

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-014300-23
ABP-314637-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 24/10/2023.

The Board decided to refuse the S.254 licence, for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

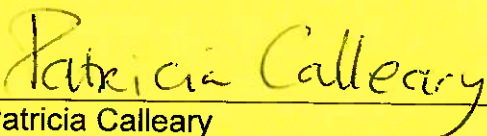
The board noted the importance of the need for information and communications Technology is strongly supported by policy expressed in Section 14.20.9 of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and that the stated policy also recognises the advantages of a high-quality ICT structure must be balanced against the need to safeguard the rural and urban environment.

It is considered that the proposed telecommunications structure development to accommodate a single operator, would when taken in combination with another similar development for a telecommunications monopole structure, c.25m north of the appeal site (ABP Ref: 314492-22 appeal case refers) that is set out in its grounds of appeal to make provision to accommodate dual operators and therefore facilitate co-location/sharing of infrastructure, contribute to a proliferation of telecommunications infrastructure in the area. Permitting the proposed development in this specific context would be contrary to stated policy and objectives of the statutory development plan for the area including Objective DMS0222 (Co-location of antennae) and Objective DMS0224 (Applications for Telecommunications Structures) and the related national policy expressed in Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the

Department of the Environment 1996 as updated by Circular Letters PL 07/12 and PL11/2020, respectively, in respect of co-location and avoidance of unnecessary proliferation of masts. 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 agreed with the inspector that the proposed development alone would not detract from the visual amenities of the area or conflict with pedestrian movements giving rise to a traffic hazard. However, the Board noted the proposed telecommunications structure development, when taken in combination with another similar development for a telecommunication monopole structure c.25m north of the appeal site, would contribute to a proliferation of telecommunications infrastructure in the area, that in turn would be contrary to stated policy expressed in the statutory development plan and at a national level, in respect of co-location and avoidance of unnecessary proliferation of masts. In relation to the site-specific context, the Board considered that the proposed development would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member


Patricia Calleary

Date: 25/10/2023