



An
Bord
Pleanála

Inspector's Addendum Report

ABP-311023-21

Development	Erection of a 15m high telecommunications support structure.
Location	Eir Exchange, Graigue, New Inn, Co. Tipperary.
Planning Authority	Tipperary County Council
Planning Authority Reg. Ref.	21670
Applicant(s)	Eircom Ltd
Type of Application	Permission
Planning Authority Decision	Refusal
Type of Appeal	First Party
Appellant(s)	Eircom Ltd
Observer(s)	7 no.
Inspector	B. Wyse

1.0 Introduction

1.1. This addendum report follows on Board Direction, dated 19th January 2023, and should be read in conjunction with my earlier report, dated 28th November 2022.

1.2. The Board Direction required the issue of a section 132 Notice to the applicants requesting the following information:

- Confirmation of the planning status of the two wooden poles currently on site and whether it is intended that any existing poles are to remain on site should permission be granted for the current proposed development.
- Confirmation (or otherwise) of the design capability of the proposed monopole being repositioned on site to a location at or approximate to the position of the current 12 metre pole on site. Please provide relevant drawing and visual representations on any such repositioning.

On receipt the applicant's response was to be circulated to the planning authority and the observers to the appeal.

2.0 Applicant Response

Includes:

- The existing 10 metre high wooden pole with dishes attached is the subject of planning permissions PA Ref. 07/212, ABP Ref. 23.223956 and PA Ref. 12/340 for temporary periods of 5 years.
- In addition, various planning exemptions have been in place for telecoms developments of this nature since 1994 – details set out.
- Confirmation that the 12 metre high wooden pole and antenna would not remain.
- The 10 metre high wooden pole would remain but would be reviewed regularly subject to technical requirements so there is a possibility that it would be removed in the future.
 - The area available at the location of the 12 high metre pole is not adequate to accommodate the proposed 15 metre multi-user monopole due to technical/construction related requirements.

- Enclosed drawings illustrate the proposed development as per the original proposal.

3.0 Observer Submissions

3.1. Kenneth R. Roberts; Cathy Moloney; and Eamon and Margaret Baron

(similar observations).

Include:

- Extensive documentation in relation to enforcement proceedings at the site.
- Photographic evidence that the 10 metre high wooden pole has been removed.
- The broadband service provided by Eircom has not been affected by its removal due to the availability of fibre optic cabling in New Inn.
- Repeat of earlier request for the Board to refuse permission by reference to section 35 of the Act or to dismiss the appeal by reference to section 138 of the Act.
- The development would constitute an eyesore in the village.
- The development would block light (to Cathy Moloney's home) and would be in close proximity to schools and a GAA pitch.
- Eircom did not look into alternative sites.

4.0 Planning Authority Response

4.1.1. None received.

5.0 Assessment

- 5.1. As indicated the applicants reiterate that the 12 metre high wooden pole would be removed if planning permission is granted for the proposed monopole. While it is also stated that the 10 metre high wooden pole would remain it now seems, on foot of the evidence presented by the observers, that that pole has recently been removed.
- 5.2. The applicants also indicate that, for technical reasons related to construction, the location of the existing 12metre high pole is not suitable to accommodate the proposed monopole. The location of the monopole, therefore, remains as proposed in the original application.
- 5.3. The Board will note that my recommendation as set out in my report dated 28th November 2022 was not contingent on the consideration that the proposed development would result in the site accommodating two telecoms masts/poles. It was based on the proposed location of the new monopole relative to the adjacent residential property (Section 7.4 of that report refers).
- 5.4. As the proposed location has not changed my finding in relation to this matter is as before.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1. I recommend that permission be refused for the same reasons and considerations as indicated in my report dated 28th November 2022.

I confirm that this report represents my professional planning assessment, judgement and opinion on the matter assigned to me and that no person has influenced or sought to influence, directly or indirectly, the exercise of my professional judgement in an improper or inappropriate way.

B. Wyse
Assistant Director of Planning

16 August 2023