

Commission Order ABP-321367-24

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

Planning Authority: Galway City Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 24/60137

Appeal by Kevin Kelly of Cappagh Road, Barna, County Galway against the decision made on the 6th day of November, 2024 by Galway City Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Vantage Towers Limited care of Corridan Auctioneers and Chartered Surveyors of Rear 27 Market Street, Listowel, County Kerry in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: 24-metre-high telecommunications lattice structure, including a headframe together with antennas, dishes and associated telecommunications equipment all enclosed by security fencing. This development will also include the construction of an initial access track to link with an existing public road to the south and also the construction of an access track to the north, to be used in the future, which will link with a proposed new service road, once available, and associated with the completion of works for the N6 Galway City Ring Road, all at Cappagh Road, Barna, Galway.

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.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) national policy regarding the provision of mobile and telecommunications services,
- (b) the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July 1996, as updated by circular Letter PL07/12 issued by the Department of the environment, Community and Local Government in October 2012,
- (c) the policy of the planning authority, as set out in the Galway City

 Development Plan 2023-2039, to support the provision of
 telecommunications infrastructure,
- (d) the location of the site where there is an existing telecommunications structure in place, and
- (e) the nature and scale of the proposed telecommunications support infrastructure,

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the visual or residential amenities of the area, would not be contrary to the overall provisions of the development plan, and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Commission considered that the proposed development is a project for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive. However, the Commission concluded that the proposed development does not fall within a class of development set out in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and, therefore, no preliminary examination, screening for environmental impact assessment, or environmental impact assessment is required.

The Board also noted the information contained in the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report submitted with the current application and noted the conclusions set out in the inspector's reports in the case of the current application and in the case of ABP-314050 and agreed and adopted the conclusions that The proposed mast is sited on land with no drainage ditches or water courses in the immediate vicinity of the works that is hydrologically connected to the Barna Stream and as such the possibility of effects on the Natura network of sites can be excluded in the absence of mitigation.

Conditions

The proposed 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 proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Surface water drainage arrangements shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

 Details of the proposed colour scheme for the telecommunications structure, ancillary structures and fencing shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of the visual amenities of the area.

4. The construction of the proposed development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction Management Plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall provide details of intended construction practice for the proposed development, including hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction and demolition waste.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and residential amenity.

5. When equipment or structures are no longer required, they shall be decommissioned, dismantled and removed from the site within three months of the cessation of their use, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Paul Caprani

Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún

Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Commission.

Dated this 10th day of James 2025.