

Celia Mccarthy statement

I'm here to talk to you about why I think Bath should join Brussels in delaying the roll out of 5G until we have more robust evidence that it is safe.

I'm not a scientist or an expert in electromagnetic radiation, but I have read enough evidence to be sure that we need to slow down and ask questions.

For those who are new to this subject let me give you a brief overview. 5G is the fifth generation of mobile phone networks. But it's not just one step up from 4G in the way previous upgrades were. According to the BBC: 5G is a "brand new radio technology" and will be between "10 and 20 times faster" than 4G [1].

To achieve this, 5G will utilize high frequency, 'millimeter' radio waves. Its delivery will also be different, because these higher frequency band widths are only effective over short distances many more antennas are required - resulting in antennas on lampposts, rooftops and bus stops, spaced every 10 to 12 houses in urban areas [2].

Think of a city blanketed in a network of coverage. This is an extra layer of new and higher frequency electromagnetic pollution on top what we already have. The long-term effects of this, in particularly relating to children and pregnant women have simply not been tested.

Recognizing this, in April of this year Brussels halted work on preparing for 5G networks citing health concerns. I want to quote Environment minister Céline Fremault directly, she said.

"I cannot welcome such technology if the radiation standards, which must protect the citizen, are not respected, 5G or not. The people of Brussels are not guinea pigs whose health I can sell at a profit. We cannot leave anything to doubt." [3]

In addition more than 230 independent scientists and physicians from 35 countries have also signed a letter recommending a moratorium on 5G roll-out until radiation levels are proven safe. [4]

And for those who make money out of assessing risk 5G is ringing alarm bells. In 2015 CFC Underwriting, a Lloyds-backed insurance company excluded compensation claims for injury and illness caused by electromagnetic radiation. This type of exclusion is fast becoming the norm as insurance companies weigh up the evidence [5].

Swiss Re one of the world's largest insurers says of 5G. "To allow for a functional network coverage and increased capacity overall, more antennas will be needed, including acceptance of higher levels of electromagnetic radiation...Existing concerns regarding potential negative health effects from electromagnetic fields are only likely to increase. An uptick in liability claims could be a potential long-term consequence. [6].

I think we should join cities such as Florence, Geneva and closer to home Glastonbury in putting a hold on 5G until more independent research is conducted. [7 &8]

REFERENCES

- 1) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-44871448>
- 2) <https://www.bcs.org/content-hub/is-5g-dangerous/>
- 3) <https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/55052/radiation-concerns-halt-brussels-5g-for-now/>
- 4) <https://www.5gappeal.eu/>
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