



Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

Please ask for: Service Information Team Leader
Tel: 01604 797000
Our ref:
Your ref: N/A
Date: 15 November 2019

If you have any difficulty in obtaining the above telephone number please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk.

Re: Request for information (our ref: NFRS2019-109-120)

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received 01 November 2019. Our response is provided below:

Q1 Do your firefighters when wearing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) use an ATEX digital radio to communicate by voice to BA control?

Yes, but on a risk assessed basis non-Atex radios may be used where appropriate.

Q2 Do your firefighters ever use non ATEX radios when wearing and operating SCBA?

No, please refer to answer provided for Q1.

Q3 Are firefighters when wearing SCBA issued one radio each or is it one radio per BA team (team of two firefighters)?

There is one per teams of two firefighters.

Q4 Does your FRS make use of cable wire communications system?

No, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) does not.

Q5 Does your FRS have SCBA Telemetry technology available?

Yes, NFRS does have telemetry technology available.

Q6 If yes to question 5, do you make use of the telemetry functionality during incidents?

Yes, NFRS does utilise telemetry during incidents.

Q7 Does your Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) have the means of tracking and locating firefighter's positional location whilst firefighters are wearing SCBA within buildings?

No, NFRS does not.

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Q8 *Does your FRS BA teams make use of Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) during an incident?*

Yes, NFRS does make use of TICs during incidents.

Q9 *If yes to question 7, does the TIC provide the capability to transmit live imagery to BA control or the Incident Commander?*

No, however we do have a limited capability of COFDM TIC capability in conjunction with our command unit.

Q10 *Does your FRS have firefighter wearable means of monitoring heat stress and alerting?*

No, NFRS does not.

Q11 *Does your FRS make use of body or helmet worn video cameras at the incident?*

No, NFRS does not.

Q12 *If yes to question 11, are the camera worn by Incident Commanders or firefighters or both?*

N/A

Q13 *Does your FRS have the means of transmitting live images captured by body or helmet worn cameras to the Incident Command Unit or Command and Control Centre.*

Yes via COFDM body camera solution.

Q14 *Does your FRS Operational Assurance/Safety Officers capture and record incident information via body or helmet worn cameras?*

No, NFRS does not record incident information via body/helmet worn cameras.

Q15 *Does your FRS Operational Assurance/Safety Officers capture and record incident information via tablet software systems.*

No, NFRS does not.

Q16 *Does your FRS have its own drone technology capability?*

Yes, NFRS does have drone technology capability.

Q17 *Does your FRS make use of Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) systems?*

Yes, NFRS does.

Q18 *If yes to question 17, what year were PPV systems introduced.*

PPV systems were introduced in NFRS in 2006.

Q19 Does your FRS make use of Water Misting Lancing System?

Yes, NFRS does make use of water misting systems.

Q20 If yes to questions 19, what year were Water Misting Systems introduced.

Water misting systems were introduced in NFRS in 2008.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference NFRS2019-109-120.

Yours sincerely

Service Information Team Leader

If you are unhappy with the response, you can ask the Service to review it. To do this, please email enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk or alternatively write to the address below:

Service Information Manager
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
Moulton Logistics Centre
Moulton Way
Northampton
NN3 6XJ

If our internal review does not resolve the issue to your complete satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision at the following address:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF