

	Radiofrequency electromagnetic fields measurement survey					
Version	Reference #	Issue Date	Issued by			
1.0	2022/12	16 May 2022	.l Vila			

# 1. Measurement survey characteristics

Measurement date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Measurement time: 14:00 pm - 15:00 pm

Measurement point & location: Blackhall Place, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

GPS coordinates: 53°31'25.9"N; 7°20'36.4"W

Survey staff: Javier Vila, Michael Murray

Purpose of the survey: 1) To carry out measurements of radiofrequency (RF)

electromagnetic fields (EMF) at a location within Mullingar town with high daytime population.

2) To determine typical RF EMF levels and compare them with relevant exposure limits recommended by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation

Protection (ICNIRP).

This survey is part of the EPA's national EMF monitoring programme (see reference EPA 2020 for

more details).

Measurement point

description:

Outdoor public space typically busy due to available

amenities in the area.

## 2. Summary of survey results

Measurement result: The average total RF level measured was 2.14 V/m.

This value is below ICNIRP's recommended exposure limits of 28 V/m for radiofrequencies < 400 MHz and

61 V/m for radiofrequencies > 2 GHz.

Measured RF sources/signals: TETRA, PMR, 2G Rail, 2G (GSM), 3G (UMTS), 4G

(LTE)

Number of nearby

telecommunication sites: information was obtained from the ComReg's website

https://siteviewer.comreg.ie/ (November 2020)

3 nearby sites (see map on page 4 for details). This

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## 3. Measurement methodology and results

Broadband and frequency-selective EMF measurements were performed at a location in Mullingar town centre (Blackhall Place) known to have a high daytime population. The charts and tables below contain the summary results for total RF electric fields (Table 1 & Figure 1) and frequency-specific RF electric fields (Table 2 & Figure 2) for the selected location and time of the day using various configurations, including the use of a 5G-enabled mobile phone handset in the proximity of the measurement point while streaming video to identify any potential nearby 5G signals.

100 ICNIRP Limit 2-300 GHz (61 V/m) ICNIRP Limit 10-400 MHz (28 V/m) Electric field (V/m) 10 1 0.1 100 200 0 50 150 250 300 350 Time (seconds) 100 kHz - 6 GHz Probe 100 MHz - 90 GHz Probe

Figure 1. Total RF electric field levels at measurement point using two broadband probes.

Note: This graph represents total average (rms) RF electric fields measured for 6 minutes (360 seconds) using two different RF probes as described on the graph legend. Total RF fields include exposures from all RF sources (signals) depending on the probe(s) used. ICNIRP reference levels between 400 MHz and 2 GHz are frequency specific (see EC 1999 for details).

Table 1. Summary of total RF fields at measurement point using two broadband probes.

Probe Frequency Range	Average electric field	Average power density	Maximum electric field	Maximum power density	ICNIRI referenc	
Kange	(V/m)	$(W/m^2)$	( <b>V</b> / <b>m</b> )	$(W/m^2)$	(V/m)	$(W/m^2)$
100 kHz - 6 GHz	2.14	0.012	3.22	0.027	28*	2*
100 MHz - 90 GHz	2.30	0.014	4.06	0.044	28*	2*

Note: RF electric field data obtained with Narda NBM-550 meter with EF0691 and EF9091 probes. \*Strictest ICNIRP reference levels for the entire RF frequency range. These data have a maximum overall uncertainty around  $\pm 41\%$  ( $\pm 3$  dB).

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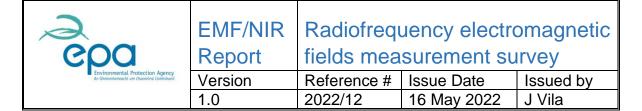
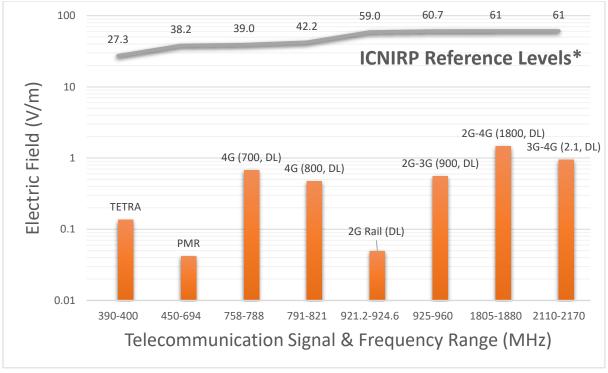


Figure 2. Frequency-specific radiofrequency electric field level by telecommunication signal



Note: Average RF electric field data above the noise threshold for 6-min average (rms) obtained with SRM-3006 spectrum analyser using 3501/03 and 3502/01 probes. \*ICNIRP reference level for each corresponding frequency range. 2G: GSM; 3G: UMTS; 4G: LTE; DL: Downlink; UL: Uplink; PMR: Professional Mobile Radio

Table 2. Measured average and maximum frequency-specific field level by RF source/signal.

