



Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

Please ask for: Service Information Team Leader
Tel: 01604 797000
Our Ref:
Your Ref: N/A
Date: 11 April 2022

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

Re: Request for information (our ref: NFRS2022-31-31)

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received 23 March 2022. Our response is provided below:

Q1 Has your fire service has ever used Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) for firefighting purposes?

Yes, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) has used these substances.

Q2 What firefighting foam/s system/s did your fire service use?

Induction from 20 litre foam concentrate from a barrel with FB5X or Leader Foam extinguisher as part of COBRA system. Foam pod carrying 8,000 litres of foam concentrate. Two aerial appliances have a foam tank with an induction system filled from barrels.

Q3 If available what type of PFAS were these foams?

Please refer to the attached Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for our current foam titled NFRS2022-31-31Data.

Q4 What dilution was used in firefighting foams by your fire service?

3%

Q5 From what years would your fire service use these firefighting foams?

3/3 % from 2011, the rest is from over 20 years ago which we do not hold the records as to when it was procured.

Q6 Does your fire service have a current policy regarding PFAS firefighting foams?

No, NFRS does not have a specific policy but do utilise procedural documents with regards to firefighting foams.

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Q7 Does your fire service have a policy regarding the disposal of PFAS firefighting foams held by your fire service?

No, NFRS does not have a policy regarding the disposal of PFAS firefighting foams.

Q8 Do you have stock information on the PFAS containing products? Can you please share this information as far back as possible?

Tridol 3/3%: 142 x 20 litres in drums, Tridol ATF 3-6: approximately 3,000 litres in bulk store IBCs, Foam Pod at Kettering Tridol 3/3 %: 8,000 litres of foam in two tanks and can feed 6 items of foam making equipment at any one time, consisting of 2 x FB5X foam branches, 2 x blabbermouth branches and 2 x vector monitors.

This has been the case since 2011 when the Tridol was purchased. NFRS had Niagara in service but this was disposed of to another UK service in 2013/14 as it would not mix with the newer Tridol and the risk was too great to keep it in service.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference NFRS2022-31-31

Yours sincerely
Service Information Team

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 Team Leader
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
Darby House
Darby Close
Park Farm Industrial Estate
Wellingborough
NN8 6GS

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