

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 June 2025 16:41:58 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/1349

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 17/06/2025 4:41 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land At Ockley Park Ockley Hill Ockley Lane Hassocks West Sussex
Proposal:	The installation of 1 No. 25 metre high lattice tower mounted with 9 No. antenna apertures and 3 No. GPS nodes, 12 No. cabinets, within a compound comprised of 2.4 metre high green palisade fence, 1 No. electrical metre cabinet and associated development thereto
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

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Customer Details

Address: 115 London Road Burgess Hill West Sussex

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Hi MSDC and specifically Hamish, I'm writing to raise some concerns about the proposed telecoms mast and associated cabinets in our area. Safety and Health Concerns

From what I've seen around Sussex, a lot of these cabinets have high-voltage warning signs, and you can hear the cooling fans buzzing quite loudly. Some even carry radiation hazard warnings, which naturally raises questions about how "safe" they are, especially when placed close to homes or schools.

I understand there are international guidelines (like ICNIRP) that say exposure is within limits, but they don't cover long-term effects or the potential biological impact. Even Public Health England (now UKHSA) says research is still ongoing. So, how can we be confident there's no possible harm?

Has the Council done a proper risk assessment for this installation? And if so, can residents see it?

It's easy to overlook, but these masts consume a lot of electricity - powering multiple climate-controlled cabinets day and night. That doesn't sit well with the climate emergency declared by Mid Sussex District Council, or its promises around cutting emissions and protecting the environment.

Surely this should be looked at more closely, especially when the Council has committed to being more sustainable?

Also, has there been any kind of environmental impact assessment? I think it's only fair that we, as local residents, get to see what the wider environmental implications might be.

On top of that, these installations are noisy and visually intrusive. Once they're up, it's not easy to ignore them - especially if they're near homes or green spaces. Constant fan noise and flashing lights aren't things people want right outside their doors.

The Council's own policies talk about protecting the environment, encouraging green development, and reducing energy use. Installing infrastructure like this, without a proper look at its long-term impact, seems to go against the Council's own aims.

In short, I believe projects like this should be fully assessed and aligned with local values before going ahead. As it stands, there are too many unanswered questions around safety, sustainability, and the wider environmental cost.

Thanks for taking the time to consider this - I trust the Council will take a closer look before making a decision and understand our concerns.

Kind regards