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Your Ref:
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Headteacher/ Chair of Governors
All Saints Church of England Primary School
School Street
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S73 9EU

(Recorded Delivery)

26 January 2009

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Mobile Telecommunications Planning Submission for the upgrade of existing site CSR 31037, Doncaster Road Darfield Barnsley S73 9HD

Telefónica O2 UK Limited is in the process of upgrading its existing site in the Darfield area and will shortly be applying for the relevant planning permissions to enable us to carry out our upgrade. O2 is committed to improving consultation with local communities, and the purpose of this letter is to provide you with information as to the upgrade and the opportunity for you to seek further detailed information about the site from us, should you wish to do so.

This consultation is being carried out in line with the Government's Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development, and with Planning Policy Guidance Note 8, Telecommunications, August 2001, Paragraph 62.

Mobile phones are now intrinsic to our personal and professional lives and people expect to be able to use their mobiles when and where they need them. The only reason O2 seeks to place a base station anywhere is to improve the service to its 18.4 million customers.

Base stations are low power radio frequency transmitters. They must be close to where customers need coverage because without sufficient base stations in the right locations, mobile phones will not work. Locations for mobile phone base stations are identified by monitoring the growth in calls in each cell and also from known 'holes' in the coverage.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

In designing this site, we have adopted the "precautionary approach" outlined in the Stewart Report. The Government has stated that emissions from radio base stations should meet the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for public exposure adopted in the UK. I confirm that the installation proposed above will comply with these Guidelines. In fact, because of the very low power utilised by telecommunications sites, the emissions will be many times lower than the ICNIRP threshold.

There are many misconceptions about the science behind mobile telephony. Mobile phones are low power radio devices that receive and transmit radio frequency (RF), which is a type of electromagnetic radiation. There are many everyday sources of radio frequency radiation in our lives - sunlight, televisions, microwave ovens, radar's and radio waves, for example. Mobile phones are not radioactive and do not emit ionising radiation, such as X-rays, gamma waves or alpha and beta particles.

The studies initially reviewed by the IEGMP suggested that there could be biological effects from mobile phone technologies- although not necessarily harmful ones - and called for further research. It also suggested the adoption of European Standards, set by the International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection, (ICNIRP) as a precautionary approach. These safety guidelines are designed to protect everyone – adults and children alike.

A new report published on 14 January 2004 by the Advisory Group on Non-Ionising Radiation (AGNIR), reviews the research published over the last three years. It finds that: "The biological evidence suggests that RF (radio frequency) fields do not cause mutation or promote tumour formation, and the epidemiological data overall do not suggest causal associations between the exposures to RF fields, in particular from mobile phone use, and the risk of cancer. Exposure levels from living near to mobile phone base stations are extremely low, and the overall evidence indicates that they are unlikely to pose a risk to health."

In its report, the Stewart Group concluded that: "the balance of evidence indicates that there is no general risk to the health of people living near to base stations on the basis that exposures are expected to be small fractions of the Guidelines". The World Health Organisation supports this view, stating that: "Radio frequency field levels around base stations are not considered a health risk". Please find enclosed leaflets that give further information on health and safety in relation to mobile phones and base stations. Advice is given and questions answered by visiting the various independent websites that cover these health issues. These are:

www.doh.gov.uk or www.iegmp.org.uk or www.nrpb.org.uk or www.who.int

We would value your comments on this proposal which has been nominated on the existing site on adopted highway Doncaster Road Darfield Barnsley S73 9HD. 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. For general queries,



kindly call network consultation help desk on 0175 356 4306. They will be happy to help you learn more about mobile telecommunications development. For specific queries in relation to this application, please contact me on 0870 950 9810.

Yours faithfully



Nick Wallis
Acquisition Surveyor

On behalf of Telefónica O2 UK Limited
Enc. Planning drawings