



## Telecommunications Impact Assessment Report

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**DEVELOPMENT**  
**Goatstown, Dublin 14**  
**The Former Victor Motor Site**

24 September 2024

Prepared by  
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## DEFINITIONS

<b>Author:</b>	Independent Site Management Limited (hereinafter referred to as "ISM")
<b>Mitigation Measures:</b>	means the allowances made for the retention of important Telecommunication Channels (hereinafter referred to as "Mitigation Measures")
<b>Planning Authority:</b>	means Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (hereinafter referred to as the "Planning Authority")
<b>Radio Frequency:</b>	means a frequency or band of frequencies in the range 104 to 1011 or 1012 Hz, of the electromagnetic spectrum suitable for use in telecommunications.
<b>Microwave Links:</b>	means the transmission of information by electromagnetic waves with wavelengths in the microwave range (1 m - 1 mm) of the electromagnetic spectrum suitable for use in telecommunications.
<b>Telecommunication Channels:</b>	means Radio Frequency links & Microwave Transmission links (hereinafter referred to as "Telecommunication Channels")
<b>Report Date:</b>	means the date which the assessment was carried out (hereinafter referred to as "Report Date")
<b>The Applicant:</b>	means Orchid Residential Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant")
<b>The Development:</b>	means the proposed development situated at the car sales premises currently known as Vector Motors (formerly known as Victor Motors), Goatstown Road, Dublin 14, D14FD23. (hereinafter referred to as the "Development")

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Independent Site Management ('ISM') has been engaged to provide a telecommunication impact assessment, to assess whether the proposal being made by Orchid Residential Limited (the "Applicant") within its submission to Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (the 'Planning Authority') impacts any Telecommunication Channels ("Telecommunication Channels")

To provide this assessment, ISM reviewed the Applicant's proposed development (the "Development") in the context of the immediate surrounding registered and documented telecommunication sites.

Pursuant to our review, ISM can conclude based on the findings outlined herein that the proposal being made by the Applicant within its submission to the Planning Authority does not impact on any existing Telecommunication Channels at the time of the assessment.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ISM is a consultancy firm and asset management company that provides telecommunication consultancy and services to developers and property owners.

ISM works closely with all providers of wireless and fixed line telecommunication services to bridge their infrastructure requirements with that of private and public development. ISM has successfully been providing this service in Ireland for 20 years.

ISM is a multidiscipline firm proficient in the 3 main areas in the delivery of telecommunication services:

- (1) Radio Frequency technology.
- (2) Microwave Transmission technology; &
- (3) Fixed Line fiber optic & copper technologies.

ISM has had an integral part in procuring, designing, building and subsequently managing over 300 mobile base station and/or fixed wireless sites, the vast majority of which originated in densely populated, urban environments.

ISM has designed, built and now operates 6 in-building distributed antenna systems, and 2 large area managed fibre optic networks.



## DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

We, Orchid Residential Limited, intend to apply for permission for a large-scale residential development (LRD) at this site of approximately 0.34 hectares comprising the car sales premises currently known as Vector Motors (formerly known as Victor Motors), Goatstown Road, Dublin 14, D14FD23.

The development will consist of demolition of the existing building (c.960sqm) and hard surface parking area on site and construction of a purpose built student accommodation development (including use as tourist or visitor accommodation outside the academic term) comprising:

- 220 no. student bedspaces (including 10 no. studios), all within a part single storey, part 4 no. storey and part 6 no. storey 'U'-Shaped building;
- The building is single to 4 no. storeys along the southern boundary (with a roof terrace at 4<sup>th</sup> floor level) and part 5 and 6 storeys along Goatstown Road (with set backs) and boundary to the north (with roof terrace at 5<sup>th</sup> floor level fronting onto Goatstown Road);
- Amenity space equating to c. 1,785 sqm is provided across the site consisting of c. 1,247 sqm of external amenity in the form of a central courtyard at ground level and roof terraces at 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor levels;
- Internal amenity space equating to c. 538 sqm is provided in the form of 2 no. ground floor lounge/study areas, kitchen/tearoom, laundry, and concierge/office space;
- Provision of 218 no. bicycle parking spaces distributed within the central courtyard (stacked parking with glass roof cover) and adjacent to the front boundary (north);
- Provision for 6 no. carparking spaces comprising 2 no. disabled parking spaces and 4 no. setdown parking spaces adjacent to the front entrance to the site;
- Vehicular access to the site is via Goatstown Road from 2 no. entrance points [reduction from 3 no. entrances currently];
- Ancillary single storey ESB substation and switch room and refuse store are provided at ground level;
- Provision of surface water and underground attenuation and all ancillary site development works including site wide landscaping works, lighting, planting and boundary treatments.

