

To:Planning <planning@durham.gov.uk>

Subject:DM/23/00332/PNT Erection of Telecoms Mast and associated Cabinets near Whitechurch

Date:Friday, 10 March 2023 3:13 PM

Dear Ms Hurton

DM/23/00332/PNT Erection of Telecoms Mast and associated Cabinets near Whitechurch

The City of Durham Trust has significant concerns about the suitability of this location for such a prominent mast and numerous associated cabinets. It is proposed to locate them in a very busy pedestrian area. They will have an impact on the Conservation Area which is protected by Policy 44 of the County Durham Plan (CDP) and H2 of the Durham City Neighbourhood Plan (DCNP). They would also have an effect on views involving the World Heritage Site which are protected by Policy 45 of the CDP and H1 of the DCNP.

Policy 27 of the CDP (Utilities, Telecommunications and Other Broadcast Infrastructure) states that " Equipment must be sympathetically designed and camouflaged and not result in visual clutter." The number of cabinets associated with this mast will not satisfy that requirement.

As yet the response of the Council's Design and Conservation Team is not available on the planning portal. Their response was highly significant in informing the Trust's response to the similar application for telecoms equipment near St Godric's.

In the circumstances and given that this is a pre-application inquiry, the Trust asks that the Council should object to this application so that it can be considered appropriately through the process of a full planning application.

Best wishes

John

John Lowe

Chair, City of Durham Trust