

Public Questions on 5G to Place Scrutiny Committee 12 September 2019
Councillor Foale Portfolio Holder City Planning and Development provided a response to the questions.

Rhiannon Augenthaler

With so many other pressing concerns the council might not have had the time so far to look into 5G and to consider that it is 5G that would be used for artificial intelligence, robots, virtual reality, driverless cars, automated factories, smart devices and home appliances and that the urban street lighting of Exeter, with minimal further upgrading can be enabled for future incorporation of wireless spectrum broadcast and that according to MP Ben Bradshaw there is a national target for most of the UK to be covered by a 5G signal by 2027 and that these apparent advances could lead to job losses, more addiction to virtual gaming and other forms of online entertainment - already considered to be a major mental health issue, more exposure to radiation as all our home appliances become wirelessly connected. Is the council aware of the technological advancements which the telecommunications industries are marketing and promoting and the negative social, psychological, physiological and emotional impacts it could have on the residents of Exeter?

Can you, the councillors of ECC please read and engage with the information provided at <https://www.5gspaceappeal.org/the-appeal>

And

<http://phiremedical.org/>

QUESTION

Between now and the next scrutiny meeting in November and would the council be willing to do your own research into 5G and wireless radiation prior to your scrutiny meeting in November?

RESPONSE - Councillor Foale advised that from an planning point of view this would only be worthwhile if it could inform the Council's formal decisions on 5G related development requiring planning permission. Current Government guidance states that provided operators submit a statement confirming compliance with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines, implications for health cannot be used as a planning reason for refusal. He added that on a personal level he hoped that colleagues on the scrutiny committee and it would incumbent on them to make themselves more familiar with the information.

Ms Augenthaler asked Members to look at the issue of 5G, and to be mindful if they should care for their families, neighbours and community. She stated that 5G was a dangerous military grade technology and according to experts can be the cause of a number of health issues including cancer, degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and dementia, effects on fertility, depression and even suicidal tendencies. She asked Members to read the information with their families in their minds.

Gabriele Simons

Ms Simons asked Members to note that the question was submitted to DCC meeting on 25 July, but was referred to Exeter City Council as the local planning authority.

The dangers of 5G are well documented, scientifically supported. Why is Devon County Council considering implementing a system which is untested, undrilled, 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.

QUESTION

Why it is that Brussels (amongst other places) has barred 5G until further notice, demanding safety evidence? Can the Council 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/>

<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>

RESPONSE – Councillor Foale referred Members to the previous response – and Council planning decisions on the health implications of 5G development which were constrained by national Government guidance. The current Government guidance stated that provided operators submit a statement confirming compliance with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines, implications for health cannot be used as a planning reason for refusal.

He said also that he first became aware of this with the information. He could understand the frustration when the matter was referred by Devon County Council to Exeter City Council. We are a District Council and not scientists, however he felt it was incumbent on his colleagues to make themselves aware of the information.

Gabriele Simons responded and commented that the information was under the control of the media. She felt some fear that the Government and the technology industry had nothing positive to say about 5G but instead appeared to be bulldozing ahead despite the implications. She urged Members to undertake their investigations into 5G research and this new and untested research will affect us. She was particularly concerned about the cacogenic effects on children whose brains were still developing. She was happy to share any documents and discuss the matter further with Members.

William Wilson

As a former medical scientist I am very worried about the health effects of 5G telecommunications infrastructure. In a question put to Devon CC regarding this Councillor Roger Croad indicated that this was a district council responsibility and that he takes advice from PHE (Public Health England) who in turn follow the guidelines of the International Committee on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). However ICNIRP do not protect the public's health because they refuse to recognise the harmful non-thermal (i.e. biological) effects of Radiofrequency (RF) radiation, despite thousands of peer-reviewed articles from many respected scientists spanning many years. 5G may be much more dangerous in part because of the densification of mobile base stations required by this technology, its phased array antennae and very short wavelength. There have been NO SAFETY TESTS. For many years Lloyds of London and other insurers have refused to insure for illness caused by continuous long term low RF radiation.

QUESTION

Since the effects of 5G frequencies are unknown, untested and uninsurable will Exeter City Council adopt the Precautionary Principle and not proceed with the deployment of 5G infrastructure?

UNESCO definition of the Precautionary Principle

" When human activities may lead to morally unacceptable harm that is scientifically plausible but uncertain, actions shall be taken to avoid or diminish that harm"

***RESPONSE** – Councillor Foale advised that the Council will not proceed with the deployment of 5G infrastructure as this is not its role. Telecommunications infrastructure for mobile phones was provided by the telecommunications operators who are licensed by central Government. He added his frustration that last year a number of telegraph poles were springing up in the city, and Exeter City Council were not consulted on this. He reiterated the view that the City Council and Members of the Scrutiny committee were not afraid to ask questions about this matter.*

William Wilson responded and stated that he was pleased to hear that. He was concerned also that the ICNIRP organisation were determining whether this was safe and yet refusing to acknowledge all of the research. The deployment of 5G was forming a familiar pattern whether the technology was shale fracking or the releasing of toxins into the air. He felt there was a lack of any sense of responsibility against men, women and children and the money justified the means to an end. He suggested this was insane.

Tere Wells (Mrs)

QUESTION -

If ECC are not responsible for the deployment of further WiFi/EMF radiation across Exeter and that the ruling comes from a higher more senior authority, ie Government level, will that higher authority release them from their responsibility of Duty of Care & Due Diligence that they are unable to apply, in writing ?

***RESPONSE** – Councillor Foale said that the questioner would have to ask a higher authority, although it seems unlikely.*

Given that each Councillor is responsible for the collective decision of the Council with any matter in hand, how does this higher ruling relate to the local public Health & Safety Policies regarding Exeter's population?

RESPONSE – *Councillor Foale again, you would have to ask the higher authority. He referred to the concern raised in respect of the Telegraph poles by the Council and also by the Member of Parliament even though we as a Council were unable to say no. Half of the telegraph poles have since been removed.*

Member would be discussing this matter at Scrutiny Committee in full in November and if there are any concerns these will come back to the attention of Members through the Executive and if deemed necessary will bring this to the attention of our Member of Parliament and take the appropriate action. He said as before it would have to be to a higher authority.

Tere Williams made a response and said that as her family and she was concerned about unborn babies and smaller children with their smaller body health body mass and skills and there was no independent research on brain body health. She referred to the petition which had been signed by over 200 scientists and people were calling for an independent study and progression of a peer review study and effects on children. She said that she would like the City Council to acknowledge this. The documents were a benefit to all to read.

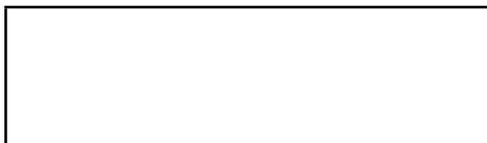
She circulated a leaflet which she asked Members to read

Wendy Brooking

QUESTION

In preparation for the councillors having a potential discussion about 5G at the next scrutiny meeting, following the presentation of a large petition from Exeter residents, could the councillors commit to informing themselves on the subject by looking at the following 5G space appeal from doctors and scientists. Thank you in advance for your due diligence:

<https://www.5gspaceappeal.org/the-appeal>



THE APPEAL — 5G Space Appeal

Even before 5G was proposed, dozens of petitions and appeals by international scientists, including the Freiburger Appeal signed by over 3,000 physicians, called for a halt to the expansion of wireless technology and a moratorium on new base stations. In 2015, 215 scientists from 41 countries communicated their alarm to the United Nations (UN) and World Health Organization (WHO).

www.5gspaceappeal.org

RESPONSE – Councillor Foale said that this information was circulated to Councillors, who will also be advised that it does not supersede or override national planning policy guidance or the permitted development rights enjoyed by telecommunications operators. He added that this matter was the subject of a petition and following a referral from Council in October, the matter would be considered at this Scrutiny Committee on 7 November in a thorough manner.

Wendy Brooking made a response and wished to raise some key points that 5G had an effect on all living creatures that 5G degrades all bio systems and people's health was equally important. She referred to impartial evidence to back the statements she had made.

The Chair thanked the questions for their contributions and reassured them that this subject was the subject of a petition which would be referred to Place Scrutiny Committee from Council to be held on 15 October.

A Member asked if they could agree what action would be taken would be taken to help inform the debate as there seems to be a number of sources of additional information. She would also speak the Chair.

Councillor Atkinson proposed that the matter be discussed at the next meeting in Cllr Pattinson seconded the proposal. The matter was voted upon and agreed.