## SITE LOCATION/LAYOUT MAP



**Figure 1**

## TELECOMMUNICATION CHANNELS

This report assesses the two wireless Telecommunication Channels or networks of Telecommunication Channels that may be affected by the height and scale of a new development, Radio Frequency links & Microwave Transmission links.

Radio Frequency links & Microwave Transmission Links are used in Ireland's mobile phone and fixed wireless networks and disseminate at an average above ground level height of 20m, making them the most relevant Telecommunication Channels to be assessed in relation to the height and scale of a new development and to that end what allowance the Applicant needs to make for their retention.

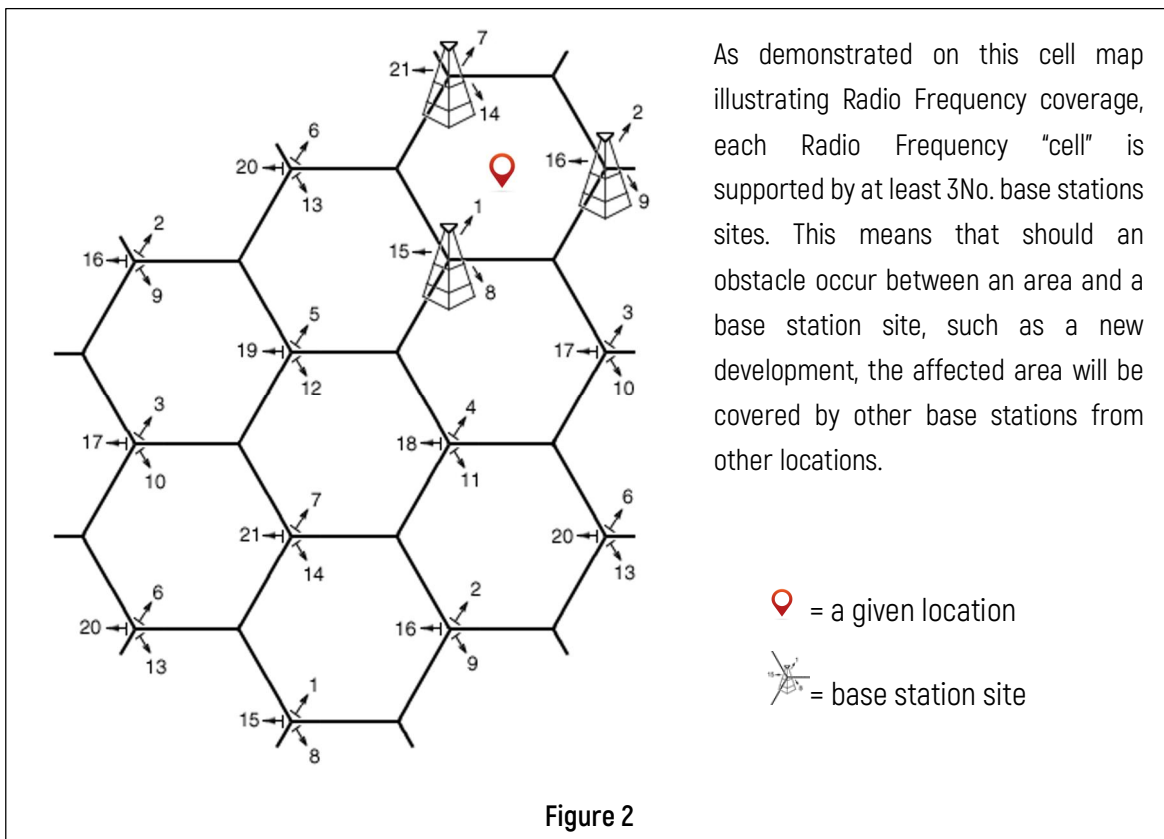
Mobile phones send and receive signals via links from nearby antenna sites or cellular towers, technically known as base stations, using Radio Frequency waves. Microwave Transmission links use microwave dishes to "transmit" from these base stations to other base stations forming a network. Radio Frequency waves operate at a lower power within lower frequencies of the radio spectrum, whereas Microwave Transmission operates at higher power within higher frequencies of the radio spectrum.

