

Hamish Evans

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2025 22:39
To: Hamish Evans
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Further Objection to DM/25/0589

Dear Hamish

I am, once again, writing to formally object to the proposed siting and installation of a 30-metre telecommunications mast on green space near Leylands Road, Burgess Hill.

This objection is raised on the grounds of ecological, environmental, public health, and procedural concerns, outlined as follows:

Ecological Due Diligence

The ecological report commissioned by MSDC via Place Services clearly stated:

“We are not satisfied that there is sufficient ecological information available for determination of this application and recommend that details of survey results and mitigation measures for bats are required to make this proposal acceptable. These need to be provided prior to determination.”

Despite this directive, there is no publicly accessible evidence that Betts Ecological surveyors returned to the site to carry out the required reassessment for the presence of protected bat species. My request for such documentation was met with a statement that any updates would be made available on MSDC’s website—yet to date, none have been posted. This may represent a breach of due process and fails to safeguard potential endangered species.

Environmental and Community Impact

The proposed mast compound occupies a narrow, much-loved green corridor frequently used by pedestrians. Maintenance access for service vehicles poses ongoing safety risks, while the presence of a large lattice tower will visually dominate and degrade the area’s natural aesthetics. It is also concerning that MSDC appears to be negotiating the lease of approximately 200 square meters of this green space to Cellnex Connectivity Solutions Ltd—an arrangement not disclosed during consultation. This lack of transparency suggests a serious conflict of interest.

Health Concerns

As a pacemaker user, I am personally unsettled by the lack of site-specific assurances on health implications. Additionally, many local residents live with other types of metal implants—such as joint replacements, plates, and neurostimulators—which may interact unpredictably with electromagnetic emissions depending on proximity and frequency. The ICNIRP has confirmed that its Declaration of Conformity does not cover site-specific risks to vulnerable individuals. I therefore respectfully request that MSDC undertake an independent health assessment that considers the needs of all affected residents.

Planning Compliance and Policy Alignment Section DP23 of the MSDC District Plan highlights the following:

“Better use of existing infrastructure and avoiding unnecessary development is often the most sustainable solution.”

No evidence has been provided to show that the existing publicly owned infrastructure was considered as an alternative. This omission contradicts the sustainable development principles set out in DP23.

Conclusion

The application is marked by gaps in ecological data, public health uncertainty, visual degradation of local green space, and procedural opacity. I urge MSDC to reconsider the proposal, publish all ecological reassessments, and provide full clarity on the land lease arrangements with Cellnex.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I would appreciate confirmation of receipt and details of any next steps.

Kind regards

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.