Delegated Decision

29 June 2022

Granting Of A Section 50 Licence To Install New Electricity And Gas Supplies in Unclassified Findon Avenue, Witton Gilbert, County Durham

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.



Report of Network Management

Danny Harland, Highway Network Manager

Electoral division(s) affected:

Esh and Witton Gilbert

Purpose of the Report

To seek approval to grant a licence in accordance with Section 50 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) to enable PWG Connections to install new electricity and gas supplies within the adopted highway.

Executive summary

An application to install new electricity and gas supplies in Unclassified Findon Avenue Witton Gilbert, County Durham, has been submitted by PWG Connections, Lynefield Park House, Lynefield Business Park, Ashington, NE63 9YH.

Recommendation

In line with legislation allowing the installation of apparatus in the highway I suggest the application be permitted in accordance with current practice and procedure.

Background

It is illegal to dig up the adopted highway without consent of the Highway Authority (Highways Act 1980 Section 131). The installation of apparatus within the highway is permissible under Section 50 of the New Roads And Street Works Act 1991 upon request / consent of the Highway Authority.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected when making the decision

As the works are not being undertaken by a statutory undertaker, there is no alternative other than to consider the apparatus as private, until such times as the connections are adopted by a statutory undertaker. Therefore, a licence under Section 50 of the New Roads and Street Works Act is required to authorise and control the proposed works.

Main implications

Legal Implications

A standard S50 Licence is to be signed by both parties and sealed. Details of the agreement are to be registered with local land charges, as appropriate. The Highway Authority is to record the agreement and inform the utility companies accordingly upon request about private apparatus in the highway

Finance Implications

A licence fee of £885 has been paid. This licence fee incorporates administration, inspection, registration and legal fees. A bond of £1,700 has been obtained to cover the reinstatement.

Conclusion

Decision to grant a licence in line with Section 50 of the New Roads And Street Works Act 1991. This section of the Act permits the installation of apparatus in the highway in line with the terms and conditions imposed by the Highway Authority for County Durham.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

A standard S50 Licence is to be signed by both parties and sealed. Details of the agreement are to be registered with local land charges, as appropriate. The Highway Authority is to record the agreement and inform the utility companies accordingly upon request about private apparatus in the highway.

Finance

A licence fee of £885 has been paid. This licence fee incorporates administration, inspection, registration and legal fees. A bond of £1,700 has been obtained to cover the reinstatement.

Consultation

Consultations have been completed with relevant Durham County Council staff

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Climate Change

N/A

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable

