THE RT. HON. RISHI SUNAK MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

Gillian Jamieson



Our Ref: ZA60757

7 June 2023

Dear Mrs Jamieson,

Thank you for your email and invitation. Thank you also for taking the time to share your personal situation with me.

Unfortunately, due to prior diary commitments I will be unable to attend the conference you mention.

It is vital that the UK has the digital infrastructure it needs to compete and grow in the modern economy. There are plans to make the UK a world leader in 5G, thereby unlocking growth, innovation and potential across the country.

As part of the Wireless Infrastructure Strategy, the Government has set out its ambitions to blanket the country with the fastest, most reliable wireless coverage available – with an ambition for all populated areas to be covered by 'standalone' 5G (what some companies call 5G-plus) by 2030. It is extremely encouraging that 77 per cent of the population already has access to basic 5G from one provider.

In order to provide the strongest mobile signal to as wide an area as possible, ensuring there are not too many neighbouring buildings, trees or other geographical features in the way blocking a mast's signal, only a limited number of sites are realistic options for 5G masts. Telecoms firms can often find it difficult and time consuming to acquire the information needed to verify a structure is suitable for hosting network equipment – such as its location, physical dimensions, proximity to the street or access to a power source – which is slowing down the pace of deployment. Masts need their own power and data connections to the rest of the network. This means that engineers must locate sites that best meet the technical, logistical and economic requirements for hosting a mast, but it is ultimately the local council that has to grant planning permission for the building works to go ahead.

We must be guided by independent public health advice on radio waves. This advice is clear that exposure to electromagnetic fields is not new and there is no credible evidence of an impact of 5G on public health. I understand that existing technical standards, which take into

account international guidelines and research on non-ionizing radiation, are expected to be followed throughout the development of 5G products and networks.

I am writing to let you know that I have contacted the relevant ministers to bring your situation to their attention. I have asked for a formal reply on the matter and I will, of course, let you know as soon as I have received a response.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me. If there is anything I can do to help in the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Rishi Sunak

Member of Parliament

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Richmond (Yorks)