Radio Frequency waves are distributed over land areas in "cells", each served by at least one fixed-location transceiver (base station), but more normally by three cell sites or base stations. These base stations provide the cell with network coverage, which can then be used for voice, data, and other types of content. A cell typically uses a different set of frequencies from neighbouring cells to avoid interference and provide guaranteed service quality within each cell.

When joined together, these cells provide Radio Frequency coverage over a wide geographic area (Cellular network). This enables numerous portable transceivers (e.g., mobile phones, tablets and laptops equipped with mobile broadband modems, pagers, etc.) to communicate with each other and with fixed transceivers and telephones anywhere in the network, via base stations, even if some of the transceivers are moving through more than one cell during transmission.



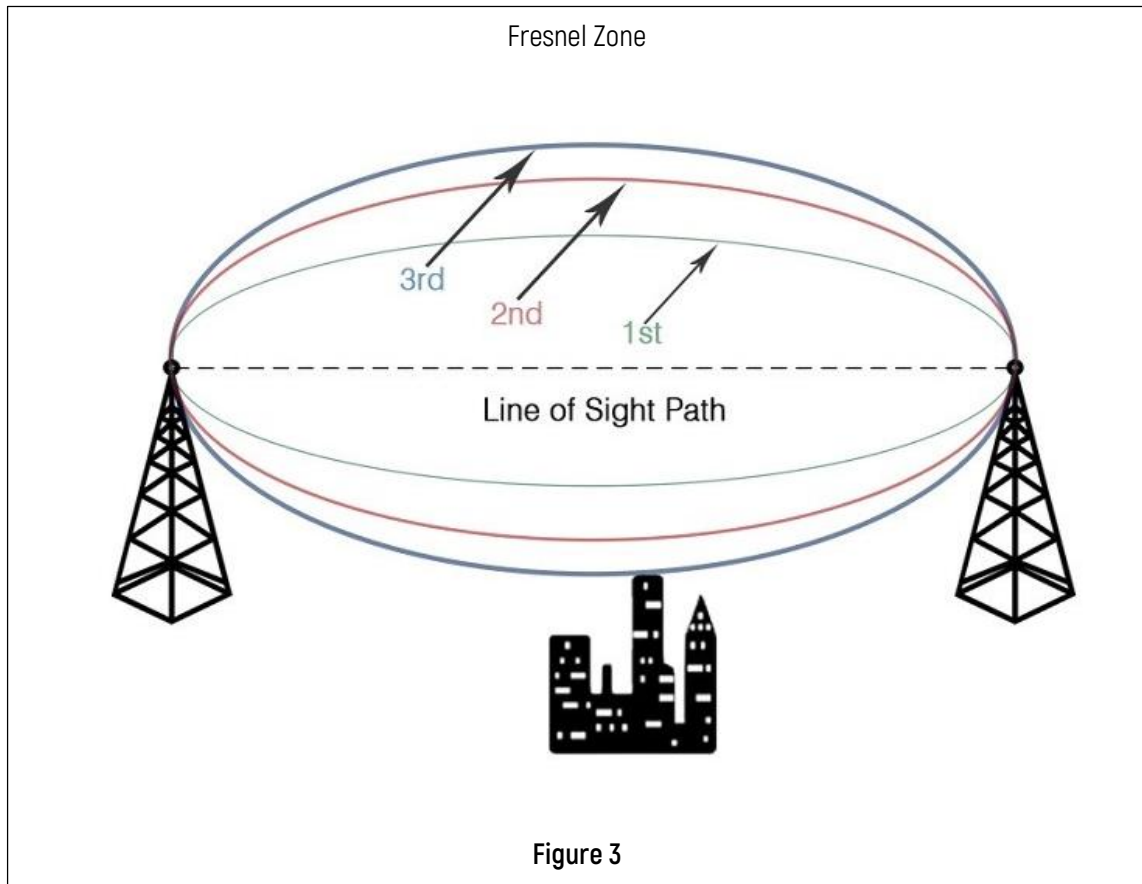




Cellular networks offer a number of desirable features, but most notably, additional cell towers can be added indefinitely and are not limited by the horizon, therefore it can be considered **indeterminable** as to whether a new development affects the Radio Frequency coverage of a geographical area which is being served by multiple base stations, not necessarily the closest.

Conversely, Microwave Transmission links are point-to-point links, which are easily determined to be affected, or not, by the height and scale of a new development. In point-to-point wireless communications, it is important for the line of sight between two base stations to be free from any obstruction (terrain, vegetation, buildings, wind farms and a host of other obstructions). As any interference or obstruction in the line of sight can result in a loss of signal.

While installing Microwave links, it is important to keep an elliptical region between the transmitting Microwave link and the receiving Microwave link free from any obstruction for the proper functioning of the system. This 3D elliptical region between the transmit antenna and the receive antenna is called the **Fresnel Zone**. The size of the ellipse is determined by the frequency of operation and the distance between the two sites.



Essentially, if there is an obstacle in the Fresnel zone, part of the radio signal will be diffracted or bent away from the straight-line path. The practical effect is that on a point-to-point Microwave link, referred to herein, the refraction will reduce the amount of energy reaching the receiving microwave dish. The thickness or radius of the Fresnel zone depends on the frequency of the signal – the higher the frequency, the smaller the Fresnel zone. Microwave links are high frequency radio links used for point-to-point transmission.

