

Wishaw Mobile Phone Mast and the Cancer Cluster

Eileen O'Connor's personal story



**Emergency Conference on
Human Health in an Electro-Technological World
Are Present ICNIRP EMF Exposure Recommendations Adequate ?**

**Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace
London**

27th November, 2007

Eileen O'Connor

2001 diagnosed with breast cancer

At the time when I was diagnosed, I was running a successful commercial photographic business with my husband Paul, bringing up my two young children and renovating my home and was also training for the London Marathon.

I visited my doctor on 5th November 2001 covered in a horrific skin rash from head to toe and a lump in my breast.

Picture of painful skin rash which itched and burned.



20th November 2001 diagnosed with breast cancer

The lump was removed on 13th November
and I was diagnosed on 20th November 2001.

This was followed with six months of chemotherapy,
radiotherapy, reconstructive surgery and five years
of tamoxifen. I have also had the usual
mammograms, ultrasound scans, bone scans and
MRI scans in order to monitor my progress.

Low immunity problems

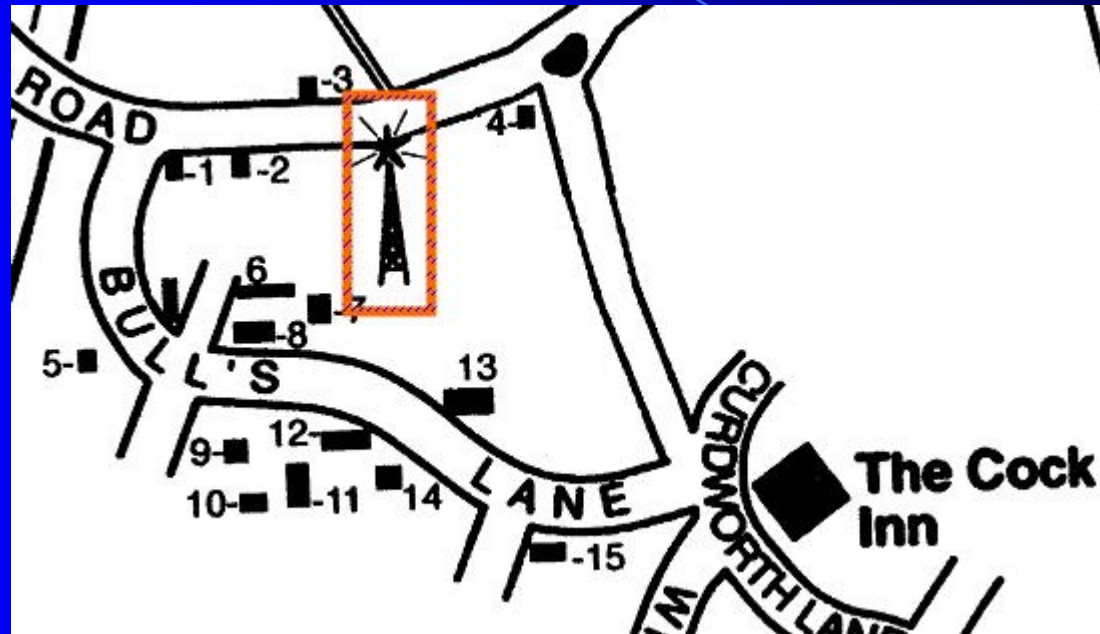
Chemo was difficult as I was suffering with low immunity before they even started treatment. I only managed to get through the six months treatment by receiving neutropen injections, which forced the white blood cells out of my bone marrow. However, on three occasions I left the area where I lived to an area free from radiation, much to my surprise, my white blood cell count shot up, which enabled me to receive the chemo without needing the neutropen injections.

It should be pointed out that many people in Wishaw suffered with low white blood cells.

Cancer cluster emerging

I began to suspect an environmental cause for my cancer when I started bumping into neighbours in the hospital. My neighbour Lynn Insley and I decided to do a health survey and unearthed an horrendous can of worms; we discovered a catalogue of serious illnesses.

The T-Mobile Wishaw mast 1994-2003



Map of village, phone mast was 100m from my home, I had been living next to the mast for over 7 years. The mast was also associated with health problems in many other people living in most of the other houses in the village.

