



**WHP Telecoms Ltd, Helena House, Troy Mills, Troy Road, Leeds LS18 5GN**

Our Ref: S4GI116

6<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Liam McArthur MSP  
MSP for Orkney Islands  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Dear Liam McArthur MSP,

### **Preliminary Inquiry**

#### **Subject: Proposed Telecommunications Installation**

WHP have recently been awarded a contract by the Scottish Government to deploy crucial mobile coverage to areas that currently lack this key 21st Century requirement. Without this new project and the backing of the Scottish Government these areas will persist to lack coverage as their remoteness and lack of dense population does not create the commercial incentive for the four Operators to expediently address the problem.

The Scottish Government and Scottish Futures Trust ('SFT') have been working in partnership to develop the Scottish 4G Infill Programme ('4G Infill' or 'Infill') for Scotland. As part of the Digital Strategy for Scotland the program seeks to develop an initial approach which can facilitate the deployment of 4G LTE infill coverage where this does not yet exist, and where it is unlikely that industry will invest in the near to medium-term future, given the economic challenges of doing so. These areas are often referred to 'Not Spots'.

Funding has been committed by the Scottish Government and secured from European Regional Development Fund ('ERDF') to support activity in the Highlands and Islands region.

WHP Telecoms was awarded the contract by the Scottish Government to acquire, build and operate the passive infrastructure such as the base, mast, power supply and transmission link required to attract mobile operators to deploy sites in Not Spots where otherwise it would not be financially viable to do so.

The area in and around Isle of Stronsay has been identified as a Not Spot.

At this stage we must stress that we are exploring solutions however these will be dependent on technical constraints, availability of power, availability of suitable land, other cost constraint and attracting a mobile operator. There is no guarantee that all of the constraints can be overcome.



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We are currently undertaking searches to identify suitable sites and we are keen to engage with you/your organisation at this early stage of the process in order to gain your support and assist us in the process should the need arise.

As you will see from the enclosed plan on behalf of The Scottish Governments specific coverage requirement, we have already undertaken several steps in the site identification process having examined the Radio Communications Agency Mast Register, our record of other operator's sites and the councils own mast register. In addition, the policies in the council's development plan have been examined and any relevant planning history of the site.

Site Name/Address: Builders Yard  
Next door to BT Compound  
Overlooking St Catherine's Bay on the  
B9060.  
Isle of Stronsay (North Islands)  
Orkney Island  
KW17 2AE (Nearest Postcode)

NGR: E: 364876 N: 1026540

Type of Installation: Proposed 30.0m high Lattice Tower on  
below-ground modular base and associated  
ancillary works.

The exact location of the site and a detailed description can be found on the enclosed drawing Ref S4GI116.

The site identified has been rated under the voluntary Ten Commitments Traffic Light Rating System.

The installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning submission.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the option identified and your views on the consultation strategy. In addition, we would take this opportunity to offer a meeting and tour of options to discuss the proposal. Finally, we would be interested in any local stakeholders or groups that you consider would like to know more about our proposals.



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We would be grateful for any comments you have on the site and/or agreement to a meeting within 14 working days of the date of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

Susannah Help  
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