

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Sligo County Council

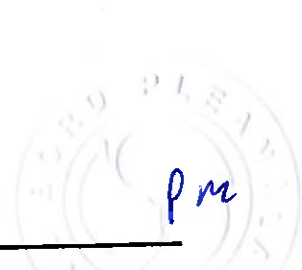
Planning Register Reference Number: 21/269

APPEAL by Eircom Limited care of Towercom of Usher House, Main Street, Dundrum, Dublin against the decision made on the 3rd day of September, 2021 by Sligo County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: Erection of a 21-metre-high telecommunications monopole together with antennas, dishes and ancillary work all enclosed in security fencing and removal of existing 10-metre-high timber communications pole, all at Eir Exchange, off Lord Edward Street, Ballymote, County Sligo.

Decision

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



Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the height and location of the proposed monopole on an elevated site in the centre of Ballymote in close proximity to an existing mast, it is considered that the proposed mast would add to visual clutter, would be visually obtrusive and would detract from views of the town and Emlaghfad Church (a Protected Structure), from the town park and surrounding streets and nearby residential properties, particularly Cuna Losa. Furthermore, it is considered, on the basis of the documentation submitted with the application and the appeal, that the applicant has not provided evidence of the need for the proposed telecommunications structure at this location, or that possible opportunities for co-location or alternative new locations do not exist in the surrounding area. Accordingly, the proposed location on an elevated site in the town centre which is in close proximity to the protected structure of Emlaghfad Church and other protected structures within the town centre of architectural and heritage merit and of residential development, has not been justified as a 'last resort' in accordance with the requirements, as set out in the "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities" issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July, 1996. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



Peter Mullan

Member of An Bord Pleanála

duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this *8th* day of *November*, 2023.