

Board Direction BD-012843-23 ABP-315775-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 10/07/2023.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

It is an objective, under CDP11.55 of the Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029 to consider the provision of high speed, high-capacity digital and mobile infrastructure within the County having regard to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 'Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures, Guidelines for Planning Authorities 1996 (as updated by PL07/12 of 2012)'. The guidelines for planning authorities state, 'only as a last resort and if the alternatives suggested in the previous paragraph are either unavailable or unsuitable should free-standing masts be located in a residential area or beside schools. If such a location should become necessary, sites already developed for utilities should be considered and masts and antennae should be designed and adapted for the specific location. The support structure should be kept to the minimum height consistent with effective operation and should be monopole (or poles) rather than a latticed or square structure.' Having regard to the additional height of the proposed structure relative to the existing and permitted structure on the site, the location of the site and proximity to residential properties and the inadequate justification for a structure of the height proposed at this location and the lack of detail regarding more suitable alternative site sharing options, it is considered the proposed development

would be contrary to CDP11.55 of the Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and to the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures, Guidelines for Planning Authorities 1996. The proposed development would seriously injure the residential and visual amenities of the area and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member

Chris McGarry

Date: 10/07/2023