

## **Heritage Statement of Significance and Impact**

### **BT Telephone Exchange, Station Road, Settle, North Yorks, BD24 9AA**

The site concerned is a building that acts as a telephone exchange providing internet service and telecommunications. It is approximately 50-60 years old. The building houses telecoms equipment although the building is not permanently occupied.

There is a proposal to install ventilation louvres into the ground floor of the building on two elevations (west and east). This is to allow fresh air into and out of the room in order to cool electronic equipment being operated for superfast broadband and landlines. Without this movement of air, the electronic equipment could overheat and fail thus causing internet and telephone connections to be compromised. The exchange is accessed off Station Road but the proposed installations cant be seen as the building is hidden.

The proposed louvres are of aluminum construction. They will be a mill finish to match the finish of louvres already installed in both elevations.

The telephone exchange is located on Station Road to the west of Settle town centre, about 150m away. Directly west of the exchange is the main railway lines. Settle railway station is to the south of the property, the other side of Station Road. To the east is a veterinary practice. To the north is a bowling green and sports pavilion.

The building is one story high, of brick construction. Its has a large sloping tiled roof (seen in photographs below). It already has ventilation louvres installed on both elevations, which the proposal will be identical to these. It is used daily by BT Openreach personnel with their vehicles using the exchange carpark on the complex.

There will be no access issues after or during the installation as the exchange has its own parking area.

An installation of the louvres would not significantly take away any of the character of the structure in any way as they will be of the same construction and colour as louvres already installed in the building.

The louvres will be installed in one day and will be done from within the building so there will be no impact on the public.

Proposed Louvres

Existing Louvres



Proposed Louvre



**WEST ELEVATION – OPPOSITE RAILWAY LINES**

**EAST ELEVATION – OPPOSITE VETS PRACTICE**



**EAST ELEVATION – EXISTING LOUVRES**



**SOUTH ELEVATION – OPPOSITE STATION ROAD**