LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

London Fire Brigade Headquarters
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Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/01194

Date of request: 23rd September

Request:

Dear Sir or Madam,

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
The motor yacht Phi, and West India and Millwall Docks

I am writing to request the following information. Where any part of it constitutes environmental information within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, I ask that it be handled under those Regulations instead.

My request concerns the motor yacht Phi, a vessel of approximately 58 metres which has been berthed in the West India and Millwall Docks on the Isle of Dogs since March 2022, when it was detained under directions made under the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. It remains berthed there, unused, and I understand it has been largely unmanned for much of that time.

Unless stated otherwise, my request covers the period from 1 March 2022 to the date on which you process it.

1. Incident reports concerning the vessel

Please tell me whether the Brigade holds any record of an incident, mobilisation, attendance, call or false alarm relating to Phi, and if so provide:

(a) the incident record for each, including the date and time, the incident type as recorded, the resources mobilised, and the narrative or closing remarks entered by the incident commander;

(b) the corresponding entry or return made to the Home Office Incident Recording System; and

(c) any post-incident report, debrief or investigation report.

If the Brigade holds no such record, please confirm that expressly. If records exist but are held under a different vessel name, berth reference or address rather than the vessel's name, I would be grateful if you would search on the basis of the berth and location as well.

2. Fire risk assessment of the vessel

Please tell me whether the Brigade has carried out, commissioned, reviewed or received any fire risk assessment, fire safety audit, fire safety inspection or equivalent assessment in relation to Phi, and if so provide it together with its date.

So that I understand the regulatory position rather than only the record position, please also tell me:

(a) whether the Brigade considers the vessel, while berthed in an impounded dock in this way, to fall

within the scope of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, and if so who it regards as the responsible person;

(b) if the Brigade considers the vessel to fall outside that Order, which body it understands to be responsible for fire safety on board; and

(c) whether the vessel has at any point been the subject of a complaint, referral or request for advice made to the Brigade, and if so provide the record of it and of any action taken.

3. The docks

In relation to West India and Millwall Docks, including Blackwall Basin, South Dock, Millwall Inner and Outer Docks and West India Quay, please provide:

(a) any site specific risk information, operational risk database entry, tactical plan or pre-determined attendance record held by the Brigade for the docks or the moorings within them, including any record of when it was last reviewed;

(b) any fire risk assessment, fire safety audit or inspection record relating to the dock estate or its mooring operations, and the date of each;

(c) any risk assessment or operational plan concerning firefighting on or rescue from vessels within the docks, including any assessment of access, water supply, appliance positioning or the capability required to fight a fire aboard a large vessel there; and

(d) any record of the Brigade identifying the docks, or vessels berthed in them, as presenting a particular or elevated risk.

4. Correspondence

Please provide any correspondence between the Brigade and the Canal & River Trust, the Port of London Authority, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the Department for Transport, the Metropolitan Police, the London Borough of Tower Hamlets or the marina operator that mentions Phi, or that concerns fire risk from vessels berthed in these docks.

5. Capability

Please provide any internal assessment, briefing or review held by the Brigade concerning its capability to respond to a fire aboard a large vessel in the enclosed docks of the Isle of Dogs, including any document identifying limitations, resource gaps or reliance on other agencies, and any document concerning the availability of marine or fireboat resources to reach vessels inside the impounded dock system.

General

Where a document is already published, a link is sufficient. I am content to receive everything electronically.

I recognise that operational risk information may engage exemptions relating to public safety, security or health and safety, and that third party details may constitute personal data. Where that applies, I ask that documents be provided in redacted form rather than withheld in full, and that you identify the specific exemption relied upon for each item together with your public interest assessment. My interest is in whether the risk presented by this vessel has been assessed at all and by whom, rather than in operational detail that would assist anyone seeking to cause harm.

If you consider that any part of this request would exceed the appropriate limit under section 12, please tell me which part and contact me under section 16 so that I can narrow it. My priority order is item 1, then item 2, then item 3, then items 4 and 5.

If the Brigade does not hold information falling within an item but knows which body does, I would be grateful if you would tell me under section 16.

Response:

Thank you for your request for information, received on [date], concerning the motor yacht *Phi* and associated records held by the London Fire Brigade (LFB).

Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Question 1 – Incident reports concerning the vessel

We have conducted searches of our incident recording systems using the information provided in your request. We do not hold any records of incidents, mobilisations, attendances, calls or false alarms specifically relating to the motor yacht *Phi* during the period requested.

Accordingly, we hold no information falling within the scope of parts 1(a), 1(b) or 1(c) of your requests.

Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5

The London Fire Brigade does not hold information within the scope of these parts of your request.

Under Article 6 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO), the Order does not apply to:

"a ship, in respect of the normal ship-board activities of a ship's crew which are carried out solely by the crew under the direction of the master."

The Brigade's fire safety regulatory activities are undertaken in relation to premises that fall within the scope of the RRO. Information relating to regulated premises is recorded within the Brigade's fire safety management systems.

Based on our enquiries, *Phi* is a vessel and is not recorded as premises falling within the scope of the RRO. As a result, the Brigade does not hold fire safety audits, fire risk assessments, inspection records, operational plans, correspondence, capability assessments or related records concerning the vessel on its fire safety systems.

The Brigade uses premises information recorded within its fire safety and operational risk systems for locations that fall within its statutory fire safety responsibilities. As *Phi* does not fall within those arrangements, we hold no recorded information within the scope of questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 of your request.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process, please see the guidance published on our website: https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/