

Freedom of Information request reference number: FOIA3551.1

Date of response: 8 February 2018

The request is specific to your fire brigade and regards the issue of electric and hybrid vehicle fires in the UK.

- 1. Please tell me if fire fighters are provided with specific training related to hybrid vehicle fires, what this training comprises, and how long the training sessions are.*
- 2. Please provide me with electronic copies of training documentation provided to fire fighters for electric vehicle fires.*
- 3. Please tell me if your brigade has purchased extra equipment to tackle electric or hybrid vehicle fires. If so, please tell me what this equipment comprises.*

Whilst I can confirm the LFB does not provide specific training in relation to the firefighting of hybrid vehicles, a policy is currently being drafted by the LFB in relation to these incidents. The publication date of this policy is yet to be confirmed.

The below areas from National Operational Guidance (NOG) cover hybrid (alternatively fuelled) vehicles. Drawing your attention to the strategic actions in these areas you will see that NOG are suggesting training is provided in these areas. A training specification for this area has not yet been created within LFB and although it is unlikely actual training will be provided it will be the learning outcomes that NOG suggest need to be covered in the training that individual Fire Rescue Services (FRS) provide.

<https://www.ukfrs.com/guidance/search/identify-and-communicate-vehicle-type>

<https://www.ukfrs.com/guidance/search/isolate-high-voltage-systems>

<https://www.ukfrs.com/guidance/search/identify-and-isolate-fuel-systems>

<https://www.ukfrs.com/guidance/search/alternative-fuelled-vehicles-afv>

In addition to this, as part of the LFB's training provided through Babcock International. Our Fire Rescue Unit (FRU) 13 day core skills course provides a documentation focusing on new vehicle technology, primarily on the identification of Hybrid vehicles and the associated risks, although this does not extend to firefighting.

As you may be aware, our training is outsourced to Babcock International and as such we would consider any training documents commercially sensitive via [section 43](#) of the FOIA and therefore exempt from release. Section 43 requires that we consider whether there is a public interest in disclosing the withheld materials, but I am of the view that the public interest is best served by the Authority being able to secure the best terms and prices for its services, which means keeping the materials provided confidential to the supplier.

I can further confirm we have not purchased any extra equipment in order to tackle hybrid vehicle fires.

I hope you find this information of use. If you have any further questions do let me know.

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). If you are dissatisfied

by this response you can request an internal review by writing to the Head of Information Management and Performance at the address below (or email informationaccess@london-fire.gov.uk).

Further information about your information rights (including how to raise a concern or make a complaint) is available from the Information Commissioner's Office on their website at www.ico.org.uk or by writing to them at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.