

National Highways has no objection in principle to the application for the installation of a telecommunications mast in this location.

However, there are outstanding details regarding the technical approval and the positioning of the proposal, which principally relate to the mast at a height of 20m located in proximity to the boundary with the SRN. We are currently unable to determine whether it is of a height that, should the structure fall, could compromise the safe operation of the SRN.

It is a policy requirement under the standards governing highway safety and design (i.e. the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges ("DMRB")) that such structures outside the highway boundary, where the design, construction, maintenance or demolition of the structure may affect the highway, highway structure, or that of the highway user, requires formal technical approval by a competent Technical Approval Authority. This is outlined as a requirement in DMRB Standard CG300.

As such, technical approval will be required if the telecommunications mast proposed in this application is to be located within 'falling distance' of the highway boundary (i.e. its overall height is greater than the distance to the highway boundary).

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