RF Source / Telecommunication	Frequency Range (MHz)			Average Electric Field/ Power Density		ICNIRP Reference Level <sup>b</sup>	
Signal		(V/m)	$(W/m^2)$	(V/m)	$(W/m^2)$	(V/m)	$(W/m^2)$
TETRA	390-400	0.16	0.00007	0.14	0.00005	28.0	2.0
PMR	450-694	0.05	0.00001	0.04	0.00000	32.9	2.9
4G (700, DL)	758-788	0.78	0.002	0.68	0.001	38.2	3.9
4G (800, DL)	791-821	0.86	0.002	0.47	0.0006	39.0	4.0
2G Radio (DL)	921.2-924.6	0.06	0.00001	0.05	0.00001	39.0	4.6
2G-3G (900, DL)	925-960	0.70	0.001	0.56	0.0008	42.2	4.7
2G-4G (1800, DL)	1805-1880	3.47	0.03	1.48	0.006	59.0	9.2
3G-4G (2.1, DL)	2110-2170	1.60	0.007	0.94	0.002	61.0	10

Note: RF electric field data above the equipment noise threshold for 6-min average (rms) obtained with SRM-3006 meter using 3501/03 and 3502/01 probes. These data have a maximum overall uncertainty around ±41% (±3 dB). <sup>b</sup>ICNIRP reference level for each corresponding frequency range. 2G: GSM; 3G: UMTS; 4G: LTE; DL: Downlink; UL: Uplink; PMR: Professional Mobile Radio

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# 5. Conclusion – Total & Frequency-Specific RF field levels

Measured (average and maximum) total RF electric field levels (Figure 1 & Table 1) were below the strictest ICNIRP recommended exposure limit for the entire RF frequency range (i.e. 28 V/m). The average total RF level was 2.14 V/m. Measured (average and maximum) frequency-specific RF electric field levels for all detected signals (Figure 2 & Table 2) were low (< 4 V/m). All the signals measured were below the corresponding ICNIRP recommended exposure limits of 28 V/m for radiofrequencies < 400 MHz and 61 V/m for radiofrequencies > 2 GHz. The highest RF electric field level at the point of measurement (3.47 V/m) is likely to correspond to the emission (downlink) from nearby 2G-4G (1800 MHz) antennas. No 5G signals were detected at the point of measurement.

## 6. Map of measurement point and nearby telecommunication sites (masts)



## 7. Photo of measurement point and nearby (line-of-sight) telecommunication sites (masts)



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## **Appendix**

## A1. Equipment characteristics and calibration

The following EMF measurement equipment was used:

- Narda SRM-3006 frequency-selective meter and spectrum analyser.
- Narda NBM-550 wideband survey meter.
- Narda probes covering a frequency range between 100 kHz and 90 GHz.
- All equipment was calibrated in December 2021.

#### A2. References

- EPA 2020. EMF Monitoring Programme 2021-2023. <a href="https://www.epa.ie/radiation/emf/emfmonitoringprogramme/">https://www.epa.ie/radiation/emf/emfmonitoringprogramme/</a>
- ECC RECOMMENDATION (02)04. Measuring Non-Ionising Electromagnetic Radiation (9 kHz – 300 GHz) (Bratislava 2003, Helsinki 2007) www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/REC0204.PDF
- I.S. EN 62232-2017. Determination of RF field strength, power density and SAR in the vicinity of radiocommunication base stations for the purpose of evaluating human exposure. NSAI Standards; CENELEC 2017 <a href="https://shop.standards.ie/en-ie/">https://shop.standards.ie/en-ie/</a>
- European Commission (EC) 1999/519/EC: Council Recommendation of 12 July 1999 on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0 Hz to 300 GHz) <a href="https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9509b04f-1df0-4221-bfa2-c7af77975556/language-en">https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/9509b04f-1df0-4221-bfa2-c7af77975556/language-en</a>
- International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP).
   Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (100 kHz to 300 GHz).
   Health Physics 2020 May;118(5): 483-524
   <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32167495/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32167495/</a>

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