

Commission Order ABP-322312-25

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Limerick City and County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 24/60917

Appeal by Knocknagurteeny and Coolnahilla Action Group care of Maria O'Connell of Farnane, Murroe, County Limerick against the decision made on the 26th day of March, 2025 by Limerick City and County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to APW UK WIP Limited trading as Icon Tower care of Charterhouse Infrastructure Consultants of 27 Market Street, Listowel, County Kerry in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Erection of a 30-metre-high telecommunications lattice tower with antennas, dishes and associated equipment attached, and with equipment cabinets at ground level all enclosed by security fencing and to include an extension to an existing access track, all at Knocknagorteeny (Townland), Murroe, County Limerick.



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

The Commission made its decision consistent with:

- the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, as amended, and
- the Climate Action Plan 2024 and Climate Action Plan 2025.

Having regard to the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines (1996) as revised by Circular Letter PL 07/12, the provisions of Section 8.4.2 of the Limerick County Development Plan 2022-2028 and Policy IN P1 which seek to promote the development of telecommunication infrastructure, and the COMREG coverage maps which confirm that the surrounding area currently does not benefit from good ICT coverage, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would contribute to the roll out of broadband services in accordance with national, regional, and local objectives, would not seriously injure the visual impacts of the area, and would not unduly impact on the amenities of the area. The proposed development 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.

Conditions

The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the further plans and particulars received by the planning authority on the 5th day of March, 2025, 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. The transmitter power output, antenna type and mounting configuration shall be in accordance with the details submitted with the application and, notwithstanding the provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and any statutory provision amending or replacing them, shall not be altered without a prior grant of planning permission.

Reason: To clarify the nature and extent of the permitted development.



3. Details of a colour scheme for the mast and any ancillary structures hereby permitted shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The agreed colour scheme shall be applied to the mast and any ancillary structures upon erection.

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

4. All trees and hedgerows within and on the boundaries of the site shall be retained and maintained.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity, residential amenity and biodiversity.

5. 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 noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction demolition waste.

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

6. Within three months of the completion of construction, the access road shall be cleared and covered with the natural surface in the vicinity of the road (soil, grass etc). Details of compliance with this condition shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority.

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

 No advertisement or advertisement structure shall be erected or displayed on the proposed structure or its appendages or within the curtilage of the site without a prior grant of planning permission.

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

8. In the event of the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures and any access road provided to serve the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures hereby permitted ceasing to operate for a period of six months, the structures and any access road shall be removed and the site shall be reinstated within three months of their removal. Details regarding the removal of the structures and any access road and the reinstatement of the site shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing, with the planning authority within seven months of the structures ceasing to operate, and the site shall be reinstated in accordance with the agreed details at the developer's expense.

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

9. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays, inclusive, between 0800 to 1400 hours on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays or public holidays. Deviation from these times shall only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where prior written approval has been received from the planning authority.

Reason: In order to safeguard the residential amenities of property in the vicinity.

Emer Maughan

Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún No Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Commission

Dated this 25th day of July 2025.