

**Board Direction BD-015329-24 ABP-313858-22** 

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 02/02/2024.

The Board decided to direct the Planning Authority to refuse the licence for the following reasons and considerations.

## **Reasons and Considerations**

1. The proposed development would be sited at a junction which has a poor pedestrian environment and would lead to a substantial and excessive section of footpath with a consequential loss of amenity to the public and negatively impact on pedestrian movement, which is not in line with the recommendations of Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.
Furthermore, due to the siting and design of the telecommunication structure and its associated antennae and cabinetry, the proposed development would be visually obtrusive from both the immediate and from longer distance along Sidmonton Road and would seriously injure the visual amenities of the area accordingly. The proposed development would be contrary to the relevant provisions of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and would accordingly be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

## Note:

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation direct the planning authority to grant the licence, the Board did not share the view of the inspector that

the proposed development would not seriously injure the amenities of the area, including that of the pedestrian environment, or result in a significant negative visual impact. In its consideration of the case file, the Board concluded that the proposed scale and design of the telecommunications structure and its associated equipment would be visually obtrusive from both the immediate and longer distance views along Sidmonton Road and would seriously injure the visual amenities of the area accordingly. The Board also noted that the proposed development site is at a junction which has a poor pedestrian environment and would lead to a substantial and excessive section of footpath being used for the structure and associated antennae and cabinetry and a consequential loss of amenity to the public, and would negatively impact on pedestrian movement, which is not in line with the recommendations of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.

**Board Member** 

cia Calleary Date: 02/02/2024

Patricia Calleary