Wishaw T-Mobile mast after 7 years by 2001 the story unfolds

- | Five ladies developed breast cancer
- | One case of prostate cancer
- | One bladder cancer
- | One lung cancer
- | Three cases of pre-cancer cervical cells
- | One motor neurone disease, age 51, who also had massive spinal tumour
- | People have developed benign lumps
- | Electro-sensitivity
- | Three cases of severe skin rashes
- | Many villagers suffering with sleep problems, headaches, dizziness and low immune system problems.
- | Horse with blood problems, continuous treatment needed by the vet.

Crown Castle and T-Mobile pay for mast emissions survey

Powerwatch carried out survey to test mast emissions and found levels below the ICNIRP guidelines.

We now realise the guidelines only protect the body from cooking.

T-Mobile engineers attended the site the day after the survey around 7.30am, they denied sending anyone until we reported it to the police

POLICE INCIDENT 12/7/02

- | LOG NO 1729 22/7/02
- | Incident involving a white Volkswagen Van Vehicle registration BX 02 XPH and persons unknown to landowner Crown Castle and mast operator T-Mobile
- | Reported to Sgt Stokes beat collar number 2930 Sutton Coldfield Police Station telephone 0121 322 6119 ex 659
- | Vehicle registered to JC Electrical Cannock Staffs.
- | PC Evans investigating the incident visited the premises of JC Electrical and interviewed the owner.
- | The firm had been engaged by T-Mobile to up grade the equipment, to give a stronger signal. They had been asked to carry out lots more work on the site.

Suspicious are now raised

Picture of engineers on the mast.



Local action group formed SCRAM

Seriously Concerned Residents Against Masts

www.scram.uk.com

Charitable trust number 1111385



Public meeting

Sutton Coldfield, 20th July, 2003

Quote from Professor Challis:

“There is some evidence of biological effects; biological effect is a clue that There might be health effects.” (see picture)

Panel of speakers included:

Dr Grahame Blackwell

Professor Lawrie Challis, MTHR

Dr Michael Clark, NRPB

Representative for Roger Coghill

Dr Gerard Hyland

Lynn Insley

Andrew Mitchell MP

Eileen O’Connor (see picture)

Alasdair Philips, Powerwatch

Dr J Rao, Director for public health

Barrie Trower

SCRAM organised public meeting which was attended by over 200 People and was filmed and reported in the local media



Scram public meeting 20th July, 2003 statement from Barrie Trower

A powerful statement from ex-Government Military Scientist Barry Trower shocked the audience when he said:

“This Government, some of the Government Scientists and this Industry, will be held responsible for More deaths in peace time than any terrorist group in the World ever”

I was released from hospital on the day of the meeting, I'd had another suspicious breast lump removed, thankfully it turned out to be scar tissue. I wouldn't have missed this meeting for the world and was grateful to the scientists who attended in their own time. SCRAM had worked hard for this meeting and it was the first step for creating public awareness in Sutton Coldfield.

EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION

I started an education programme and presented evidence at many public meeting along with scientists such as Dr Hyland.

I have also given evidence to UK Parliament, WHO, European Parliament and local councils such as Birmingham and Sefton and the Merseyside Firefighters.

Photograph of Dr Gerard Hyland



Birmingham City Council listen to concerns

Birmingham City Council is the largest authority in Europe. They have listened to our campaign and have since refused 200 out of 349 applications for mobile phone masts between 2002 and 2006 on the grounds that they were too close to schools. ...

However, they are not allowed to take health into consideration.

Detect

We purchased a **microwave** electrosmog detector from Powerwatch UK. This allows you to hear man-made **microwave** pollution.



Protect

Silver Bobbinet - screening material is silver plated bobbinet material, woven for durability, which stops over 99% of incoming microwave radiation energy . We purchased our material from <http://www.swisstulle.co.uk> but it is now available from <http://www.powerwatch.org.uk>

We were finally able to get a good nights sleep. Our son's nose bleeds stopped and our daughters hallucinations in the night also stopped.



Radiation Research Trust (RRT)

Eileen invited to become trustee for RRT 2003.

Photograph of RRT Chairman Mike Bell, Eileen O'Connor,
Lynn Insley and Dr Gerard Hyland at Westminster.



EM Radiation Research Trust

www.radiationresearch.org

Mike Bell

Chair of the Trust - Co-founder of the trust. A Devon based environmental lawyer

Dr Ian Gibson

Labour MP - Originally a senior academic research biologist

Dr Gerard Hyland

Associate Fellow of Warwick University

Dr Caroline Lucas

Green Party MEP for South-East England

Andrew Mitchell

Conservative MP and
Shadow Secretary of State for International Development

Eileen O'Connor

Co-founder of the Trust
She contracted cancer while living within 100m of a phone mast

Brian Stein

Chief Executive Samworth Brothers Ltd. He suffers from EHS

Radiation Research Trust

Trustees have presented evidence at the UK and European Parliaments

They have attended private meetings with Director Generals and many MPs.

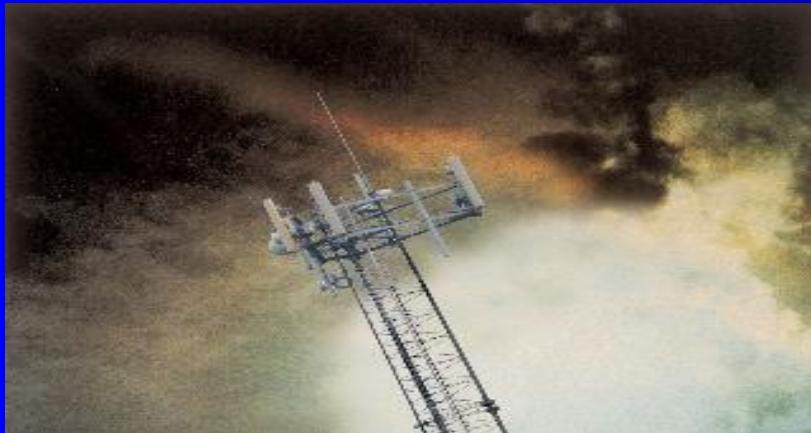
The RRT has presented at and attended many conferences/public meetings National and International including the Benevento Conference Networked worldwide with scientists, doctors and campaigners.

Wishaw Mast was removed - on 5th November 2003

Mast forcefully removed overnight, to this day no one knows who was responsible. One resident was quoted as saying:

"it was the best nights sleep she'd ever had"

Manipulated image



Real Image



Time to breath

Celebration with the breast cancer balloons.



News reports from all over the world

Sky News, BBC TV and Radio, GMTV, ITV This Morning, local TV and radio. National news paper coverage in almost all UK papers, for more information go to Google and type Wishaw phone mast.



24/7 stand off against T-Mobile to stop the mast from going back up



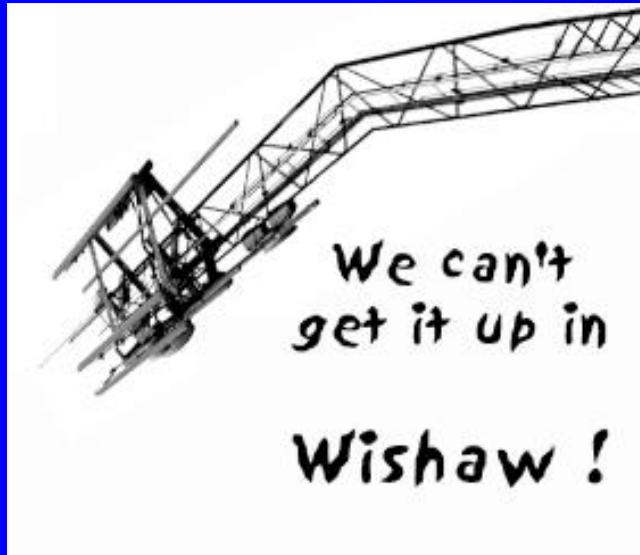
Mast taken away

We negotiated with T-Mobile and Crown Castle and allow removal of broken mast on promise of no return. T-Mobile go back on promise the next day, until local resident/lawyer discovers their land is land locked and they do not have permission.



Piece of Mast, Peace of Mind

Phone mast sent to local neighbours scrap yard. I requested the return of the mast for a fund raising event. Christmas fate organised, campaigners sold pieces of the mast with a certificate saying: *"piece of mast, peace of mind"* we also sold t-shirts to raise funds to cover campaign costs.



