



Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you

Mr Greg Mesch
Chief Executive Officer
CityFibre Holdings Limited
15 Bedford Street
London
WC2E 9HE

Cllr Tony Page

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**Deputy Leader of the Council
Lead Councillor Strategic
Environment, Planning &
Transport**

Your Ref:
My Ref: tp/cda
Date: 27 April 2022

Dear Mr Mesch

CONDUCT OF CITYFIBRE AND CONTRACTOR INSTALCOM IN THE READING BOROUGH AREA

I am writing in my capacity as Deputy Leader of Reading Borough Council and the Lead Member for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to register our continuing concerns about the failure of CityFibre and Instalcom, your Highway Contractors, to perform to required standards in the Reading area.

You will be aware of a series of meetings that have taken place between Senior Highways Management of Reading Borough Council and representatives of CityFibre and Instalcom to raise concerns about the poor work practices and consequential disruption being caused by the fibre roll-out programme. A Member level meeting involving myself also took place as recently as 14 March.

Notwithstanding a commitment by your representatives to address our concerns, and a strong wish expressed to work with us and to deliver safe and responsible working, performance continues to be erratic and most unsatisfactory and the subject of many local complaints.

With the agreement of Councillor Paul Gittings, the Chair the Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport Committee, I am writing to formally request your attendance at the meeting of the Committee to be held at 6.30pm on Thursday 7 July. The Committee would wish to receive a presentation from you about the continuing works and programme and then followed by a question-and-answer session. The meeting will be held in public at the Civic Offices, Bridge Street, Reading.

As I said in my letter of 20 October 2021 to you, subject to the conclusions of this Committee, we will reserve our position as to whether we request the formal removal of CityFibre and Instalcom from future work in Reading.

I hope you will treat this matter very seriously, as the continuing concerns are genuine and widespread amongst local elected Members and the general public.

I look forward to hearing from you urgently.

Yours sincerely

Tony Page

Councillor Tony Page
Deputy Leader of the Council
Lead Councillor Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport