

Mrs R Brammer
Clerk to High Halstow Parish Council
53 Capelands
New Ash Green
Longfield
Kent
DA3 8LQ

Kings Place 90 York Way London N1 9AG

17 October 2011

Ref: RCS 2163(4)

Dear Mrs Brammer,

## **Railway Communications System**

I am writing to inform you about important plans by Network Rail to roll out a nationwide Railway Communications System across the entire rail network. This new radio system will, for the very first time, allow direct and continuous communication between train drivers and signallers which will improve safety, reliability and punctuality on the rail network.

Implementing the new system involves the siting of a number of communication masts trackside across the United Kingdom. After detailed engineering and planning investigations, we have identified a site to the west of High Halstow which meets all the necessary safety and technological criteria. Please find enclosed a map showing the location of the mast indicated by an "X". The mast will be a 15m monopole and will also consist of an equipment cabin.

We are aware that the construction of any mast may be of interest to some residents who live in close proximity to the railway and we therefore plan to notify them of our plans before any construction takes place. We will be offering residents information on the new system and providing details of what this means for them and the local area. We will also be supplying them with the contact details of our dedicated 24 hour helpline should they have any further questions or queries relating to the system.

Currently we are in discussions with Medway Council's Planning Department regarding the siting of the mast which falls under our Permitted Development Rights



to maintain and ensure the safe operation of the railway. We are also informing the local MP and relevant councillors of our plans.

If you would like to discuss the Railway Communications System further please do not hesitate to contact me on 0203 356 8727.

Yours sincerely

Simon Hopkins

Communications Executive (Railway Communications System)

28.6m / Feo bib shi Wybournes Farm 沿 自自 Drain **■101**m Centre of Map Window (E,N): 577114 , 175170 Drain

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## 2163(4) HIGH HALSTOW

Network Rail	Netwo
17/10/2011	Plot Date
1:2500	Plot Scale

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