

Supplement to the agenda for

Cabinet

Thursday 19 December 2019

6.30 pm

The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX

4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO CABINET – 19 December

Question 1

Ms H Boughton, Llangarron

To: cabinet member, health and adult wellbeing

I ask for reassurance from Herefordshire Council that they will follow the example of other UK councils, such as Totnes and Frome, and insist on a complete halt or a moratorium on the rollout of highly dangerous 5G technology because it has not been proved to be safe from a public health perspective. In fact the frequency band in which 5G operates is used as a weapons system (Active Denial System) by the US military. I believe that the council are unable to obtain liability insurance for damage claims relating to electromagnetic radiation exposure. Please see the objecting comments on BT's 5G planning application P193967/F for more details on this subject. Please can the council confirm that they will not be subjecting residents to highly dangerous 5G millimetre wave radiation?

Response

The role of councils in the deployment of 5G will be limited. The mobile providers will make their own decisions over deployment timescales and locations and often no planning permission will be required due the existing national legislation of permitted development. The council is also aware of public concerns over potential health impacts of 5G, and will work with organisations such as Public Health England to understand and disseminate relevant information. 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, should that be necessary.

The full details are here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health>

