS04 of the development plan, did not agree that the landscape and visual impacts of the development of the site would be compatible with the amenities of the area, given its location where it is visible from a scenic route, R675.

**Note:** The Board noted the deficiency of information on file in relation to impacts on the nearby Special Protection Area (SPA) and birds of conservation interest. However, given the substantive issue for refusal, the Board did not pursue this matter and hence further information was not sought.

Board Member Mary Creps

Date: 01/11/2023