Campaigners raise £5000 to pay for security guards

£5000 raised to cover security guards to man the site.

T-Mobile and Wishaw residents had guards at either side of the fence, eventually one neighbour pays for CCTV cameras to watch the site, this is still in place today.



Images of military tanks and Christmas at the mast site.
The half track tank appeared in the Hollywood film
'Saving Private Ryan'



Merry Christmast

Joke Christmas card produced with message saying Merry Christmast.



Health improvement for Wishaw

One other important fact is that since the Wishaw Mast was removed - on November 2003 - many of the residents are reporting a restored feeling of well-being, improvement in sleep patterns and increased energy levels. Simple things like the headaches and dizzy symptoms have disappeared. There has been a baby boom in the village. We have seen a return of wildlife in the area.

Dr John Walker offers to work with SCRAM and RRT

After careful examination of scientific research, physicist Dr John Walker announced that after six months people will get their immune system reduced by 90% many suffering with headaches, rashes, forgetfulness and perhaps EHS. After five years the cancer rate increases.

He has visited many sites and found significant patterns of cancers around base station masts – one example is shown here:



Westminster debate 19th July, 2005

Packed Westminster debate on phone masts. Campaigners, Industry and government attended. I gave evidence along with presentations from Dr Clark and Dr Oberfeld.

Picture: Mike Bell, Eileen O'Connor and Dr Gerd Oberfeld



“Vote for Me”

Political Reality TV show

10th January 2005

The idea behind the show was to analyse the suitability of potential candidates for a political career and to put forward the winner to stand in their local constituency. The programme was on National TV every night during 10-14th January 05 and by the end of the week the public voted in the overall winner.

I campaigned on a single issue “phone masts” and after a week of political challenges I came an incredible second place after receiving 1000’s of public votes.

T-Mobile give written confirmation not to replace Wishaw mast

Photograph of Eileen with Andrew Mitchell MP
outside Westminster with written promise from
T-Mobile - 22nd July, 2005



European Parliament meetings

Brussels European Parliament – RRT Trustee

Dr Caroline Lucas Green Party MEP introduces Eileen O'Connor, Mike Bell, Professor Olle Johansson and Dr Gerd Oberfeld to European Colleagues on 27 May 2005

Visit to Luxembourg - Dr Gerd Oberfeld and Eileen O'Connor met with Director General for Health and Consumer Protection, John Ryan on 16th June 2005.

SCRAM wins award from Birmingham Community Empowerment Network (b:cen)

2005



EM-Radiation Research Trust Meeting with Health Secretary RT Hon Patricia Hewitt MP

EM-Radiation Research Trust trustees Brian Stein and Eileen O'Connor met with Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt on Friday 6/1/2006.

The purpose of the meeting was to create awareness and inform the Health Secretary about the debilitating symptoms experienced by electro sensitive people.



**Benevento Conference
February 2006
The International Commission for
Electromagnetic Safety**
<http://www.icems.eu>

Professor Olle Johansson , Eileen and Dr Bert Schou



Chairman Russian Committee Professor Yuri Grigoriev,
Eileen O'Connor and Professor Henry Lai



Benevento

February 2006

Eileen and Professor Nesrin Seyhan



Professor Magda Havas and Eileen



Benevento Resolution 2006

- | The International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety (ICEMS) held an international conference entitled “The Precautionary EMF Approach: Rationale, Legislation and Implementation”, hosted by the City of Benevento, Italy, in February 2006. The meeting was dedicated to W. Ross Adey, M.D. (1922-2004). The scientists at the conference endorsed and extended the 2002 Catania Resolution and resolved that, among other things:
 - | **More evidence has accumulated suggesting that there are adverse health effects from occupational and public exposures to electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields at current exposure levels. What is needed is a comprehensive, independent and transparent examination of the evidence pointing to this emerging, potential public health issue.**
 - | Resources for such an assessment are grossly inadequate despite the explosive growth of technologies for wireless communications as well as the huge ongoing investment in power transmission.
 - | **Arguments that weak (low intensity) EMF cannot affect biological systems do not represent the current spectrum of scientific opinion.**
 - | To encourage governments to adopt a framework of guidelines for public and occupational EMF exposure that reflect the Precautionary Principle - as some nations have already done.

