



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order
ABP-309019-20

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

Planning Authority: Cork County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 20/06182

Appeal by Vodafone Ireland Limited care of Towercom Limited of Tea Lane, Lower William Street, Listowel, County Kerry against the decision made on the 25th day of November, 2020 by Cork County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: Erection of an 18 metres high monopole telecommunications support structure together with antennas, dishes and associated equipment and removal of the existing 10 metres high timber pole with antenna, at Eir Exchange, Bothar na Sop, Farnahoe, Innishannon, County Cork.

Decision

GRANT permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions 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

In coming to its decision, the Board had regard to the following;

- the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures - Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government in 1996,
- the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Circular Letter PL07/12,
- the objectives of the Cork County Development Plan 2014, and in particular:
 - o Objective ED 7-1 Telecommunications Infrastructure
 - o Objective ED 7-2 Information and Communication Technology,
- the Bandon Kinsale Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017,
- the nature and scale of the proposed replacement telecoms monopole,

- the submissions and observations received,
- the decision of the planning authority, and
- the report of the Inspector,

and considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would achieve the objectives set out in National Policy under the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1996) and the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures and Department of Environment and Local Government Circular Letter PL07/12, and the Cork County Development Plan under Objective ED 7-1, Telecommunications Infrastructure “to Support the provision of telecommunications infrastructure that improves Cork County’s international connectivity. Facilitate the provision of telecommunications services at appropriate locations within the County, having regard to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government “Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures, Guidelines for Planning Authorities” Have regard to environmental and visual considerations when assessing large-scale telecommunications infrastructure.” and Objective ED 7-2, Information and Communication Technology. To facilitate the delivery of a high capacity ICT infrastructure and high-speed broadband network and digital broadcasting throughout the County. Support a programme of improved high-speed broadband connectivity throughout the County and implement the National Broadband Strategy in conjunction with the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources.

Furthermore, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, having regard to its limited nature and scale set against the context of the existing telecoms mast at the Eir Exchange, would not seriously injure the residential amenities of adjoining properties and would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area. It was also considered that the proposed development would not affect the character and setting of the protected structures Saint Mary's Church RPS No 00628 or Market House RPS No 00630. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to refuse permission, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not seriously injure the residential amenities of the area, and would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area, and would not seriously injure the residential amenities of the area and of property in the vicinity given the limited increase in scale and height of the proposed monopole, and would be in accordance with National, Regional and Local Policy as set out in the Reasons and Considerations above.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.



Paul Hyde

**Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this 28th day of April 2021.