

Lesson 15: Are mobile phones bad for your health?

Main Task 2

You are part of a local government planning committee who are responsible for the positioning of a new mobile phone mast in Sometown.

The three sites are labelled on the map you have been provided with.

Site A: Is on top of a local secondary school with pupils between the ages of 11 – 16 years. The parents of the pupils are unsure about positioning the mast on the school and would need solid scientific evidence to support this site.

Site B: Is near a residential area. The mast would be approximately 300 – 500 metres from the school. The parents of the pupils would prefer the mast to be sited here. The local residents are not happy that the mast might be positioned here and have called for a public meeting where all sides of the arguments would be heard.

Site C: Is near the local commercial and industrial area. This is the most popular site for the position of the mast amongst the residents of Sometown as it is away from their homes. The range of the mast would just cover the school and the residential area of the town so the emissions from the mast would be very low in these areas.

Part 1

You must now choose a site for the mast. You have 10 minutes to decide where you would position the mast in the town based on the information above. Report your choice to the class with a brief reason.

Part 2

After this time you will be given more information and will then have a further 5 minutes to decide if you will change the site of the mast or stay with your original decision. You must have reasons for your decision.

Part 3

At the end of the task you must be prepared to present your decision to the public meeting with the evidence you will use to support your choice.