

**Enquiries to:** Information Team  
**Our Ref:** FOI 686271

[request-569600-c8c75ccc@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-569600-c8c75ccc@whatdotheyknow.com)



**Liverpool  
City Council**

Dear Mr Traynor

### **Freedom of Information Request 686271**

Thank you for your recent request received 18 April 2019. Your request was actioned under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in which you requested the following information –

*Dear Liverpool City Council, it has come to my attention the the residents of Kensington have Five G test installations . Ward Councillor Noakes says he has no concern because he doesn't read the Liverpool Echo readers letters*

*1.what is Councillor Noakes scientific qualifications?*

*2 has he a electrical engineering telecommunications background and Health implications*

*3 The Liverpool Echo has local democracy reporters Paid by the BBC to report local and inform local residents of all things council.*

*What are the health implications of multi cell sites around the population of Kensington close to homes schools shops What scientific studies has Noakes read demonstrating The safety of this Technology? Before making a sweeping statement on social media then deleted the tweet .*

*The residents of Kensington and the citizens of Liverpool deserve to know and not to PRE JUDGE*

*Can we look at studies to date where Five G has been halted due to Biological effects issues and Safety issues before rollout by other city's and countries*

*Who in the City council gave this the go ahead and what monies have LCC received for this*

### **Response:**

Liverpool City Council would advise that we are a partner of the Department of Digital Culture Media and Sport 5G test bed and trial for Health and Social care in Liverpool. The full list of partners are; Blu Wireless Technology, AIMES, Inventya, DefProc, Digicredis, CGA Simulation, Sensor City, Liverpool City Council, Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust (RLBUHT), e-Health Cluster, University of Liverpool, and Liverpool John Moores University.

Both DCMS and Liverpool City Council have sought advice from Public Health England who have confirmed that the scientific evidence does not show any detrimental impact on health from the technology we are using. People have expressed concerns about cellular radio technology since the early 1990s and the World Health Organisation and European Commission Directorate – General health and Food Safety have ran a number of studies that again have not shown any causation of detrimental impact on health on any of the technologies we are using.

The Liverpool 5G Consortium received an initial £3.5 m for the first year and have been

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given a further £1.75m for a continuation. The decision to join the Liverpool 5G consortium was a delegated power decision made to lessen the digital divide and help reduce health inequalities by allowing the new technologies to be used by everyone not just those who can afford expensive technology equipment and broadband.

Please see attached mind map of the studies that we have considered. We have also attached a letter from the EU explaining the scientific context.

With regards to questions (1) and (2) the City Council does not hold or process data relating to the personal professional qualifications of Councillors as we have no operational or legislative requirement to collect or process this data.

This concludes our response.

The City Council will consider appeals, referrals or complaints in respect of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 and you must submit these in writing to [Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk) within 28 days of receiving your response. The matter will be dealt with by an officer who was not previously involved with the response and we will look to provide a response within 40 days.

If you remain dissatisfied you may also apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision about whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Information Commissioner's website is [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk) and the postal address and telephone numbers are:- Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK95AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113. Email – [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk) (they advise that their email is not secure)

I trust this information satisfies your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

*A Lewis*

**Angela Lewis**  
**Information Team**

**Enc.**



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Public health, country knowledge, crisis management  
**Director**

Luxembourg,  
sante.ddg1.c.2(2017) 5635869

*By electronic mail*

Professor Rainer Nyberg  
EdD, Professor emeritus  
Vasa, Finland



Professor Lennart Hardell  
MD, PhD, oncologist  
Örebro, Sweden



Dear Professor Nyberg,  
Dear Professor Hardell,

**Subject: 5G Appeal - Scientists and doctors warn of potential serious health effects of 5G**

Thank you for your e-mail of 13 September 2017 addressed to Commissioner Andriukaitis and for drawing his attention to your concerns about the potential serious health effects of 5G technology. The Commissioner has asked me to reply on his behalf.

It is worth underlining that for the Commission health protection is always taken into account in all of its proposals. There is consistent evidence presented by national and international bodies (International Commission on Non Ionising Radiation Protection - ICNIRP, Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks - SCENIHR) that exposure to electromagnetic fields does not represent a health risk, if it remains below the limits set by Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC<sup>1</sup>.

The legal framework established under the Radio Equipment Directive<sup>2</sup> provides for the safety of radio devices placed on the EU market. In addition to the national enforcement of the EU law, the Commission encourages research into effects of exposure to Electromagnetic fields and periodically requests an independent update of the scientific evidence available. The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks, which is independent of the Commission, has a standing mandate to provide this update.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/electromagnetic\\_fields/docs/emf\\_rec519\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/electromagnetic_fields/docs/emf_rec519_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Directive 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of radio equipment and repealing Directive 1999/5/EC.

It has already produced five opinions. The last opinion<sup>3</sup> was adopted in January 2015 on "Potential health effects of exposure to electromagnetic fields". These scientific opinions have not provided any scientific justification for revising the exposure limits (basic restrictions and reference levels) under Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC.

The strict and safe exposure limits for electromagnetic fields recommended at EU level apply for all frequency bands currently envisaged for 5G.

The Commission agrees that there is need for constant update of scientific knowledge, which must also be taken into account in the development of the 5G technology. Such knowledge will contribute to the aim of balancing exposure of the general public to EMF with benefits brought by 5G (including eHealth) to the quality of life.