## FINDINGS

ISM's assessment did not identify any Microwave Transmission links that will be impacted by the height and scale of the Development. Our assessment has not identified any Radio Frequency links that will be impacted by the height and scale of the Development.

ISM carried out a full assessment of neighbouring registered and documented telecommunication sites to assess what Microwave links would be impacted by the height and scale of the Development. Refer to Figure 5 & 6 of the appendices for full analysis. The assessment of Microwave Transmission links entailed both a visual survey of each identified neighbouring telecommunication site within a reasonable geographic proximity to the Development and a request for information from telecommunication providers where the visual survey was inconclusive.

ISM carried out a full assessment of neighbouring registered and documented telecommunication sites to assess what Radio Frequency links might be impacted by the height and scale of the Development. To assess this, we carried out a drive test throughout the surrounding areas to ascertain what cells were serving the street areas to the north, south, east & west of the Development site. Refer to Figure 7 of the appendices for full analysis.

Our assessment identified Radio Frequency coverage for the local geographic area is served by several cells at strategic distances away from the development site on a 360° basis which is typical cell pattern for semi-urban/semi-rural Radio Frequency coverage. The drive test data determined that the lands, commercial, residential and public road (including the M1) & amenity areas to the north, south, east & west of the Development are adequately covered by the cell sites identified in Figure 7 and are not reliant on Radio Frequency coverage from any one cell that would be obstructed by the Development.

Lastly, we note that the Development is in close or immediate proximity to one roof top telecommunication site which has a low level of telecommunication channels that are predominantly Radio Frequency links and one alpha pole telecommunication site with a significantly low level of telecommunication channels that are exclusively Radio Frequency links. It is our finding that the Development will not impact these telecommunication channels to any significant degree. Refer to Figures 4.1, 4.2, & 4.3 & below.



Pursuant to our review, ISM can conclude based on the findings outlined herein, that the proposal being made by the Applicant within its submission to the Planning Authority does not impact any existing Telecommunication Channels to any degree that would warrant mitigation. Therefore, we have not made any recommendations that the Applicant implement any mitigating infrastructure at this time.

