

Our Ref: 23027

Head Teacher  
Rhyl Primary School  
Rhyl Street  
London  
NW5 3HB

November 19, 2009

**BY RECORDED DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: PROPOSED UPGRADE TO VODAFONE BASE STATION INSTALLATION CS 23027  
– OUTSIDE 242 GRAFTON ROAD, GOSPEL OAK, LONDON, NW5 4HH**

Vodafone is in the process of upgrading their existing telecommunications site at 242 Grafton Road, Gospel Oak, London, NW5 4HH to accommodate O2. The existing site currently provides coverage for Vodafone only; however, the plan is now to upgrade the equipment in order for it to operate as a combined Vodafone/O2 site. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information on the proposal and the opportunity for you to seek further information should you wish to do so.

The Vodafone Group has formed a strategic partnership with the Telefónica Group to share mobile assets here in the UK and across Europe. In the UK this means Vodafone will be working closely together with O2. In essence this agreement allows both organisations to:

- Consolidate the number of base stations required through sharing which is in accordance with Government Policy
- Significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development

Vodafone and O2 will continue to compete in the telecoms market to retain and win customers and both will continue to differentiate themselves on the quality of the customer experience. Although they're sharing infrastructure, they'll operate entirely independently as businesses with separate network strategies. Accordingly the key focus will be on the joint build of new sites and consolidation of existing 2G and 3G sites.

As part of Vodafone and O2's continued network improvement program there is a specific requirement to upgrade the radio base station at this location to provide 3G coverage for O2 from an existing Vodafone site

The proposal, which we feel is the best solution to serve our customers in the local community, will include: the redevelopment of the existing street furniture column from 14.4m high (total height) to 14.8 high (total height) in order to accommodate O2's antennas. The proposal would also comprise the addition of 1no. radio equipment cabinet. The existing structure is not capable of accommodating another operator without redevelopment. The mast would have to be redeveloped into a slightly taller structure in order to provide the structural capacity to accommodate O2's antennas. Planning Policy Guidance Note 8 (PPG 8) attaches considerable importance to keeping the numbers of masts to a minimum in order to limit visual intrusion and strongly encourages the sharing of masts. This proposal utilises

an existing mast in accordance with government guidance and would prevent the need for an additional ground based mast elsewhere in this locality. It is considered that the proposed upgrade is the most environmentally sensitive option that would provide the required coverage to the area whilst having a minimum impact on the environment.

All Vodafone and O2 installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning submission. In fact, because of the very low power utilized by telecommunications sites the emissions will be many times lower than the ICNIRP threshold.

We would welcome your views (within 14 days of the date of this letter) before we finalise the proposal and submit the planning application to the Local Planning Authority.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours faithfully



Fiona Kadama

Planner

Mono Consultants Ltd

Tel: 0208 735 6107

***(for and on behalf of Vodafone Ltd)***

Enclosed:

1. Drawings Refs:( 23027/F/001;002;003;004;005)

CC: Chair of Governors