UK Health Protection Agency
EMF-Discussion Group formed
2nd March 2006

Eileen O'Connor invited to join the EMF DG

- | Sir William Stewart, Chairman (Health Protection Agency)
- | Dr John Stather, Secretary (Health Protection Agency)
- | Mr Mike Bell (Chairman, EM Radiation Research Trust)
- | Dr Mike Clark (Health Protection Agency).
- | Mr Andy Davidson (Tetrawatch)
- | Mr Michael Dolan (Mobile Operators Association)
- | **Professor Denis Henshaw (University of Bristol)**
- | Dr Myron Maslanyj (Health Protection Agency)
- | Dr Jill Meara (Health Protection Agency)
- | Mr Alan Meyer (Mast Action UK Services)
- | Professor Mike O'Carroll (Chairman, Revolt)
- | **Eileen O'Connor Radiation Research Trust**
- | Mr Alasdair Philips (Powerwatch)
- | Dr Zenon Sienkiewicz (Health Protection Agency)
- | Mrs Anne Silk
- | Dr John Swanson (National Grid Transco)
- | Mr George Hooker (Department of Health)

UK Health Protection Agency - EMF DG

http://www.hpa.org.uk/radiation/understand/radiation_topics/emf/emfdg/index.htm

- | Terms of Reference of the EMF DG which are to:
- | *To provide a forum for considering possible health concerns related to exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) and to provide an input to the development of HPA advice.*
- | The focus of the group had to be the areas of public concern that relate to the work of HPA/RPD, and the development of its advice.

Eileen O'Connor's presentation
Base stations and health concerns
EMF Discussion Group
16th October, 2006

Eileen O'Connor presented evidence/research to the EMF Discussion Group at the Health Protection Agency (HPA) London.

Copy of the presentation along with detailed paper is available on the Radiation Research Trust website
www.radiationresearch.org

The presentation demonstrates that mobile phone masts and health is an international issue and is not unique to Wishaw.

Wishaw Winters Ball in aid of the Radiation Research Trust Black Tie and Tiara Ball

Almost £6000 raised for the RRT at the Ball on 18th November, 2006

Photograph - Jan Connor, Mike Bell, Eileen O'Connor and Brian Stein.



Third Mobile Communications Seminar Health Environment Society Brussels 20-21 November 2006

Photograph Joseph Agie of Selsaten, president of the organization Belgian TESALBEL,

Joseph Jean Luc, Eileen and Serge from the Next-UP French campaigning group

See enclosed link to conference which contains film footage including questions from Eileen O'Connor to the WHO representative.

<http://www.dailymotion.com/zoulank/video/5932261>



Visit to WHO HQ Geneva with our Irish friends

16 th January, 2007

Private meeting at the World Health HQ in Geneva . Eileen and our Irish friends met Dr Maria Neira, WHO Director for Protection of Human Environment, Dr Emily Perkins Van Deventer, World Health Coordinator for Radiation and Environmental Health, and Dr Chiyoji Ohkubo, WHO Scientist for Radiation and Environmental Health Department of Public Health and Environment.



**The EM-Radiation Research Trust introduced Dr George Carlo
at the Attlee Room, Portcullis House, House of Commons.
This was another packed debate**

22 February 2007

Picture: Andrew Mitchell MP, Eileen O'Connor, Dr George Carlo and Dr Ian Gibson MP



Irish Doctors Conference Dublin

24th February, 2007

Media interview with Eileen O'Connor



Joined by famous comedian Jasper Carrott



Presentation from Dr George Carlo



Presentation from Dr Gerd Oberfeld



Dublin Conference followed by the warm Irish welcome in the pub



Health update

My health took another downturn shortly after the Westminster and Irish events. I had stopped taking the cancer drug tamoxifen after 5 years and had developed a large growth and pre cancer cells in my womb, I had a full hysterectomy and am now recovering.

Don't ever take your health for granted.

I don't want to see anyone else suffer, especially our children and this is why it is important to create awareness and prevention as soon as possible, it is now urgent and about time the Government took action.

