



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order ABP-308297-20

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

Planning Authority: Donegal County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 20/50942

Appeal by Cignal Infrastructure Limited care of 4Site of 4Site House, Raheen Business Park, Limerick against the decision made on the 3rd day of September, 2020 by Donegal County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Construction of a 21 metre multi-user monopole telecommunications structure, carrying antenna and dishes together with associated ground equipment and associated site works at Castlefinn Service Station, Castlefinn Townland, Castlefinn, County Donegal.

Decision

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the reasons and considerations set out below.

Matters Considered

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the guidelines relating to 'Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities' issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July, 1996, and the height, scale and location of the proposed development, it is considered that the development would be an incongruous structure within the town centre of Castlefinn, would have an unacceptable visual impact and would seriously injure the amenities of the area and property in the vicinity. Furthermore, it is considered that the existing use on site would be compromised and the proposed development would result in a disorderly and haphazard form of development on the existing service station site. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to Policy CS-P-4 of the current County Development Plan by reason of the impacts that would result on the town centre location and the residential amenities within the area, and would be contrary to Policy TC-P-3 by reason of its impacts on the historical setting. It is also considered that a sufficient examination of alternative sites and justification for the current 'last resort' site in accordance with the guidelines has not been presented. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Michelle Fagan

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this day of 2021