

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/1094/P	Sayed Abu-Amero	Hiba Express High Holborn WC1V 6JQ WC1V 6JQ	14/03/2017 21:25:39	OBJ	<p>2017/1094/P Telephone Box Application</p> <p>I would like to strongly object to the planned telephone box on 113 High Holborn, opposite our premises-Hiba Express. This small stretch of road is heavily congested Monday to Friday as it is a business and learning area. The congestion concerns the pedestrian walkway and the road used by vehicles. The Language School is notorious for huge groups of students congregating outside the doors intermittently throughout the day and it is virtually impossible to police. It is quite common for passerbys to step into oncoming traffic to skirt the students and general congestion. The area has been the scene of numerous accidents, sadly, a few fatal. From the photograph submitted by Maximus Networks Ltd, the yellow cover still remains following masonry that fell in high winds and killed a taxi driver. With the high volume of traffic merging from the triangle, cyclists think nothing of mounting the pavement to skirt cars, taxis and lorries-regardless of pedestrians. We do not need any obstructions to add to the chaos.</p> <p>We will address as many of the justification points made by Maximus Networks Ltd for the installation of one public call box.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Their application to the Local Planning Authority is concerned with only <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Siting</li> <li>b. Appearance</li> </ol> </li> <li>A. SITING</li> </ol> <p>With regards to siting, as this is a heavily congested and small stretch of road. The proposal for a 1.325m x 0.55m box will impinge on a highly pedestrianised walkway, and take up almost a third of the width-easily seen on the photograph uploaded. The photo is taken when all premises are closed for business which is unrealistic. Photographs need to be taken at one hour intervals on any day of the week from 5am to 1am and also on the weekend and an honest image of the area presented. I am confident that the Local Planning Authority are well aware of how busy this stretch of road is.</p> <p>With regards to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Free emergency calls – we have made emergency calls on behalf of the public and also offered our phone to customers who need to make emergency phone calls as well as practical assistance. We have trained first aiders on site (a legal recommendation for all commercial premises). This is true of all our neighbours. If signage is available from the council stating that emergency calls can be made from our premises we are happy to display on our frontage.</li> <li>2. Childline-hardly any children are visible in this locality-especially without parents. It would be more sensible to locate the boxes closer to residential areas.</li> <li>3. The practicality of a wheelchair user safely ‘parking’ in a phone booth to make phone calls needs to be evaluated. We would like to see the risk assessment for this location.</li> <li>4. Maximus Networks Ltd mentioned and then dismissed the fact that most people, including children, have mobile phones these days. All mobile phones can make emergency calls free of charge and calls to Childline are</li> </ol>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i.free</li><li>ii.untraceable</li><li>iii. not shown on mobile phone bills and</li><li>iv. can be made even if the user has no credit on the phone</li></ul> <p>B. Appearance</p> <p>5. The appearance of the phone box is NOT in keeping with the ancestry of the location. This is a conserved area with many periodic features. To be blunt and honest, the structure is ugly and out of place. However, we are not particular about appearance – just safety and practicality. Based on our points, we would be grateful if the Local Planning Authority refuses the application for the installation of the phone box outside 113 High Holborn, or any site on this small stretch of road.</p>

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