

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Thursday 25 July 2019

1. QUESTION FROM C. KAY (ATTENDING)
Re: Health and Safety of Mobile Technologies

The County Council draws on the advice and guidance provided by Public Health England (PHE) regarding the health and safety of mobile technologies including 5G. PHE & other agencies, for example the WHO, rely on advice from the International Commission on Non-ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). However, this agency is not independent, is run by telecommunications industry executives and gives misleading and out dated data about safety limits & health effects. With this in mind, and following the precautionary principle, will the council, like other bodies within the UK and other countries, seek a moratorium on the roll out of 5G within the county until independent research has been authorised? "

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council is not involved with mobile infrastructure planning applications, this is a District Council responsibility as part of the planning authority remit. Where street furniture is concerned, we are not aware of any Council assets that are currently hosting mobile network operators 5G technologies, but we would review any such request from mobile network operators in accordance with Government guidance and PHE guidance.

2. QUESTION FROM Z. BATSTONE (NOT ATTENDING)
Re: Rollout of 5G Network and Health Risks

I have been very concerned about the rollout of 5G network in UK cities, as this technology has widely been warned against as harmful to human health and all other living beings in our environment. I don't want to suffer ill health because of this and I don't want my children to grow up in harmful environment when we can prevent it. It is microwaves, so it doesn't take one to be an expert to deduce that there indeed are likely to be impacts, especially to those sensitive to wireless technology and radiation.

We have also seen that in other parts of the Earth, these health risks have been recognised seriously and for example the whole of Japan banned 5G rollout, as well as Brussels, cities in Italy and other countries.

My question is: Is the Devon Council aware of these concerns and therefore as a consequence, is the Council going to do the right thing for their people and electorate, and stop the rollout of 5G network?

Let me say also this: I am of course aware of the promotion of 5G by companies and overall as the fantastic new technology that is going to unlock whatever potential. Do we, do people, actually want this ??? I don't believe it will bring such change, we already have 3G and 4G with fantastic abilities. It is extremely important to do the right thing and not risk people's health through 5G rollout.

Thank you in advance for your answer and no doubt reassurance.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council draws on the advice and guidance provided by Public Health England (PHE) regarding the health and safety of mobile technologies including 5G. PHE continues to monitor the health-related evidence applicable to radio waves, including in relation to base stations, and is committed to updating its advice as required. The County Council has been in touch with PHE (June 2019) to ask for any further advice. PHE responded to confirm that their briefing note on 5G is still current, and PHE has also recently updated its website with information on 5G.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phone-base-stations-radio-waves-and-health/mobile-phone-base-stations-radio-waves-and-health>

Public Health England (PHE) advises the Government on appropriate public health standards for protection from exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs), or radio waves. PHE's main advice is that the guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) should be adopted and there is no convincing evidence that exposures below the ICNIRP guideline levels cause adverse health effects. ICNIRP is formally recognised as an official collaborating non-governmental organisation by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization. ICNIRP is also consulted by the European Commission. Advice from PHE includes comprehensive scientific review reports and statements on topics.

3. QUESTION FROM MR N TURNER (ATTENDING) Re: Public Consultation around the Deployment of 5G

I would like to know why the general public has not been consulted about the deployment of 5G and asked whether we wish to have this technology which has been untested for safety, forced on us?

Public Health England's (PHE) Guidance Report on Wi-Fi radio waves and health, published 1st November 2013 states on page 23: "The body is particularly effective at absorbing radio waves.....the body then behaves as an antenna absorbing energy....." Thus, we are all being affected in one way or another.

The International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) states that different groups within a population may vary in their ability to tolerate a particular non-ionising radiation (NIR) exposure. For example, children, the elderly and some chronically ill people have a lower tolerance to one or more categories of NIR exposure than the rest of the population.

