



CAMBUSLANG Community Council

3 January 2019

Mr Callum Craig
Mono Consultants Ltd.,
Culzean House, 36 Renfield Street,
Glasgow G2 1LU

Dear Mr Craig,

PROPOSED L2600TDD UPGRADE OF EXISTING BASE STATION SITES WITHIN THE SOUTH LANARKSHIRE AREA

Cambuslang Community Council (CCC) only received notice of this proposed upgrade through one of our elected members on South Lanarkshire Council, Cllr. John Bradley. We believe that, as the statutory body representing our local community, CCC should be consulted directly by Mono Consultants Ltd and/or Vodafone-Telefonica on this matter.

You will be aware of the widespread public concern about health risks associated with base stations of the type proposed. While the UK mobile phone industry and some government authorities state that there is no proven link between the radiation emitted by mobile phone masts and health (such as the incidence of cancer), and some of the objections to such masts may be unduly alarmist, you will be aware that **other countries have passed legislation controlling the siting of masts because of adverse health effects on both physical and mental wellbeing**. There is also evidence from communities across the UK of how mobile phone masts are perceived to be harmful. CCC has looked at the publically available scientific and medical evidence underpinning UK Government approved policy which is summarized in the following paragraphs.

In May 2000, an Expert Committee appointed by the Public Health Minister, chaired by Sir William Stewart, published a report on Mobile Phones. The Report found no evidence of harm from emissions from mobile phones or base stations, but it called for a precautionary approach.

The following conclusions are relevant to planning:

1. *For base station emissions, exposures of the general population will be to the whole body but normally at levels of intensity many times less than those from handsets.*
2. *Some people's well-being may be adversely affected by the environmental impact of mobile phone base stations sited next to houses, schools or other buildings, as well as by fear of perceived direct effects.*
3. *For all base stations, including those with masts under 15m, permitted development rights should be revoked and the siting of all new base stations should be subject to the normal planning process.*



The Report also drew attention to "the particularly contentious issue of base stations near or within school grounds", recommending that radiation levels be checked for conformity with guidelines. In July 2000, the Government sent advice to local education authorities, with the following passages on base stations and schools.

Base Stations on or near schools:

- 1. The Stewart Report does not suggest that existing base stations should be taken down from schools, or that no new base stations should be erected on school premises. However, under its precautionary approach, the Report recommends that the "beam of greatest intensity" from a base station's antenna should not fall on any part of the school grounds or buildings without agreement from the school and parents.*
- 2. Where parents and/or schools wish to know whether the beam of intensity falls on school grounds or buildings, the school should contact the base station's operator. The operators have agreed to provide schools with information on the level of intensity of radio frequency radiation. This should include an explanation of the way in which the intensity of radiation falls off with distance from the antenna. If there is major concern from the school or parents, they could ask the network operator to adjust the antenna.*

Audit of base stations:

- 1. The Government asked the Radiocommunications Agency to carry out the Report's recommendation for an independent random audit of base stations. The Radiocommunications Agency agreed to audit base stations in and around schools first.*
- 2. Other reports by UK Government agencies have detailed this work which has covered hundreds of schools throughout the country. The typical exposure is 0.002% of the permissible limit and in the worse case found was 0.2%.*

CCC's concern relates to the very close proximity of one of the proposed base stations to St Bride's Primary School in Tabernacle Street just off Greenlees Road. We would be grateful if you would kindly provide us with the details of any audit that may have been done of radiation from that base station, in particular radiation levels that are likely to be experienced at St Bride's Primary School. If no such audit has been undertaken, could you advise us on when this will be done.

In the absence of such an audit, **we object to any proposal for the siting of a base station in the area**, and especially in the vicinity of St Bride's Primary School, being taken forward.

A further fundamental point is the need for adequate local consultation. We know from your client's previous proposals to site mobile phone masts in the area that many local residents were not aware of such proposals despite the notification of local representatives. This will apply also to the current proposal especially given that your notification was sent out in the run-up to the Christmas period. **We therefore request that you hold a public meeting before any application is submitted.**

We look forward to hearing from you.



John Bachtler,
Chair, Cambuslang Community Council