



**Hampshire
& Isle of Wight**
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Information Compliance Team

Headquarters
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SO50 9SJ

Sent by email to:

[REDACTED]

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e. DP@hantsfire.gov.uk
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Date: 5 March 2024

Our Reference: EIR 147 23-24

Enquiries to: Information Compliance Officer

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Dear [REDACTED]

We are writing in respect of your application for the release of information held by the Service, which we received on 25 January 2024. We can confirm that we have now completed our search for the information requested.

You asked:

Please could you let me know your standard procedure for fighting an EV fire, including environmental considerations?

Our answer:

We can confirm that we hold the information requested, apart from where otherwise stated.

We mobilise two pumping appliances and one Senior Officer (as opposed to one appliance for a petrol/diesel vehicle). We look to extinguish the fire as quickly as possible, with additional options to look at cooling the batteries and take the heat out of them to reduce/stop thermal runaway. All frontline pumping appliances carry environmental protection equipment and, where we can, we will contain and/or reuse water run-off for firefighting. There is the option to inform and consult a Hazardous Materials Advisor as well as contacting the Environment Agency. We can check if we are in either a Site of Special Scientific Interest or Groundwater Source Protection Zone.

You asked:

I am researching the containment of water run-off from EV fires, and would like to understand if the FRS typically contain water from an EV fire by deploying e.g. clay mats, absorbent pads etc.

Our answer:

We will follow the hierarchy of control for environmental incidents looking to contain as close to the source as possible and where possible prevent from entering drains and water courses. We utilise equipment provided by the Environment Agency and can contain or even recirculate the water for firefighting. The absorbent pads we have on pumping appliances are for oils/petrol so no real use at an EV fire. We will make use of clay mats where appropriate or we have used additional equipment to block the sewer and recirculate water run-off.

You asked:

Could you please also provide me with any data available on the deployment of environmental protection measures at vehicle fires?

Please could you also provide me with any data collected on the volume of water used at EV fire incidents?

Our answer:

The data below covers the period 01/01/2020 – 31/01/2024. Please note we do not hold information on environmental protection equipment used at an incident unless it is mentioned in the Firefighting action description below. We also do not hold information on the volume of water used at Electric Fire Incidents, per Regulation 12 (4)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Total Vehicle Fire Incidents
2299

Of Total Vehicle Fire Incidents number of Electric Vehicles Involved
9

Firefighting Action Description	Total
Beating, stamping	1
Burned out (Allowed to burn under control)	2
CO2 (carbon dioxide)	1
Cutting away	7
Disconnection of fuel supply	18
Dry powder (DP)	13
Extinguisher – other	1
Foam - AFFF (Aqueous Film Forming Foam)	2

Foam - high expansion (HX)	1
Foam - low expansion (LX) or type unspecified	9
Foam – medium expansion (MX)	3
Foam - other than AFFF	20
Hosereel (high pressure) (HRJ) - augmented supply	162
Hosereel (high pressure) (HRJ) - tank supply only	1352
Hosereel (low pressure) (HR) - augmented supply	18
Hosereel (low pressure) (HR) - tank supply only	141
Immersed in water	20
Main branch/Jet (J)	46
Monitors (MON) – ground or aerial (if using foam use Foam categories)	2
No firefighting	235
Not known	35
Other methods	24
Other small means	2
Other vaporising liquid	1
Removal from/of heat source	10
Smothering - use of fire blanket	1
Water - domestic supply	69
Water - from bucket/containers	93
Water from fixed hosereel installation	7
Water, soda acid, gas expulsion etc (water stored pressure)	3
Grand Total	2299

The above concludes our investigation into this matter.

Any future correspondence with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service in relation to this matter should be sent to the Information Compliance Officer at the above address.

If for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response you may request an internal review by contacting DP@hantsfire.gov.uk or by writing to the Data Protection Officer at the above address.

Should you remain dissatisfied you can appeal against the internal review decision by contacting the Information Commissioners Office. This can be done online at www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints or by post to The Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Officer
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service