Hand Held Learning Event

October 10-12th 2007

Central Hall Westminster, London

<http://www.handheldlearning2007.com/pagesweb-video-stream.php>

The London Hand Held Learning event was sponsored by Industry. They invited a highly influential audience of opinion formers, policy makers and practitioners, the event was supported by Becta. **BECTA** is the UK Government's key partner in the strategic development and delivery of its Information and communications technology (ICT) and e-learning. The event promoted wireless technology and the use of personal digital assistants (PDAs), iPods, tablet PCs, mobile phones etc.

The event did not cover the health concerns and encouraged the use of wireless technology for children throughout the world.

Mike Bell and I attended the event in order to promote the health concerns. We also attended a private 90 minute meeting with the ex-leader for WHO -Dr Michael Repacholi, he is now an industry consultant and presented at the conference.

Radiation Research Trust Leaflet

October 2007 you can download this from the RRT website

www.radiationresearch.org

A5 size leaflet

Middle page

Front page

Back page

Precautionary approach to Wireless Communication



Frances Eileen O'Connor with a phone must stay 100cm from her face because her breast cancer and the cancer cluster in her village.



www.radiationresearch.org

The Radiation Research Trust is applying to present research into the challenges of electromagnetic radiation and create awareness about the prospective dangers. We call on all MPs, doctors, educationists to take urgent action now and protect our own future and the future generations.

The UK now has 3,000 wireless hotspots and 51,000 mobile phone masts and more are appearing every week. What happened to the precautionary approach?

Many people are now suffering with Electrosensitivity (EHS) which is a debilitating medical problem that is becoming more and more prevalent in the UK. Indications are now that we see other conditions such as Cancer, Autism, ADHD, ACD, sleep disorders etc. following the same pattern. Our goals are to help these people obtain the medical care that they need and deserve, and to stop the problem from spreading any further.

GOVERNMENT CASH COW!

The UK Government took over £20 Billion to help pay for 3G mobile phone masts which together in several weeks at around £25 million a site (the masts are in use) is a cost to the public and we can find a self-pay masts offers while protecting the public and we can find a self-pay masts. The £1 million investment from Government and local authority has resulted in the masts and equipment, but the masts are not working. (www.radiationresearch.org)

Deborah Laws, Electrosensitive sufferer
10 November 2007 Independent

Europe's top environmental watchdog the EU's European Environment Agency (EEA) is calling for immediate action to reduce exposure to radiation from Wi-Fi, mobile phones and their masts. It suggests that delay could lead to a health crisis similar to those caused by asbestos, smoking and lead in petrol.



www.radiationresearch.org

WARNING PUBLIC HEALTH RISK

Renowned Scientists Issue Wake-up Call on EMF and RF Radiation Hazards

An international working group of renowned scientists, researchers and public health policy professionals (The BioInitiative Working Group) has released its report on electromagnetic fields (EMFs) and health.

After reviewing over 2600 pieces of research scientists raise serious concerns about the safety of existing public limits that regulate how much EMF is allowable from power lines, mobile phones, and many other sources of EMF exposure in daily life.

The report documents scientific evidence raising worries about health impacts including childhood leukemia (from power lines and other electrical exposures), brain tumors and acoustic neuromas (from mobile phones and cordless phones) and Alzheimers disease. There is evidence that EMFs are a risk factor for both childhood and adult cancers.

Public health expert and co-editor of the Report Dr. David O. Carpenter, Director, Institute for Health and the Environment at the University of Albany, New York states:

This report stands as a wake-up call that long-term exposure to some kinds of EMFs may cause serious health effects. Good public health planning is needed now to prevent cancers and neurological diseases linked to exposure to power lines and other sources of EMFs. We need to educate the public and our decision makers that business as usual is unacceptable.

New York, NY USA
<http://www.assr.state.ny.us>

The report concludes the existing standards for public safety are inadequate to protect public health.

Full Panorama Transcript on Wi-Fi available:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/panorama/6663380.stm>


Wi-Fi uses the same technology as mobile phone antennas. The Stewart Report 01-42 states "the beam of greatest RF intensity should not be permitted to fall on any part of the school grounds or buildings without agreement from the school and parents". This was reaffirmed in the OSG guidelines for schools.

