

United Kingdom

Exposure guidelines	ICNIRP exposure guidelines adopted in the UK in 2000. All base stations deployed are certified as ICNIRP compliant. Ofcom (the industry regulator) undertakes audits of base station emissions on request from the public.
Planning Authority	Municipalities in England, Scotland and Wales. In Northern Ireland Planning Service
Requirements for planning permission	<p>Throughout the UK minor works constitute Permitted Development which does not require planning permission. The definition of “minor works” varies between England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. More Permitted Development is allowed in England. In England and Wales there is a system known as Prior Approval which is an intermediate stage between Permitted Development and Full Planning. The Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development provides advice on consultation and planning procedures in England and Wales.</p> <p>http://www.mobilemastinfo.com/images/stories/2013_Code_of_best_practice/Code_of_Best_Practice_on_Mobile_Network_Development_-_Published_24-07-2013.pdf</p> <p>http://www.mobilemastinfo.com/images/stories/documents/pdf/Mobile_Networks_-_What_They_Are_How_They_Work_-_Final_Revised_-22-08-13.pdf</p>
Timescales for Permission	<p>Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own advice documents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 56 Days for prior approval applications (e.g. ground based masts below 15 metres and some rooftop developments in England and Wales).• Around 80-100 days for other “full planning” applications for larger developments or development in sensitive environmental areas (e.g. Conservation Areas).
Appeals process	If a planning or Prior Approval application is refused operators can refer to the Planning Inspectorate (governmental agency). There is no third party right of appeal. In Scotland, from 3rd August 2009, those applications dealt with by a planning officer under ‘delegated powers’ are now (if the application is rejected) be appealed to a local member review body. Appeals made against a decision of a planning committee (made up of elected local councillors) will be dealt with by Scottish Ministers.

Public Consultation	Pre-application consultations are carried out by operators following the Code of Best Practice. A Public consultation post application submission is carried out by the Local Planning Authority and is defined in the planning regulations for that region.
Exemptions & Existing site upgrade	Masts below 15 m can go through a simplified procedure (see above). Minor upgrades are permitted for non-sensitive areas.

(GSMA Europe: Extract from Base Station Planning Permission In Europe, December 2013.)