



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

London Fire Brigade Headquarters
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london-fire.gov.uk

Environmental Information Regulations request reference number: 7245.1

Date of response: 02 March 2023

Request:

1. Please provide a list of all surveys or reports of a plot of land in Rainham, London, known as Launder's Lane or Arnold's Fields, held by your authority including who commissioned the report, when it was completed, who carried it out. I am particularly interested in anything which may touch on the health risks of the landfill there or the contents of the contaminated land.

2. Please provide copies of each of these reports.

Response:

Please see my response to each of your queries in turn below:

1. Please provide a list of all surveys or reports of a plot of land in Rainham, London, known as Launder's Lane or Arnold's Fields, held by your authority including who commissioned the report, when it was completed, who carried it out. I am particularly interested in anything which may touch on the health risks of the landfill there or the contents of the contaminated land.

The LFB do not have a statutory or regulatory role in the management of this site, and so we do not hold any surveys or reports which may touch on the health risks of the landfill there or the contents of the contaminated land.

However, that is not to say that the LFB do not hold any information about the site. We do hold information on our Operational Risk Database. The information in the Operational Risk Database report is a summary of information gathered following site visits. The primary purpose of the Operational Risk Database is to record information for firefighter safety and operational tactics, so it includes information about:

- (a) Significant hazards which can cause serious harm.
- (b) Hazards that may not necessarily be expected to be present in the premises e.g. unexpected biological hazards or excessive fire loading.
- (c) Unique control measures in place or required.
- (d) Tactical plans or command and control procedures.

The report contains the LFB's operational risk assessment of the area of Arnolds Field, Launder's Lane and contains information from 2019 to June 2022.

Our fire safety teams have also confirmed that the LFB Borough Commander for Havering is in contact with Havering local authority and there are planned meetings with the Council and LFB to discuss how they can provide some interim measures to reduce some of the fire risks at the site.

2. Please provide copies of each of these reports.

I have attached a copy of the Operational Risk Database report to this response. Please note, personal data has also been removed from the attached document [under section 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004](#).

I note that we processed your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Given that the request is about environmental information, it would have been appropriate to use the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. The provisions of both acts are broadly similar, and there would be no material difference in the way your request was handled, other than to say the personal data I have redacted from the Operational Risk Database report relies on the [Regulation 13](#) exception for personal data

We have dealt with your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request [on our website](#).

Current User:	<input type="text"/>	Approved By:	<input type="text"/>
Completed By:	<input type="text"/>	Watch:	Blue
Name & Address:	LAUNDERS LANE [OPEN LAND] LANDFILL SITE , STREET RECORD, LAUNDERS LANE, RM13 9ST		
Date:	<input type="text"/>		

Comments

New Comment:

Current Visit Comments

User	Date
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Previous Visit Comments

User	Date
PERSONNEL ARE NOT TO ENTER SITE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, FIGHT FROM BANK OR 32M LADDER WATER TOWER ammended/ changed to - Crews can enter the site via Launders Lane on the flat/ hard standing fire-fighting from there. Crews should not step on the piles. 4 hosereel lengths or 4 hose lengths should take to the first pile. DO NOT COMMIT CREWS TO THE PILES. CODE 5 consideration ammended.	28/06/2022 10:54:31

Earlier Visit Comments

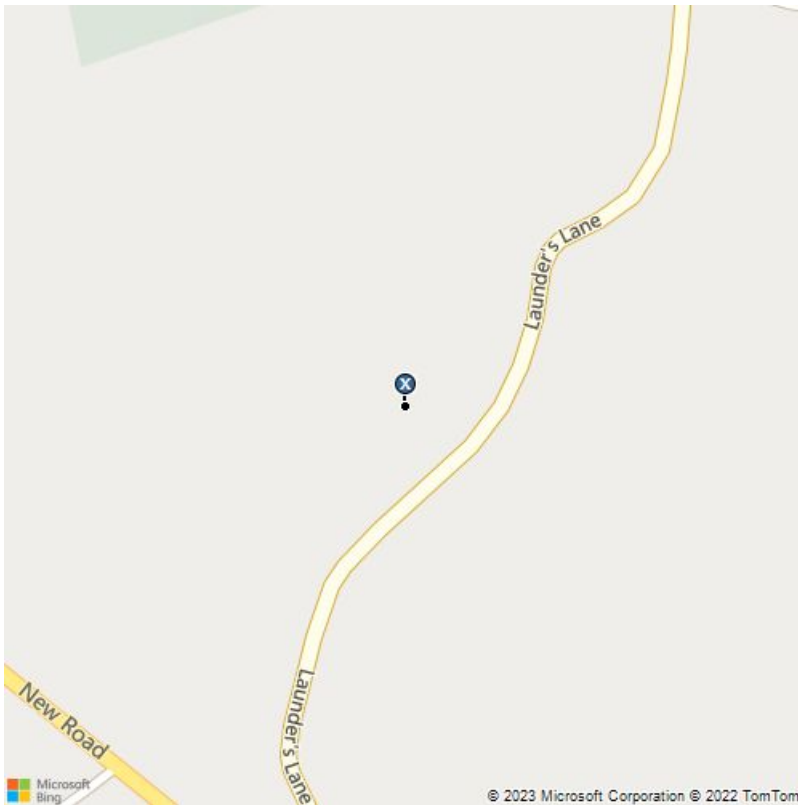
User	Date
***** data quality checks completed *****	22/06/2022 16:52:12
Plans updated to reflect crew safety as per wishes of borough commander	18/06/2022 10:01:41
***** data quality checks completed *****	31/05/2022 12:22:14
***** data quality checks completed *****	21/02/2022 12:28:49
Consider use of Aerial Appliance as site is uneven and hazardous underfoot. Attendance and action plan at night should be risk to benefit assessed by OIC.	11/01/2022 09:41:00
***** data quality checks completed *****	19/01/2021 11:46:55
On sites comms added	16/12/2020 15:58:07
***** data quality checks completed *****	22/10/2020 10:57:53
***** data quality checks completed *****	08/09/2020 15:44:43
ORD updated in hazards section with concerns about area, crew safety and voids in ground	14/08/2020 21:48:39
***** data quality checks completed *****	23/06/2020 15:01:38
***** data quality checks completed *****	16/12/2019 14:37:58