Site Locations

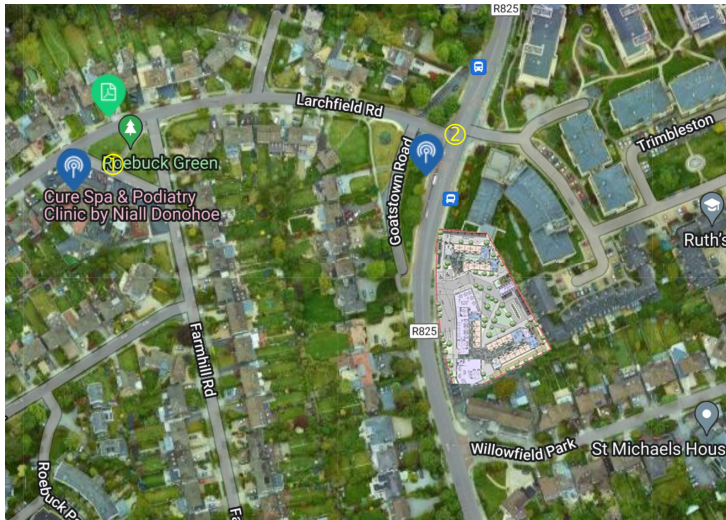


Figure 4.1

Roof Top



Figure 4.2

Alpha Pole



Figure 4.3

## DISCLAIMER

Due to the confidential nature of planning applications/submissions, ISM does not, as standard practice, contact or involve Ireland's licenced Mobile Network Operators, namely: Vodafone Ireland; Three Ireland; or Eircom Limited t/a Eir Mobile, when preparing this report. If contact is made with a Mobile Network Operator, we duly note the source information within our reports.

ISM has wholly relied upon the publicly available information provided by Commission for Communications Regulation, "ComReg", its own extensive record of wireless infrastructure, and the results of a comprehensive visual survey carried out on the Report Date notated herein. Therefore, the specific Mobile Network Operator transmitting the identified telecommunication channel is recorded on a best endeavour basis.

Lastly, please note that telecommunication networks are always evolving, and as such, these findings remain subject to change.



## APPENDICES

Figure 5: Identification of neighbouring registered and documented telecommunication sites  
(Area Telecommunication Analysis)

Figure 6: Identification of Microwave links disseminating from neighbouring registered and  
documented telecommunication sites (Microwave Transmission Link Analysis)

