



Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
East Service Delivery Area HQ
21 Claylands Road
Newbridge EH28 8LF
www.firescotland.gov.uk

Joshua Salisbury

[request-709824-ec4173cf@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Our Ref: FOI-013403-2021

Your Ref:

Contact:

Email:

Date:

Catrina Hamill

catrina.hamill@firescotland.gov.uk

8 February 2021

Dear Joshua Salisbury,

Your request has been processed in accordance with Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Thank you for your request for information.

I would like to apologise for this late response, which should be treated as both your response and review.

Please see below your request for information and subsequent responses:

1) Since 2015, how many fires were responded to by your FRS in which investigators established or believe that an emollient product was either a primary or contributory factor in the fire? Please break this down year by year.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) currently utilise the Home Office IRS (incident recording system) and it does not contain an option to select for emollients. It is hoped that a section specific to emollients can be included in a future updated version of the IRS but the format of this is agreed at a UK wide level and does not get updated frequently. Therefore only 2 fires were officially recorded as involving emollient products. One in 2018 and the other in 2020.

An emollient is a moisturising treatment applied to the skin, typically used to manage eczema or psoriasis.

Such products include - but are not limited to - Diprobase, Zerobase, CetraBen, and E45 creams.

2) What is the total number of fatalities recorded by your FRS in the incidents referred to in question 1 since 2015? Please break this down year by year.

From the incidents referred to in Q1, one of these was a fire fatality (the one in July 2018)

I note in asking this question that statistics on the number of fatalities in emollient-related fires may not be held by your FRS in each or all of the years since 2015. However, please provide the fullest data you hold.

3) Since 2015, how many controlled fire tests on emollient products, or the interaction of emollient products with other products, has your FRS carried out?

SFRS have not undertaken any official controlled tests for emollient products.

By "controlled fire test", I mean any exercise in which your FRS undertook to understand the flammability

of emollient products or their interaction with other products.

4) For all of the controlled fire tests referred to in 3), please provide a copy of the report that ensued from each of those tests.

N/A

Staff not involved in the original decision will handle any review.

Should you not be satisfied with the outcome of our review, you will then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months. The Commissioner will decide whether your request has been dealt with properly, in accordance with the Act.

To make an online appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner –

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>

To make a written appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner –

Cont'd/...

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews, Fife
KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610

Fax: 01334 464611

E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

For further details, please see the Commissioner's website at www.itspublicknowledge.info.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Thanks.

Yours sincerely

Catrina Hamill
Data Protection/Freedom of Information Officer
Strategic Planning, Performance and Communications