

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/01/2026 2:36 PM from Ms Sarah Smith.

Application Summary

Address:	Telecommunication Site Bn0914 North Of Durrington Community Centre 2 Romany Road Worthing West Sussex
Proposal:	Application for Prior Approval for installation of a replacement telecommunications base station comprising 20m high monopole (5G), wrap-around cabinet, supporting 9no. antennas and 2no. 300mm diameter transmission dishes and ancillary development thereto.
Case Officer:	Gary Peck

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	Ms Sarah Smith
Email:	
Address:	2 Nutley Close Worthing West Sussex

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	- Design - Loss of General Amenity - Other - Overdevelopment - Trees and Landscaping
Comments:	OBJECTION: AWDM/1596/25 I object to planning application AWDM/1596/25, relating to the erection of a 20m telecommunications mast with antennas, dishes, and associated cabinets at the Community Centre, Romany Road, Worthing. Appearance and Siting By reason of its height, scale, and siting, the proposed mast and cabinets would be visually dominant and intrusive within the street scene. The development would introduce an incongruous and industrial feature into an established area of green space, causing harm to the character and appearance of the surrounding

predominantly residential area.

The proposal would erode the openness of the site and conflict with its residential context. The associated cabinets would create unnecessary clutter and are likely to attract graffiti, further detracting from the quality of the public realm. The development fails to reflect the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024, which seeks to minimise visual impact through sensitive siting and appropriate design.

The mast would have an overbearing presence, resulting in harm to local amenity and a perceived loss of environmental quality. The perception of risk is a material planning consideration and is directly relevant to both the siting and appearance of the proposal.

Conflict with Local Plan Policies

The proposal conflicts with Policy DM5 of the Worthing Local Plan, which requires high quality design that respects and enhances local character and makes a positive contribution to sense of place. The scale, form, and materials of the development fail to integrate with the surrounding townscape and landscape.

The proposal also conflicts with Policy DM6, which seeks to protect and enhance the public realm. Rather than improving the space, the development would degrade its visual quality, openness, and usability.

Proximity to Sensitive Uses and Health Considerations

The proposed installation is unacceptably close to residential properties, schools, community facilities, and places of work. Receptors within a 500 metre radius would be subject to continuous emissions. These include dwellings on Romany Road at approximately 33 metres, Durrington Community Centre serving vulnerable users at approximately 33 metres, residential flats at Columbia House, several nursery and primary schools, and nearby commercial premises where employees would be exposed throughout the working day.

The impact on health and wellbeing, including mental wellbeing, is therefore a material planning consideration and must be taken into account.

Limitations of ICNIRP Compliance

Recent case law has confirmed that local planning authorities are not limited to reliance on ICNIRP certification alone. The ICNIRP guidelines do not assess risks to individuals with medical or metallic implants, including pacemakers, joint replacements, surgical hardware, cochlear implants, and other medical devices.

Without a site specific risk assessment, it is likely that a proportion of local residents are not adequately protected. These individuals may be particularly vulnerable and require additional consideration under health and equality legislation.

Precautionary Principle and Environmental Concerns

An increasing body of research raises concerns regarding potential health effects associated with close proximity to 5G infrastructure, particularly for sensitive receptors. This supports the application of a precautionary approach to siting.

In addition, 5G infrastructure has a significantly higher energy demand than previous technologies, contributing to increased carbon emissions. Potential impacts on wildlife have also been identified at exposure levels below current guideline thresholds.

Conclusion

The proposal would cause unacceptable harm to visual amenity, the character of the area, the public realm, residential amenity, and potentially to health and wellbeing. It conflicts with national and local planning policy and fails to demonstrate adequate mitigation.

The application should therefore be refused.
