

Our ref: RH/GBG/LonCenO2/37039

Hortensia Smith
Headteacher
Eton Nursery
45 Buckland Crescent
London
NW3 5DJ

23rd June 2006

Dear Ms. Smith,

Proposed O2 Telecommunications Base Station Portland Court/Buckland Court, Belsize Park, London NW3 4ED

I write to advise of an O2 mobile telecommunications proposal in the area near to Eton Nursery.

For your information, O2 are a licensed mobile telecommunications operator. The license, which has been granted by the UK Government, obliges O2 to provide network coverage to meet the demands of its 14 million plus UK customers. Mobile telecoms networks are formed by the installation of base stations (often generically referred to as 'masts') to provide radio-wave coverage to specific areas, or 'cells', in a similar way to the provision of terrestrial television and radio broadcasting. However, the need to facilitate clear two-way transmissions (between the 'mast' and the mobile phone/computer/system) and the comparatively low power at which such masts operate, means that the cell areas are much smaller than those required for TV broadcasting. As such, a greater number of base stations are required.

The planned installation will comprise 3 antennas mounted on steel support poles on the roof of Buckland Court, Belsize Park, as shown on the enclosed map. The antennas and supports will be shrouded in a glass fibre reinforced plastic enclosure painted to replicate the brickwork, just as the existing T-mobile installation at Portland Court (the adjacent building) has been.

The general location has been chosen for its proximity to the cell centre (the area in greatest need of network coverage) and as the only suitable location within the area, which is largely residential in character.

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Our options within the area are very limited and the proposed installation will be designed and sited to minimise its visual impact as much as possible. The site has been designed to minimise the potential visual intrusion the installation might have on the area, and to disguise its function to limit any anxiety residents may have about mobile phone masts.

O2 are acutely sensitive to public concern about the siting of base stations, particularly on grounds of the perceived adverse impact upon human health. However, the UK Government, in granting a license to O2 to operate such a system, and O2 itself, are confident, on the basis of a wealth of scientific information, that the emissions from such installations do not pose an undue threat to health. I have enclosed leaflets which address concern about the impact of such installations. I would also add that the proposed installation will operate at power levels that are many times lower than the ICNIRP guidelines (see leaflets), which are themselves set at precautionary low levels.

We would value your comments on this proposal in advance of our formal planning submission to Camden Council. This will help us to address any queries or comments you may have. Please let us have your views no later than 14 days from receipt of this letter.

Please respond to O2's Network Consultations Department on 01753 564306 or by writing to: O2 Network Consultations, PPIE3, 1 Brunel Way, Slough, SL1 1XL. They will be happy to help you learn more about mobile telecommunications development.

Yours sincerely

Robin Henderson (MA Hons) MRTPI
Planning Manager (South)

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Enc. Leaflets
Location Map