



**Sent by Email:**

To: Mr Stephen Whiteside

Email: [request-351643-14db5628@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-351643-14db5628@whatdotheyknow.com)

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service HQ  
Leigh Road  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 9SJ

Tel: 023 80640 000

Email: [complaints@hantsfire.gov.uk](mailto:complaints@hantsfire.gov.uk)

Date: 09 12 2016

Enquiries To: Director Geoff Howsego  
Extension: 2145

Our Reference: FOI 56 16-17

Your Reference: EHDC planning apps 52501/002 Brislands Lane, Four Marks.

Dear Mr Whiteside

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Internal Review**

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the housing development referenced above, received on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

We are writing in respect to your recent application for the release of information held by the Authority.

You asked Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS), with reference to the Brislands Lane application (Building Regulation compliance), to:

- provide copies of any information regarding advice, recommendations and/or requirements provided by the Service to either Hampshire County Council [as highway authority] or East Hampshire District Council [as planning authority] about these important matters.
- provide any information regarding such a pre-application request by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) or anything else to do with the formulation of the Development Brief.
- provide any correspondence about the 'Brislands Lane' application in which the Service has been involved with regard to Building Regulation compliance.

Following our response, an additional enquiry was submitted to request an internal review of the information provided to you.

To clarify, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service have no record of contact received from either the Housing Developer or East Hampshire District Council on this particular matter.

In order to provide context and clarity to this matter, we wish to confirm the process that occurs.

HFRS Fire Safety Officers are notified of any Commercial Developments due to compliance requirements in support of the Fire Safety Reform Order 2005 (FSRO). Any contact or advice is provided via the Building Control Department held within the Local Authority or any private building Control Company such as the National House Building Council (NHBC) .

There is no current regulation or compliance requirement for Domestic Housing Developments to comply with FSRO, therefore no contact is usually made.

In the event of 'goodwill contact' being made via a Domestic Housing Developer, Local Authority or other sources providing notice of development, the same internal process is applied within HFRS.

Any Domestic Housing Development sites are provided with the same information, that they need to provide satisfactory access for fire appliances. This is in line with normal planning requirements as set out by the Hampshire County Council's Highways Development office.

Only within Commercial Developments are specific recommendations made, for example 'turning circles of 3.7M'. However, as this is a Domestic Housing Development, it is the Developer's responsibility to provide satisfactory access for Fire Appliances.

We have investigated the internal process that supports the receipt, recording and actioning of notification requests. This is a robust mechanism with resilience measures for any potential oversights through an Administration Hub. All records (both email and physical correspondence) are recorded and registered onto our Community Fire Risk Management Information System (CFRMIS).

A new file is created within CFRMIS with a record of the correspondence and any supporting scanned documentation. A 'job card' is raised by the Admin Hub and Fire Safety Officers are notified. This schedule of work is monitored and managed by the Fire Safety Officer team and any required visits to site arranged and scheduled. The record remains on CFRMIS with all supporting information.

We are satisfied that this process has not been compromised and that there are no records of notification to the Domestic Housing Development Site in question.

Ordnance Survey Public Sector Mapping information updates are made to CFRMIS on a quarterly basis. Updates such as Housing and Street details amongst others are provided.

On 18 March 2015, the update of the Gazetteer automatically generated a new generic file within CFRMIS, which was identified as the Brislands Lane 'Housing Association Development'.

Station Manager Ron Hedger, Business Fire Safety, attempted to contact you on 26 October 2016 to clarify the process. However, in light of your preference (as advised to us on 27 October 2016) not to discuss the matter over the telephone, a full and detailed response, recording all our available information, was sent to you in writing on 31 October 2016.

### **Freedom of Information Act Process of Response**

To address your concerns with the lack of clarity over the extended timeline due to additional information being requested, we believe this should have been made clearer to you at the time. However, the responding Officer concerned did ensure you were provided with supporting information to clarify this when requested.

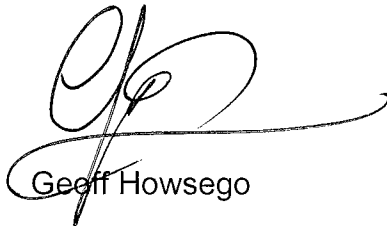
In addition, more detail could have been provided as to the reason for the automatically generated file recorded within CFRMIS, as explained above.

In summary, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service do not hold any information in relation to the Brisland Lane Development. It is the responsibility of the Developer to comply with any requirements in relation to access for Fire appliances. Furthermore, there is no legal requirement to consult with the Service or seek their comments on issues that are the responsibility of the Developer in relation to a Domestic Housing Development.

Thank you for taking the time to contact Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service on this matter. We are happy that the responses provided to you are accurate and consider this review now closed. However, should you wish to pursue this further, an appeal can be raised against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Howsego', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Geoff Howsego  
Director of Professional Services  
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service