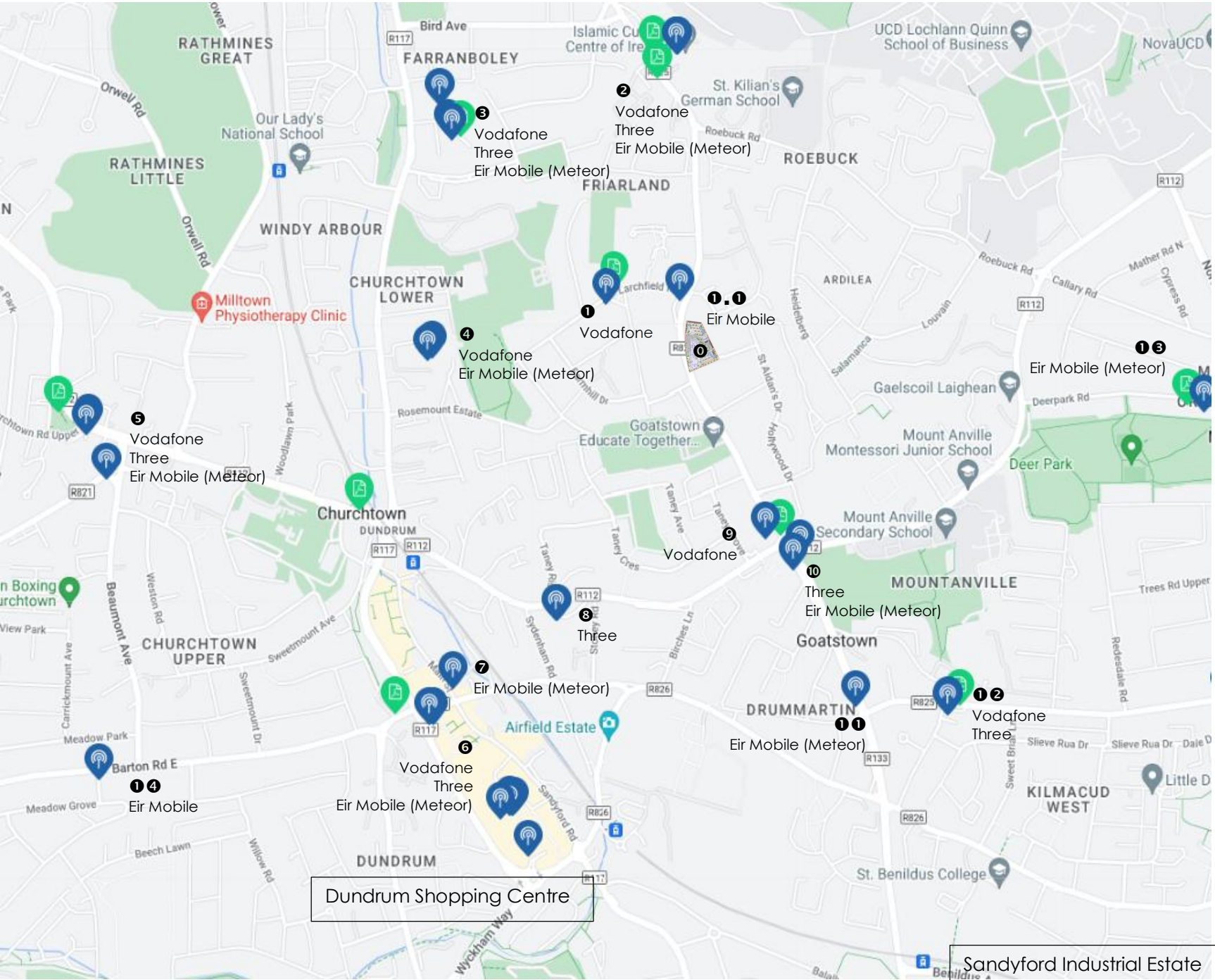
Figure 7: Identification of local area Cells by Cell ID (Cell Identification Analysis)



Figure 5

Area Telecommunication Analysis

Source: Comreg



Note  
All Dimensions to be checked on site  
No Dimensions to be scaled from this Drawing  
This drawing to be read with relevant  
Consultant Drawings

- ① Proposed Development  
① Farmhill Centre  
② Islamic Centre  
③ Dundrum Business Park  
④ Dundrum Exchange  
⑤ Churchtown/Bottle Tower  
⑥ Dundrum Shopping Ctr  
⑦ Dundrum House  
⑧ Taney Church  
⑨ Flanigan's  
⑩ Goat Centre/Eir St Furn.  
⑪ Larchfield  
⑫ Drummartin  
⑬ Deerpark  
⑭ Meadow Grove

Eir Street Furniture

- ①.① Larchfield  
①① Drummartin  
①③ Deerpark  
①④ Meadow Grove

FINAL



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Project  
Former Victor Motors Site

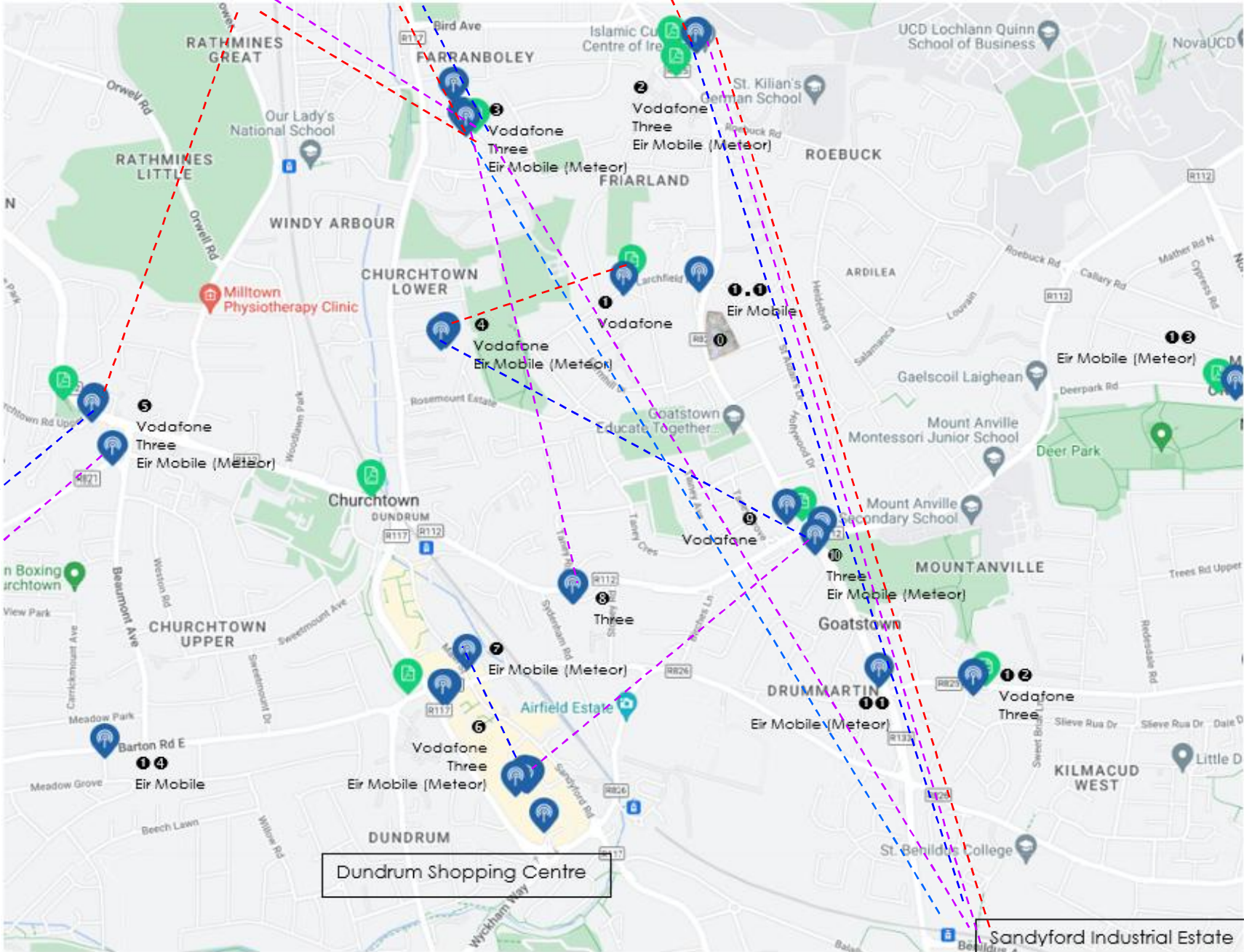
Option	1
Date	24/09/2024
File Name	Former Victor Motors Site

Drawing:  
Area Site Analysis

Building	Drawing No.	Zone	Rev
SPN	I2424		1

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Note  
All Dimensions to be checked on site  
No Dimensions to be scaled from this Drawing  
This drawing to be read with relevant  
Consultant Drawings

- Three Transmission Link
- Vodafone Transmission Link
- Eir Transmission Link

- Fibre Fed
- 1.1 Larchfield
  - 1.1 Drummartin
  - 1.3 Deerpark
  - 1.4 Meadow Grove

FINAL

**ism** INDEPENDENT  
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Client  
Orchid Residential Limited

Project  
Former Victor Motors Site

Option	1
Date	24/09/2024
File Name	Former Victor Motors Site

Drawing:

Link Analysis

Building	Drawing No.	Zone	Rev
SPN	I2424		1

