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Our ref: FOI2018/1320  
14 February 2019

Dear

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: ITEMS DISPOSED OF IN LANDFILL AS RESULT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INCIDENTS**

Thank you for your request for information of 22 January for the following:

*Please provide a list of all items known to have been disposed of/destroyed/buried in landfill to date as a result of the public health incidents (involving novichok) in Salisbury;*

*If held and within the cost limit of the FOIA, please provide actual cost or estimates of the cost of items disposed of.*

We have handled your request under both the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) and the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Since our previous response of 11 December 2018 we can confirm that three vehicles have subsequently been disposed of: a Ford Ranger, a Vauxhall Astra, and an ambulance.

As mentioned in our previous response of 22 November 2018 (our ref: 24170), we do not hold information of other items disposed of, destroyed or buried in landfill. We also do not hold any information on the actual cost or estimates of the cost of the items disposed of.

The environmental information requested (i.e. the list of all items known to have been disposed of/destroyed/buried in landfill) is therefore exempt under regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIRs, which relates to information which is not held at the time when an applicant's request is received. Regulation 12(4)(a) is a qualified exception, which usually means that a public authority is required to conduct a public interest test to determine whether or not information should be disclosed or withheld. However, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who is the independent regulator for requests made under the EIRs, takes the view that a public interest test in cases where the information is not held would serve no useful purpose. Therefore, in line with the ICO's view, Defra has not conducted a public interest test in this case.



As before, to request this information you will need to contact the Ministry of Defence Information Rights Team by either writing to the following address: Ground floor, Zone D, Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON SW1A 2HB. Or via email: [cio-foi@mod.uk](mailto:cio-foi@mod.uk)

Information disclosed in response to this EIR and FOIA request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs/FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received. If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

**Information Rights Team**  
[InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

## Annex A

### Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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## Annex B

### Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Head of Information Rights, Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF (email: [InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk)) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF