

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What type of radio system is being installed?**

- A VHF digital IP site connect radio system

### **2. What type of aerial/antenna will be used?**

- The aerial/antenna is a VHF whip antenna which has a maximum height of 3.05m. (if the signal is strong, it is usually kept at a height of between 2.3m and 2.5m high)
- The colouring of the aerials are such that they blend into the skyline

### **3. Which premises will be housing the aerials/antennae?**

- Todmorden Sports centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden
- Heptonstall J&I school, Smithwell Lane, Hebden Bridge
- Midgley J&I school, Jim Allen Lane, Halifax
- Ladstone Towers, Sowerby Bridge
- Elland Library, Coronation Street, Elland
- Brighouse Sports centre, Bradford Road, Brighouse

### **4. How and why were the premises chosen?**

- All the premises are local authority owned (excluding Ladstone Towers) which allows for a speedier implementation.
- They provide the elevation away from the valley floor to propagate the signals up and down the valleys of Calderdale
- They are away from flood risk and have no history of regular power outages
- Power and IT connections already exist within the premises - which are needed for the system to operate

### **5. Where will the aerials be located on the buildings?**

- On the roof of each building toward its highest point
- Todmorden Sports centre – south side of building
- Heptonstall school – east side of the school towards the rear playground
- Midgley school – south side of the building overlooking the valley
- Ladstone Towers – central to the roof area
- Elland Library – north side of the building away from sight of the road
- Brighouse Sports centre – south side of building

### **6. Why not use existing mast sites?**

- These sites are privately owned and used by coded utility suppliers (national infrastructure utilities e.g. BT, EE, Vodafone, Virgin). The local authority is not classed as a coded supplier
- There would be excessive installation costs and higher annual ongoing service charges. This would be detrimental to the Councils focus on reducing the spending of public monies
- The types of communications used on these sites are predominantly satellite and microwave telecommunications, which are a different communications system to the one we are proposing.

### **7. Where has the money come from to pay for the system?**

- Council funding identified to improve the area's resilience to flooding.

### **8. Was a local planning application needed?**

- Yes. Because we are not a coded supplier, the Council is required to apply for planning permissions for each of the sites.

**9. Who may I contact if I have any additional queries or concerns?**

- Community Safety & Resilience Team, Calderdale MBC  
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Halifax  
HX1 1PS

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