

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 02 April 2025 20:28:57 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <hamish.evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/0589

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 02/04/2025 8:28 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Land North Of Leylands Road Burgess Hill West Sussex
Proposal:	The installation of 1 No. 30 metre high lattice tower mounted with 9 No. antennas, 12 No. cabinets, within a compound comprised of 2.4 metre high palisade fencing painted green, 1 No. electrical metre cabinet and associated development thereto.
Case Officer:	Hamish Evans

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Customer Details

Address:	14 Leylands Road Burgess Hill
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing to formally object to the planning application DM/25/0589, which seeks to install an antenna tower in Worlds End, Burgess Hill. While I understand the need for improved coverage, I believe that this proposal is unsuitable for the location and raises significant concerns that should be addressed.

1. Inappropriate Site Selection & Environmental Impact

The proposed location sits within a nature corridor leading to the Bedelands Nature Reserve. Given the recent subsidence-related works in the area, local wildlife and the surrounding environment have barely had time to recover. Further disruption could be detrimental to the ecological balance.

A more suitable brownfield site should be considered to minimize the environmental impact.

2. Impact on Trees and Protected Areas

The site is in close proximity to tree protection areas, yet no tree schedule has been provided. There is no indication of which trees may be dead, dying, or in need of replacement.

The proposed 30m structure (which is, in fact, stated to reach 31.3m in the supporting documents) will require deep foundations, potentially affecting tree root systems.

3. Visual Impact and Inconsistencies in Application

The application lacks contextual elevations that demonstrate how the tower will impact the wider landscape and character of the town.

A proper sightline investigation should be conducted to assess the extent to which this structure will be visible from surrounding areas.

The lattice structure, coupled with a bulky antenna housing at the top, will be visually intrusive and an eyesore for the community.

4. Health Concerns & Community Engagement

Many residents, including myself, are concerned about the electromagnetic emissions from the tower, particularly given that the proposal states frequencies between 0Hz and 300GHz will be emitted. Frequencies between 30GHz and 300GHz fall into the "extremely high frequency" range, raising understandable concerns.

While documentation suggests these emissions are safe, proper community engagement should be conducted to address public concerns and ensure transparency.

5. Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Considerations

The proposed foundation will cover an area of 46.92m², which exceeds the 25m² threshold that would exempt it from BNG requirements. However, the applicant has not addressed this issue or provided BNG calculations to mitigate the significant loss of natural habitat.

Proper BNG assessments should be conducted to ensure biodiversity gains are incorporated into the proposal.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the planning department to refuse this application or require significant amendments to address these concerns.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards
Stephanie

Kind regards