It goes against our human rights. Therefore, it should be halted and independent safety tests carried out.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

Public Health England's Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE) is responsible for providing public health advice to local authorities. The conclusion of this advice is that it is possible that there may be a small increase in overall exposure to radio waves when 5G is added to an existing network or in a new area; however, the overall exposure is expected to remain low relative to guidelines and as such there should be no consequences for public health. Public Health England is committed to monitoring the evidence applicable to this and other radio technologies and to revising its advice on the basis of independent evidence.

4. QUESTION FROM MRS WELLS (ATTENDING) Re: Independent Study into the Effects of 5G

I am a Grandmother of 5 children aged from 6 months to 15 years and I'm sure that most of DCC are parents or Grandparents. There is proven science that 3G/4G are known to cause harm to humans & biology at levels lower than the current Guidelines given by the WHO, PHE & ICNIRP. (Reference DR Erica Mallory-Blythe).

Babies in uterus & young children have a smaller less dense body mass & their skulls are thinner than an adult's. Therefore, any high frequency radiation will be more potent. Doctors believe up to 60% more. There has been no research into how the many levels of EMF's (Electromagnetic Frequencies) combined together 3,4&5G will affect sensitive, vulnerable groups like children.

The 5G appeal petition signed by over 200 scientists is calling for this Independent study. It is known by the medical profession & Peer Reviewed science that the quickest growing rate of illness in 5-19 year olds is sadness. Suicide rates are rising & becoming the highest cause of death in children.

EMF's affect the natural rhythm of the brain/body health, increase harmful free radicals, cause genetic damage, neurological disorders & further risk of infertility in males & females.

I ask DCC have you even considered the potential high risk of damage to children & young adults by EMF's, particularly with 5G being rolled out across Exeter in 2020, can DCC assure me that they have been advised by an Independent Scientific body that this vulnerable group in our community will be safe from 5G exposure and will DCC be responsible for any or all adverse medical disease or debilitating illness that this vulnerable group in our society may be effected by due to the increased EMF exposure of 5G?

I do not consent to be a part of this 5G experiment on human life & I do not want my grandchildren harmed by this untested technology.

I ask DCC to invoke the Precautionary Principle until further Independent study away from the Telecom industry is completed & the Community of Devon know that they are being held safe & future generations will be able to flourish in a healthy environment.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

As stated above, Public Health England's Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE) is responsible for providing public health advice to local authorities. The County Council is not involved with mobile infrastructure planning applications; this is a District Council responsibility as part of the planning authority remit. Larger requests do require planning permission and an application, and are accompanied with certificates stating the site operates safe levels of ionising radiation. These are issued by ICNIRP (International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection): <https://www.icnirp.org>. Where street furniture is concerned, we are not aware of any Council assets that are currently hosting mobile network operators 5G technologies, but we would review any such request from mobile network operators in accordance with Government guidance and PHE guidance.

5. QUESTION FROM MS HARVEY (ATTENDING) Re: Pre-Planning investigation into 5G

Has Devon County Council carried out a pre planning investigation prior to planning application being granted for any 5G infrastructure?

If not, I would like to request that a pre planning investigation is carried out using independent research and evidence to ascertain the safety or not of 5G, prior to any planning application being granted.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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concerned, we are not aware of any Council assets that are currently hosting mobile network operators 5G technologies, but we would review any such request from mobile network operators in accordance with Government guidance and PHE guidance.

6. QUESTION FROM MRS CLIMIE (ATTENDING)

Re: Health Consequences of 5G

I wanted to ask why decisions were being made about bringing 5G in this area before proper investigation into health consequences to both people and other living beings.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council draws on the advice and guidance provided by Public Health England (PHE) regarding the health and safety of mobile technologies including 5G. PHE continues to monitor the health-related evidence applicable to radio waves, including in relation to base stations, and is committed to updating its advice as required. The County Council has been in touch with PHE (June 2019) to ask for any further advice. PHE responded to confirm that its briefing note on 5G is still current, and PHE has also recently updated its website with information on 5G.

Public Health England (PHE) advises the Government on appropriate public health standards for protection from exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs), or radio waves. PHE's main advice is that the guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) should be adopted and there is no convincing evidence that exposures below the ICNIRP guideline levels cause adverse health effects. ICNIRP is formally recognised as an official collaborating non-governmental organisation by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization. ICNIRP is also consulted by the European Commission. Advice from PHE includes comprehensive scientific review reports and statements on topics.

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As a County Council we have no current plans to make use of 5G in our "ICT roadmap" to 2020.

7. QUESTION FROM MS WAKEFIELD (ATTENDING)

Re: Princesshay City Bee Project

Exeter has been very innovative in many ways and is home to Princesshay City Bee project. There are five hives with reports of up to 300,000 busy bees enjoying their rooftop existence.

My question to the council is that in view of the considerable scientific reports showing that radiation is deadly for bees and also the huge numbers of photographs showing dead bees in locations where 5g has been implemented (illegally and without testing), in what way is provision being made for the safety of the Exeter bees? In what way is the council prepared for the inevitable onslaught of furore and anger when these colonies are decimated?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council is not involved with mobile infrastructure planning applications, this is a District Council responsibility as part of their local planning authority remit. On this basis, it will be Exeter City Council's role to give consideration to such issues. Where street furniture is concerned, we are not aware of any Council assets that are currently hosting mobile network operators 5G technologies.

8. QUESTION FROM MR WILSON (ATTENDING)
Re: Peer Reviewed Studies and 5G rollout

As a former medical scientist, I am worried about 5G rollout which represents a quantum leap into the unknown. My question is:

In the event of a possible 5G rollout in Exeter, can you assure the citizens of Exeter that you will examine all peer reviewed studies related to the biological effects of 5G frequencies and if there is any doubt about safety in regard to human, animal, avian, insect or plant life apply the Precautionary Principle and do not proceed with its deployment?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

All advice and Guidance regarding the health and safety of mobile technologies including 5G is sourced by the County Council from the Public Health England (PHE).

PHE continues to monitor the health-related evidence applicable to radio waves, including in relation to base stations, and is committed to updating its advice as required. Since concerns have arose regarding 5G, the County Council have been in touch with PHE (June 2019) to ask for any further advice. PHE responded to confirm that its briefing note on 5G is still current, and PHE has also recently updated its website with information on 5G.

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9. QUESTION FROM MS AUGENTHALER (ATTENDING)
Re: Health Impact of 5G on Children and Pollinators

I am gravely concerned about telecommunication industries rolling out 5G in the county of Devon and about 5G compatible street furniture (such as LED street lights) being installed throughout Devon and the serious impact this rollout would have on the health of all of us, especially on the health of the children as well as on pollinators. I would urge Councillors to read the following article <https://www.5gspaceappeal.org/the-appeal> on peer-reviewed scientific studies demonstrating the harm to human health.

Brussels and Rome have invoked a moratorium on 5G as the relevant data could not prove that the new technology was safe and Glastonbury Council has invoked the principle of precaution, therefore I am asking DCC to invoke the precautionary principle so that the rollout of 5G can be halted in the county of Devon until there are sufficient independent studies proving that 5G is safe and that the 10 000 scientific studies cited above are wrong.

We have collected more than 900 signatures of local residents and are continuing to collect signatures to provide valid proof that the community are concerned.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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10. QUESTION FROM MR MOORE (ATTENDING) Re: testing of existing 2G, 3G and 4G

I am diagnosed as RF (radio frequency) EMF sensitive (Electromagnetic Frequency Sensitive) meaning I was forced to give up my job and move away from Bristol City to escape the microwave pollution that I was exposed to. The RF and EMF Radiation had over a period of time caused me to become deeply sick so I am concerned regarding the microwave radiation levels already existing in Devon and am horrified to hear of the planned introduction of even higher and potentially more harmful EMF's to be transmitted.

