

**Full Council - Wednesday, 21 November 2018**

**Written question from Ms Tanja Rebel of Cowes.**

Can the Isle of Wight Council please confirm that they will await the result of independent Health and Environmental Impact assessments - i.e. assessments which are independent from Industry and Government - and conduct Public Consultations before 5G Wireless Technology is implemented on the Island without Public Consent?

**Response**

If I could refer Ms Rebel to the answer I gave regarding this topic during public question time at the recent Isle of Wight cabinet meeting held on 8th November

*“Due in part to our physical separation from the mainland placing the island at the forefront of any advances in communication technologies must be seen as vitally important to economic growth and our future prosperity.*

*Technology will also play an increasing part in helping people live better lives and assist with addressing some of our key challenges as a community, particularly in the field of health and social care.*

*With all this in mind improving connectivity is a key aim of our Digital Island ambitions and investment by communications providers, such as Wight fibre, to upgrading our infrastructure will be key.*

*Deployment of 5G wireless communications is being tested in pilot communities on the mainland and the Isle of Wight will want to consider the results of these tests, along with all available evidence in terms of health and environment impacts, before considering any introduction of 5G on the island.”*

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