

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY INFORMATION SHEET

5G SERVICES

As 5G technology is deployed across the country more and more services will become available and our lifestyles, economy and even the way we commute will be transformed. Additional base stations and upgrades to existing ones will be needed to meet this demand and improve the quality of service.

Various international assessments have concluded that below the International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation (ICNIRP) Guideline there is no evidence of adverse health effects regarding wireless networks (including 5G).

In January 2019 the Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) concluded that:

In the light of current information, exposure to radio frequency radiation from base stations will not rise to a significant level with the introduction of the 5G network. From the point of view of exposure to radio frequency radiation, the new base stations do not differ significantly from the base stations of existing mobile communication technologies (2G, 3G, 4G).' <https://www.stuk.fi/aiheet/matkapuhelimet-ja-tukiasemat/matkapuhelinverkko/5g-verkon-sateilyturvallisuus>

In Norway the Norwegian Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (DSA), noted:

'The overall research shows that the radiation from wireless technology is not hazardous to health, as long as the levels are below the recommended limit values. This is the prevailing view among researchers in many countries today, and it is supported by the EU Scientific Committee. We have used cell phones and radio transmitters for decades and much research has been done on how this affects our health. Risk factors of importance to public health have not been found. With the knowledge we have today, there is no need to worry that 5G is hazardous to health.' January 2019 <https://www.dsa.no/temaartikler/94565/5g-teknologi-og-straaling>

In the light of concerns about 5G signals from some members of the public Public Health England (PHE) commented in 2019:

"It is possible that there may be a small increase in overall exposure to radio waves when 5G is added to an existing network or in a new area. However, the overall exposure is expected to remain low relative to guidelines and, as such, there should be no consequences for public health" <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health>.

In 2020 the ICNIRP updated their safety guidelines to include further restrictions for frequencies used for 5G services. ICNIRP Chairman, Dr Eric van Rongen stated *'When we revised the guidelines, we looked at the adequacy of the ones we published in 1998. We found that the previous ones were conservative*

in most cases, and they'd still provide adequate protection for current technologies...However, the new guidelines provide better and more detailed exposure guidance in particular for the higher frequency range, above 6 GHz, which is of importance to 5G and future technologies using these higher frequencies. The most important thing for people to remember is that 5G technologies will not be able to cause harm when these new guidelines are adhered to.'
https://www.icnirp.org/cms/upload/presentations/ICNIRP_Media_Release_110320.pdf

In common with all mobile phone base stations, Cornerstone sites with 5G technology will be checked and certified for ICNIRP compliance.

For further information please contact:

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