

**THE CALL IN PERIOD FOR THIS DECISION EXPIRES AT 5.00PM ON, FRIDAY,
20 NOVEMBER 2009. THE DECISION CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL
AFTER THAT DATE.**

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS AT COUNTY
HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT ON TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2009

Present: Cllr Barry Abraham – Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Safety
Cllr Peter Bingham – Cabinet Member for Resources
Jonathan Baker – Democratic Services Officer

Item	<u>Telephone Masts on Council Owned Property</u>
Decision reference	37/09
Decision taken	<p>Option (i) – THAT the moratorium relating to mobile telephone base stations (masts) on council owned land and buildings be lifted.</p> <p>Option (ii) – THAT specialist telecommunication surveyor's be appointed to act on behalf of the Isle of Wight Council.</p> <p>Option (iii) – THAT the council commences rent review and lease renewal negotiations when appropriate.</p> <p>Option (iv) – THAT the negotiation and upgrading of equipment to modern standards be undertaken.</p> <p>Option (v) – THAT the possibility of additional masts be investigated.</p>
Reasons for decision	<p>To assist in meeting the following Corporate Themes and Priorities:</p> <p>a) <u>A Thriving Island</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create wealth and reduce our carbon footprint at the same time. • Support economic development and regeneration, enabling all to be able to share in the Island's economic success, through increasing the skills of the whole community. <p>b) <u>Modernising the Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving performance and value for money.
Additional reasons	To provide an increase in financial revenue for the council.

Options considered and rejected	<p>Option (vi) – Retain the moratorium.</p> <p>Option (vii) – Lift the moratorium in part and, after monitoring for problems, implement in full.</p>
Representations Received	<p>Concerns were raised by several elected Members on the issues of mobile phone masts on schools and in particular primary schools. The Cabinet Members provided the following response:</p> <p>“In lifting the moratorium in full, the council would be able to consider the upgrading of current equipment and new masts on existing sites as well as on those sites not housing them at present.</p> <p>It would not be intended to include school sites at this time and schools and other council sites used predominantly by children and young people would not be actively promoted for such use.</p> <p>Consideration would only be given in very exceptional circumstances where alternatives would not be considered practical and in such cases masts would only be possible following full consultation with and the agreement of the governing body.</p> <p>Where equipment is upgraded or new masts are installed further tests would be undertaken in order to prove that the additional equipment was still significantly below guideline levels”</p> <p>Concerns were also raised by a member of the public with regards to the issue of health and safety of mobile phone masts and the emissions given out by them. The Cabinet Member for Resources provided a response which included providing assurance that power density levels of radio frequency signal exposure to staff working within buildings that have masts are less, by a factor of more than one thousand, to the emissions of modern mobile phones.</p> <p>Assurance was also given that the health and safety of council staff would not be compromised by the lifting of the moratorium.</p>
Declarations of interest	None
Additional advice received	None declared