Quotes from PANORAMA Wi-Fi: a warning signal
OSG OMB - GATE 01/05/07

Sir William Stewart, Chairman, UK Health Protection Agency "I believe that there is a need for a review of the Wi-Fi and other areas. I think it's timely for it to be done now."

The EM Radiation Research Trust (RRT) includes fellow trustees:
Mike Bell, Chair of the Trust and David Isaacson
Dr Ian Gibbons, Labour MP - Originally a senior academic research biologist
Dr Gerard Heffernan, Associate Fellow of Warwick University
Dr Caroline Lucas, Green Party MP for South-East England
Andrew Murrill, Conservative MP and Shadow Secretary of State for International Development
John Smith, Chief Executive Gemworth Brothers Ltd. He suffers from EMF

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www.radiationresearch.org



Who will pay the price?

There is enough scientific uncertainty with regards to this technology. There is also a public outcry worldwide, we are now seeing cancer clusters around phone masts and people are developing many conditions related to microwave radiation.

Is it acceptable to expose the public to untested and unregulated technology?

Is the UK Health Protection Agency protecting the public?

Current position from the UK Health Protection Agency (HPA)

There is no consistent evidence to date that exposure to RF signals from WiFi and WLANs Adversely affect the health of the general population

The signals from WiFi are very low power, typically 0.1 watt (100 milliwatts) in both the computer and the mast (or router) and resulting exposures should be well within internationally accepted guidelines

The frequencies used are broadly the same as those from other RF applications such as FM radio, TV and mobile phones

Based on current knowledge, RF exposures from WiFi are likely to be lower than those from Mobile phones on the basis of current scientific information, exposures from WiFi equipment satisfy international guidelines. There is no consistent evidence of health effects from RF exposures below guideline levels and no reason why schools and others should not use WiFi equipment

Accountability?

- | In the UK all agencies refer back to the HPA.
- | We urgently request that the HPA advise Government and Authority to adopt the precautionary principle for mobile phones/ phone masts, DECT phones, microwave baby and security alarms and not to install wireless computers networks until safety is 'proved.'

Where will the story end?

Exactly six years on from when I was diagnosed with breast cancer, nothing has changed, the EMF pollution is getting worse with more and more phone masts, wi-fi and wimax. We have created awareness but we need to encourage willingness to deal with the situation.

ICNIRP 1998 guidelines

International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection standards does not offer any form of protection other than from the heating effects of microwave radiation. In other words ICNIRP only protects your body from properties of high levels of elevated temperatures. A very substantial body of peer reviewed science clearly shows many biological changes have already happened.

While scientists continue to argue about the science, people are suffering ill health and these people need help now. There are literally thousands of studies that show biological effects at levels far below ICNIRP guidelines, the calls for even more studies is just wasting time.

Sir William Stewart, Chairman of the UK's HPA, stated on BBC Panorama May 2007 that the basis for the ICNIRP guidelines is no longer supported by the current science and should be reviewed.

The guidelines are out of date and we demand an urgent action, we simply cannot wait until 2012 before the review we need a downgrade of the radiation limits NOW!

Horrific Image

This is a harsh image but one that represents how many people feel about the campaign . I fear that this could become reality for future generations if we do not proceed with caution.

A special thank you to my family for their support throughout the campaign.

It hasn't been easy as many personal and financial sacrifices have been made, but this is an extremely important Issue with so many lives at risk.



Short film

An 8 minute film was produced by a group of media students from the University of Central England and captures the phone mast campaign in the UK. To view or download go to the website links below.

It is in English and contains French, German and Spanish subtitles. Thank you to the “Next up” Campaign Group for translating the enclosed film.

Allow few minutes for it to download.

http://www.dailymotion.com/zoulank/video/x3j41c_eileen_tech%20Soit

-
<http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=9sq0YcX8Ins>

Dr Robert O. Becker, M.D.

Twice nominated for the Nobel Prize for his research.

“I have no doubt in my mind that at the present time, the greatest polluting element in the earth’s environment is the proliferation of electromagnetic fields.

I consider that to be far greater on a global scale, than warming, and the increase in chemical elements in the environment.”

Thank you for listening