Under the City of Kingston Planning Scheme, Clause 52.04 satellite dishes over 1.2 metres in diameter need a planning permit in all Residential and Mixed Use Zones and areas covered by a Heritage Overlay.

Why do satellite dishes need planning approval from the City of Kingston?
To make sure that they are placed in a position that reduces the impact on the amenity, character and appearance of the neighbourhood. Poorly positioned or erected satellite dishes are not only unattractive but also dangerous in high winds and need to be erected with consideration to neighbouring properties. Satellite dishes of less than 1.2 metres in diameter do not require a Planning Permit.

Do all satellite dishes over 1.2 metres need approval?
A Planning Permit is not required if a satellite dish is not visible from the street (other than a lane) or a public park and is setback from the side or rear boundary by 1 metre, plus 0.3 metres for every metre of height over 3.6 metres. Where a satellite dish is opposite an existing habitable room window of an adjacent property, a setback of a least 3 metres is required otherwise a Planning Permit is required. Council discourages the placement of satellite dishes on any roof area as part of its consideration of any Planning Permit Application.

If I am unable to meet the reduced visibility and setback requirements for a satellite dish, how do I apply for a Permit?
You may contact Kingston City Council on 1300 653 356 to discuss your proposed satellite dish. You will then need to complete an application form and provide a recent and complete copy of the title of the property (no older than 30 days) together with any covenants covering the property and three copies of plans showing the proposed size and location of the satellite dish; existing features on site including dwellings, driveways, large trees and outbuildings and distance from all boundaries. A covering letter will need to outline why the satellite dish is required; the construction materials and colours and whether it is rotating.

What are my chances of approval?
It will depend on a number of factors such as the size, position and visibility of the satellite dish. The views of the potentially affected surrounding properties will also be sought as part of the planning permit application process.