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Freedom of Information request reference number: 5188.1

Date of response: 24/07/2020

Request:

Bendish Point, Royal Artillery Quays, in Woolwich.

I understand that a fire safety inspection was recently undertaking at Royal Artillery Quays. I would like to request a copy of the fire safety report

Response:

In response to your request, our Fire Safety Team have confirmed that we completed an audit at Bendish Point, Erebus Drive, Thamesmead, SE28 0GN on the 6th April 2020. The results of this audit confirmed no significant failure to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO) were found and as a result the premises was deemed broadly compliant. This means that no enforcement action (informal or formal) was required as a result and no notices were issued.

Please note we do not release the detailed notes/reports we make during inspections as we consider these to be exempt under Section 31 of the FOIA ("law enforcement" – Section 31(1)(g) combined with 31(2) (a) and 31(2) (c)). We are of the view that the correct balance between the public interest in building safety and our ongoing regulatory involvement lies in making information about enforcement action available (formal or informal) to those that request it, but in withholding the supporting information and evidence gathered during regulation activities.

When the LFB identifies any safety concerns, we make this information available within informal notification of fire safety deficiencies (NOD), and through the public register any formal <u>enforcement action</u>. Where there is no fire safety concern that merits either formal or informal action, then this information should be protected from publication to preserve the safe space for good regulation principles and that any withheld information could be used at a later date as part of formal enforcement action or prosecution where the materials go to demonstrate the behaviour, actions or omissions of the responsible person.

It is important that enforcing authorities are assisted in their investigations if witnesses and those responsible for compliance with regulations are willing to cooperate with the investigation on a voluntary basis and investigators are able to take full contemporaneous notes and enter in discussions (either verbally, or by correspondence) with those involved to enable them to explore all aspects of the case and then arrive at a decision as to the appropriate action to take.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request <u>on our website</u>.