

Planning Application [23/01490/FUL](#)- 30m West of 171 Whitehouse Loan EH9 2EZ

OBJECTION from Grange Association

28 April 2023

We object to the proposal to site a 20m high telecoms mast on this prominent site within the Merchiston and Greenhill Conservation Area. The site is on the boundary with the Grange Conservation Area and so will affect our members.

The height of the proposed mast will dominate the skyline and the views from properties nearby, including the views to and from Blackford Hill, and the setting of the Astley Ainslie Hospital to the south. The southern section of Whitehouse Loan includes several B-listed villas whose settings should be protected, including Nos 147 and 171, as well as the corner house at 1 Blackford Road.

We note the recent refusal of a similar application [22/04200/FUL](#) further north on Whitehouse Loan, opposite No 108. This was for a mast 16m high (i.e. shorter than the 20m proposed for this site opposite No 171). In its Handling Report, explaining the refusal, the Case Officer wrote:

“The development would disrupt the settled and mature character of the immediate vicinity, which is heavily influenced by soft landscaping and buildings formed in traditional and natural materials. It would erode the historic quality of the streetscape, to the detriment of the character and appearance of the conservation area.

“The proposal would have an adverse effect on the character and appearance of the conservation area and is unacceptable, having regard to Section 64 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997.”

We concur with that opinion of the Case Officer and we request that the planning department maintains a consistent approach and likewise refuses planning permission for this 20m high mast on this landmark corner of two conservation areas.

**Grange Association
28 April 2023**