

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
Wednesday 13 November 2019

1. QUESTION FROM CHARLIE KAY (IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: Future 5G Rollout in Devon.

As you have stated in previous answers; DCC relies on PHE for safety advice and levels. PHE relies on ICNIRP for safety advice and levels. ICNIRP safety levels are based on 20-year old research and exposing a grown man for 6 minutes with ionising radiation (Not non-ionising radiation which is what 1000's of peer reviewed scientists have shown that EMF's have a negative effect on the human body, especially children). Are we to assume we will only be exposed to 5G microwave radiation for 6 minutes a day, or are we going to be exposed to this 24/7?

As ICNIRP is a body of only 13 individuals based in Germany with links to the telecoms industry do you think it prudent to qualify and ask PHE for ANY independent research that says this technology is safe?

And when, as previously discussed, is the date for scrutiny to discuss this issue?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The Council has previously published a statement on Health Risks from 5G Technologies Deployment which can be found at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/economy/infrastructure/health-risks-from-5g-technologies-deployment/>.

This Council has also agreed to conduct an Independent Scrutiny Review on this matter. There will be further information issued shortly on the processes that will follow, but there will be the opportunity for members of the public to share their concerns both in writing and in person as part of Scrutiny's evidence gathering. In light of that, the issues now raised will be referred to that Scrutiny Spotlight Review.

2. QUESTION FROM LISA GOUDIE (IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: EMF Radiation and Precautions for Public Safety

During the DCC Cabinet meeting on 9th October, Rhiannon Augenthaler handed in a list of peer reviewed studies outlining the many serious health implications of EMF radiation.

After reading the studies from your perspective regarding the question '5G: Is it Safe?' what precautions are needed in your opinion, to be taken for public safety?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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3. QUESTION FROM MICHAEL PHILLIPS (IN ATTENDANCE)

Re: Personal Research into Health Implications of Exposure to EMF radiation

How many Members of the DCC Cabinet have undertaken their own research into the adverse health implications of exposure to EMF radiation & its amplified effects in 5G WIFI radiation?

(A summary outlined below)

1. EU 5G appeal (180 scientists & doctors from 36 countries warn of potential serious health effects in a massive increase in involuntary exposure to EMF radiation as a result of the roll out of 5G telecommunications & recommend a moratorium until health concerns are satisfied)
2. Bio-initiative 2012 (updated 2014-2019) (Issued by 29 medical & scientific experts, This report is a rational for Biologically based exposure standards for low intensity Electromagnetic radiation & details adverse changes to DNA & cell metabolism)
3. Medical News Today.com (5G technology-- is it bad for our health. An article with a balanced viewpoint listing other relevant source material)
4. International Journal of Hygiene & Environmental Health (Toward 5G communications systems. Are there health implications? (another article raising health concerns & advocating precaution)

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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4. QUESTION FROM ANNA PATCH (IN ATTENDANCE)

Re: Independent Research read on 5G

Can the councillors please tell me about the independent research they have read about 5g being safe to humans?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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5. QUESTION FROM TERE WELLS (IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: Broadband Connectivity, 5G and Alternative Schemes (Including Pilots)

At the DCC meeting at County Hall on September 3rd 2019, Councillor Wright from Aylesbeare asked Councillor Gilbert "How were DCC going to improve Broadband connectivity in that area & is DCC in a position to help find such communities as Aylesbeare a way forward that is a non Gigaclear solution?" (this was after a report about Gigaclear's failure to complete its Contracts)

Councillor Gilbert's response was "Yes, the answer is 5G probably. There are alternative systems, not one size fits all." Councillor Gilbert continued saying that "successfully rolled out alternative schemes, pilot schemes have been a success"

My question is....What are these alternative schemes, pilot schemes that have been successful, which areas of Devon are included in these schemes & if not directly connected to 5G why then would 5G be considered over the already successful alternatives?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR GILBERT

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6. QUESTION FROM GABRIELE SIMONS (IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: Assurances regarding 5G and EMF's

I'm seeking written assurance that the antenna on the streetlight outside my bedroom and lounge windows is and will not harm my health. If 5G is permitted to be rolled out, the EMFs from that light's antenna will emit straight into my sleeping and living area, 24/7.

Can DCC give written assurance that there is no danger to my health, WITHOUT referring to PHE, who are quoting 20 year old and irrelevant research. This obviously also applies to ALL residents who are in the unfortunate position of having a street light in front of their house, so this is a public as well as a personal question.

Is it not time that DCC and individual councillors, elected by the people, take responsibility for them and truly ensure their well-being by listening to them, doing their own research and making informed decisions?

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7. QUESTION FROM JOHNATHAN BURNS (IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: Information supplied by PHE and Independent Scrutiny

PHE is a compromised body issuing incorrect information which does not bear independent scrutiny.

It has now and in the policy formulating past, numbered personnel with links to, or with common interests in AGNIR and ICNIRP. Indeed some PHE members have also been members of at least one of those agencies, as well as the UK Government Department of Health, whilst being the source of health advice.

PHE has not been able to demonstrate, and still cannot demonstrate independence, or neutrality in its advice in setting EMR exposure guidelines, or in the provision of associated health advice to the UK public. PHE is also selective in the sourcing of evidence from which it formulates its advice, as was AGNIR (now COMARE), and as is ICNIRP.

It would seem that PHE has substantial potential for bias and partiality, informed by simultaneous conflicting interests with connections to the UK Government and vested interest lobbies, via those agencies which are setting the worldwide guidelines. Those same agencies number (or have numbered) members with common links, or employment histories which include the telecommunications industry.

On the basis of the above, does DCC consider that it needs to review its all-too-frequently quoted direct source of standard setting, guidance information and instruction on all matters involving technology and infrastructure which operates in, uses, and releases emissions in the health compromising non-ionising electromagnetic spectrum?

Surely the failure to source scrupulously independent judgement on such a serious precautionary matter exposes DCC up to an open-ended liability.

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8. QUESTION FROM PETER SCOTT (NOT IN ATTENDANCE)
Re: Devon Climate Declaration and Fossil Fuels

The Devon Climate Declaration commits this council to divesting from fossil fuels. How will this be achieved?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

The Devon Climate Declaration, which has been signed by this Authority, commits us to work in collaboration with others to produce a plan to facilitate the reduction of Devon's production and consumption emissions. The Declaration acknowledges that the required transformational change will be challenging and will include various requirements, including divestment from fossil fuels. The Devon Net-Zero Task Force has been charged with the task of drafting this plan, which will be informed by the current call for evidence, a series of thematic hearings and consideration of options for decarbonisation through a Citizens' Assembly; the resulting draft plan will be subject to public consultation prior to finalisation and adoption. It is this process

which will guide the action that needs to be taken by all signatories to the Devon Climate Declaration, including Devon County Council, to achieve a carbon neutral Devon.

9. QUESTION FROM GEORGIE GOLDEN (IN ATTENDANCE)

Re: Advise from the United Nations

Why is it, please, that Devon Council has to take advice from the United Nations?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR CROAD

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