My question is regarding the testing of the existing 2,3 and 4G microwave radiation levels already transmitted within the Devon county council area. Can any Member of the Council admit to studying and understanding all the available data regarding microwave radiation science, including the PHD studies proving the biological effects of non-ionizing radiation (my own research tell me the information from PHE or ICNIRP is out of date and cannot be relied upon). Can Members assure me under the Councils Constitution to protect our community and perhaps even under personal legal liability and whether independent metering / recording of Electromagnetic frequency's levels has regularly taken place and are reviewed by completely independent experts.

It is my view that observation of the precautionary principle needs to be applied on this important matter and that due diligence is applied for the health and wellbeing of everyone in the County.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council draws on the advice and guidance provided by Public Health England (PHE) regarding the health and safety of mobile technologies including 5G. PHE continues to monitor the health-related evidence applicable to radio waves, including in relation to base stations, and is committed to updating its advice as required. The County Council has been in touch with PHE (June 2019) to ask for any further advice. PHE responded to confirm that its briefing note on 5G is still current, and PHE has also recently updated its website with information on 5G.

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11. QUESTION FROM MS MARCUS (ATTENDING)

Re: contact regarding 5G Rollout

Please would Members of Devon County Council disclose to the meeting details of any contact, be it meetings, briefings, emails or telephone calls with telecommunications companies / mobile network operators or their agents / representative regarding the roll out of 5G in the county.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The County Council is not involved with mobile infrastructure planning applications, this is a District Council responsibility as part of the planning authority remit. Where street furniture is concerned, we are not aware of any Council assets that are currently hosting mobile network operators 5G technologies, but we would review any such request from mobile network operators in accordance with Government guidance and PHE guidance.

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12. QUESTION FROM MS BROOKING (ATTENDING)

Re: Declaring a moratorium on 5G rollout

Taking in to account that the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields are based of thermal effect rather than microwaves and baring in mind that they are 20 year out of date I wonder if it would be wise and humane to declare a moratorium on the roll out of 5G technology across Devon until more recent evidence of it effects has been examined?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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13. QUESTION FROM MS SIMONS (ATTENDING)

Re: Halting implementation of 5G

Why is Devon County Council considering implementing a system which is untested, untrilled, without evidence of its safety? Although Councillors are elected, actions as important as this for the whole of humanity ought to be put to the public for decision. There will be no going back once 5G is installed. The only outcome will be more sick people, more demand on the medical system, more deaths, more suffering. Do members of DCC (and beyond of course, e.g. members of parliament) not have children and grandchildren, wanting to ensure their safe future?

I for one do NOT wish for antennas to be placed on every streetlight in my street or any other just to speed up wifi (or so it is claimed!). I do NOT wish for my health or anyone else's to be put at risk deliberately. I view an uninformed installation of 5G as a crime against human rights.

Why is it that Brussels (amongst other places) has barred 5G until further notice, demanding safety evidence? Can DCC assure the public, myself included, in writing, with evidence, that 5G is safe and will the Council declare itself responsible for all future claims, i.e. when people fall sick, without passing that on to other 'bodies'? Is the Council prepared to have an unbiased view, listening to both sides, to enable it to make an informed choice for the good of humanity rather than one controlled by money?

I would like to draw the Council's attention to various websites, there are many more:

<https://www.naturalnews.com/2019-05-19-5g-apocalypse-extinction-event-film-destroy-humanity.html>

<https://www.greenmedinfo.com/> = at the top you will see a link to register for a G5 summit commencing 26 August

<https://www.radiationhealthrisks.com/5g-cell-towers-dangerous/>

<https://www.5gawareness.com/>

<https://ehtrust.org/key-issues/cell-phoneswireless/5g-networks-iot-scientific-overview-human-health-risks/>

<http://phiremedical.org/category/5g/>

<http://www.es-uk.info/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/V3-240419-NB-RAD-19-6151-ES-UK-ADVERT-APRIL-A3P.jpg>

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