***** data quality checks completed *****		18/10/2019 09:59:40
This is a new entry for any calls to launders lane open land fill site 1960's landfill site recently has been used for fly tipping previous 10 and 6 pump fires to this site		09/10/2019 18:43:01

Address

Station

Area	North East
Borough	Havering
Station	F40 Wennington



Easting	5543069
Northing	1821164

Hazards

Inspection Notes:	This area is a historic landfill site and most recently been used by fly tippers over years .Difficult access due to being on high ground. Entire area has unseen risks from potential sink holes , protruding sharps uneven ground and sudden drops
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Hazards Summary

Location Code	open land
CYL - CYLINDERS	Desc High chance of buried cylinders

Code	ASB - ASBESTOS	Desc	Potential for Asbestos material buried within waste piles
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Tactical Plan

Operational Contingency Plan

Plan Name	launders lane
Plan No	
Version	
Date Effective From	17/10/2019
Date Documented	17/10/2019

Site Details

Site Profile	Open area covering both low and high ground used by fly tippers, previously a landfill site. Currently owned by Active Plant. Access points on new road and Launders Lane.
Site Dimensions	Approx. 700m x 400m whole site measures 16 Hectares with elevations of approximately 7-10 M and steep inclines.
Life Risks	None
Water Supply	Water plan for site is IC request HVP to run pressure feed supply without pump from hydrant 5115 in lambs lane north to feed entrance. - base pump to feed from lambs lane to fire ground pump at launders. If Aerial is required 32m.

Number of People at Risk			
Occasion	PeopleType	No. ppl Day	No. ppl Night

Operational Hazards
Concrete security barriers stopping / preventing easy access from the road for appliances, steep bank access on new road
Traffic due to only single carriage lane and heavy site traffic due to local tips in the area. Passing traffic at high speed including HGV vehicles.
Various unknown household , domestic and commercial waste.
Various objects protruding from the ground including metal rebar and other potentially harming material

Communications
Comms good with hand held radios.

Fixed Installations		
Group	Type	Description

Premises Information Box (PIB)	
Is there a PIB at this address?	False

Access

Route Access

Launders lane via new road, opposite E hall lane. Or new road opposite Wennington Quarry.

Site Access

Launders lane opposite Fishery gates approx. 200m from new road entrance. Approximately 60m from access point to first elevation. Or new road.

En Route Considerations

- Water supplies - (Borough Water Plan in place).
- Crew safety at road side and no crews on actual site beyond berms.
- Early communication via control with Waste Fire Tactical Advisor.
- Possibility of hidden cylinders, voids and protruding objects.

On Site Action

Site Staff

OIC

- Early consideration of Drone to give full picture of incident.
- Consideration of the 32M ALP to be used.
- Crews can enter the site via Launders Lane on the flat/ hard standing fire-fighting from there. Crews should not step on the piles. 4 hosereel CONT.
- CONT. 4 hosereel lengths or 4 hose lengths should take to the first pile. **DO NOT COMMIT CREWS TO THE PILES.**
- Code 5 controlled burn can be considered but take into account prolonged on-going crew attendance/ call backs.

RVP & Meeting Points

Name	Type	Description
ingerbourne Golf course	RVP	private golf course access Via new rd/Launders lane
Access slip from new rd - Launders lane	RVP	Access slip from new rd - Launders lane

Emergency Contacts

Title	Surname	Forename	Position	Type	Telephone
█	█	█	█	Office	█

OPS Planning Consideration

- Early identification of scale of the fire - If not burning out of control send code 5, otherwise make pumps 4 for H&S
- Consider road closure or other traffic management for crews safety - Police /LA
- Consider controlled burn on advice of tactical waste advisor
- Early consideration of Drone for full picture of the incident

Policies

206 - Environment Agency procedures

376 - Cylinders

Other Service Agencies

Environmental Agency if protected incident and danger of Contaminated water run off

Police for traffic management and road closures

Local Authority

Plans and Images

Name
Description

site Ariel view
Area highlighted is the perimeter , white arrow to bottom R/H side is the access area



Name
Description

Entrance access
Access on approach from New road direction , Concrete barriers and high grass dirt mounds , no safe location to be remote from passing traffic



Name
Description

water plan
water plan for site

