

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

Planning Authority: Louth County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 2560307

Appeal by Venora Brown Hovelt against the decision made on the 13th day of February 2026, by Louth County Council to grant, subject to conditions, a permission to Towercom Limited in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Permission to erect a 24-metre lattice support structure carrying telecommunications equipment including antennas, dishes, and associated equipment (comprising a total height of 25.5 metres including attached lightning finials), together with new ground level equipment cabinets and fencing. On completion of the above the two existing 10-metre-high wooden poles, each with a 3-metre-high antenna attached (comprising a total height of 13 metres each), will be removed all at Eir Exchange, Dundalk Road, Drumnasillagh Td, Ravensdale, County Louth.

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 the consistency of the proposed development with the provisions of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 and the 'Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities' issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in 1996 and the associated Circular Letter PL 07/12, the pattern and character of development in the area, and the nature, scale, and design of the proposed development, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not give rise to an excessive proliferation of telecommunications support structures, would not be seriously injurious to the landscape character or visual amenity of the area, would not be seriously injurious to the residential amenities of surrounding properties, would be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience, would not give rise to flood risk on the site or on surrounding lands, and would not detract from the biodiversity value of the area including the Natura 2000 network of European Sites. 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

1. The 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 22nd day of January 2026, 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. 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.

3. The developer shall provide and make available at reasonable terms the proposed support structure for the provision of mobile telecommunications antenna of third-party licenced telecommunications operators.

Reason: To avoid a multiplicity of telecommunications structures in the area, in the interests of visual amenity and proper planning and sustainable development.

4. 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.

5. Details of the proposed colour scheme for the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures 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.

6. (a) In the event of the proposed structure becoming obsolete and being decommissioned, the developers shall, at their own expense, remove the mast, antenna and ancillary structures and equipment.

(b) The site shall be reinstated on removal of the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures. Details relating to the removal and reinstatement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority at least one month before the removal of the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures and the work shall be completed within three months of the planning authority's approval in writing of these details.


Reason: In the interest of orderly development.

7. Construction of the 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 development, including noise management measures, offsite disposal of construction demolition waste, protection of the adjoining public road, prevention of spillages, and a detailed construction traffic management plan to include proposals for 165-metre sightlines in both directions from the proposed construction access.

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

8. Proposals for the planting of native hedgerow species along the roadside boundary of the site shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.



Tom Rabbette

**Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún
Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Commission.**

Dated this 25th day of June 2026