Digital technologies and mobile communication technologies, including high speed internet, will be the backbone of Europe's future economy, allowing all citizens to be connected. At the same time, all citizens deserve appropriate protection against electromagnetic fields from all types of sources including from wireless devices. The Commission has therefore been following this issue closely so as to stick to the appropriate protection levels defined by world experts. The number of sources as such does not determine the electromagnetic fields exposure at a given location. Most 5G networks are expected to use smaller cells than previous generations with lower electromagnetic fields exposure levels. This is confirmed by the experience so far gained. The introduction of 3G and 4G has not increased exposure from environmental fields and this has been published also in peer-reviewed journals. In particular, the introduction of 3G has lowered exposure of mobile phone users for calls, compared to 2G.

EU regulation is to ensure consistency and predictability throughout the Union regarding the way the use of radio spectrum is authorised in protecting public health against harmful electromagnetic fields (0 Hz- 300 GHz), having particular regard to the precautionary approach taken in Council Recommendation No 1999/519/EC.

Furthermore, the proposal for a European Code for Electronic Communications<sup>4</sup>, which will pave the way for 5G mobile communications, and which is currently debated in Council and Parliament, sets as a principle for spectrum management to be applied by Member States the need for consistency and predictability throughout the Union regarding the way the use of radio spectrum is authorised in protecting public health against harmful electromagnetic fields. The existing framework also allows Member States to restrict the use of types of technologies where necessary to protect public health against electromagnetic fields taking utmost account of the Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC.

Related to the issue of the alleged conflicts of interests, the Commission is not aware of any conflicts of interests of members of international bodies such as ICNIRP or the members of SCENIHR. Please be informed that the Ombudsman conclusion in case 208/2015/PD<sup>5</sup> concerning conflicts of interests in a Commission expert group on electromagnetic fields is that there was no maladministration by the European Commission.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific\\_committees/emerging/docs/scenihr\\_o\\_041.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/emerging/docs/scenihr_o_041.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/proposed-directive-establishing-european-electronic-communications-code>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/cases/decision.faces/en/78175/html.bookmark>

Please be assured that the Commission will pursue scrutiny of the independent scientific evidence available to ensure the highest health protection of our citizens.

Yours sincerely,

John F. Ryan  
Director



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Cabinet of Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis  
**Head of Cabinet**

Brussels, 29. 11. 2017  
Ares(2017)

Professor Rainer Nyberg  
EdD, Professor Emeritus  
Vasa, Finland  
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Professor Lennart Hardell  
MD, PhD, Oncologist  
Örebro, Sweden  
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Dear Professor Nyberg, Dear Professor Hardell,

Thank you for your interest in our work on electromagnetic fields (EMF) and for your dedication to protecting EU citizens, which we fully share.

The Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis asked me to reply to your email of 9 November on his behalf, and had previously entrusted this same responsibility to the Director of Public Health, John F. Ryan.

When Mr Ryan answered your email, in which you stated your disagreement with the Commission's stance on the 5G appeal, he presented the conclusions of roughly two decades of research on the potential health effects of EMF, and the views expressed in the Scientific Opinions produced by the independent Scientific Committees<sup>1</sup>. The Committee's last Opinion on EMF, published in 2015, is based on hundreds of peer-reviewed studies published worldwide and is the fourth Opinion on EMF published since EMF legislation was adopted in 1999. The Committee's conclusion in this latest Opinion was based on exposure studies, epidemiological studies and in vivo and in vitro studies, and studies on any suggestions of causality were considered for the weighting.

We are indeed familiar with your article "Comment on SCENIHR: Opinion on Potential Health Effects of Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields, published in Bio electromagnetics 36:480484 (2015)", as well as with the 5G Appeal signed by more than 180 scientists. We are also aware that in 2011, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

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<sup>1</sup> ICNIRP - International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection and SCENIHR - Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks



assessed radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as being ‘possibly’ carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), based on increased risk for glioma and acoustic neuroma.

It is worth noting however, that category 2B is assigned to classify agents for which there is limited evidence of carcinogenicity in humans and less than sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity in experimental animals. It is also important to note that the IARC assessment predates the Opinion by several years. Based on more recent studies published up until it was finalised in 2015, the Opinion concluded that the evidence for increased risk for glioma had weakened since the 2011 IARC assessment, although the possibility of an association with acoustic neuroma remained the same.

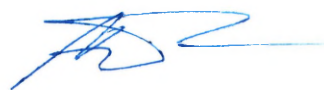
At present, the exposure limits set by the European legislation remain valid, and the primary responsibility for protecting the general public from potential harmful effects of electromagnetic fields remains with the Member States. At EU level, the Council Recommendation on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (1999/519/EC) sets basic restrictions and reference levels as a common protective framework to guide the action of Member States for the exposure of the general public to EMF. On 17 November 2017 four standards on EMF, referring to the limits in this Council Recommendation were published in the list of harmonised standards under the Framework Directive on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of radio equipment. These standards replace and improve previous standards laid down in Directive 1999/5/EC.

The Commission services are confident that the advice provided by the Scientific Committees is unbiased, accurate and scientifically sound and therefore do not feel it necessary to appoint an independent expert group of EMF-and-health researchers to discuss new safe guidelines for EMF exposure.

The recourse to the EU's Precautionary Principle to stop the distribution of 5G products appears too drastic a measure. We first need to see how this new technology will be applied and how the scientific evidence will evolve. Please rest assured that the Commission will keep abreast of future developments in view of safeguarding the health of the European citizens at the highest level possible and in line with its mandate.

Again, let me thank you for your dedication to our shared commitment to protect the health of EU citizens.

Yours sincerely,



Arūnas Vinčiūnas