

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**27 NOVEMBER 2003**

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS MASTS: HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS  
IN PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

This Council notes that:

1. Research into the potentially harmful effects of radiation emitted from telecommunications masts is ongoing and incomplete. The results of the research to date have been at best, inconclusive.
2. Local residents, therefore, hold legitimate concerns about the ease with which mobile phone companies are able to get permission to site masts in residential areas, often close to schools and hospitals.
3. At present, local authorities say that objecting to masts on health grounds is not a relevant planning consideration because the emissions fall within guidelines set by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection.
4. However, a number of recent High Court judgements have ruled that issues of public health must be taken into account by planning officers when making a decision on whether to allow a mast. The most prominent of these occurred in October of this year when Mr Justice Richards revoked the permission of Hutchinson 3G to erect a 40-foot mast 22 yards from the front door of a pregnant 27 year old woman in Hampshire.

Therefore, this Council resolves that, from the next Planning Applications Sub-Committee meeting on 17 December 2003, planning officers be obliged to take potential adverse health effects to residents into account when making recommendations on the siting of telecommunications masts.

Proposer: Councillor Ann Norman

Seconder: Councillor Brian Oxley

Signed by:

Councillor Dee Simson  
Councillor Denise Cobb  
Councillor Brian Pidgeon  
Councillor Anne Giebeler  
Councillor Vanessa Brown

Councillor Jan Young  
Councillor Geoffrey Theobald  
Councillor Pat Drake  
Councillor Ted Kemble