



[REDACTED]

22 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00251

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 21 March in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Please can you supply the following for both the Rothera and King Edward Point Research Station:

- 1. An inventory of firefighting equipment at each research station, including consumables.*
- 2. An inventory of medical equipment and medicines at each research station, including consumables.*
- 3. What firefighting and first aid training/qualifications are non specialist staff* at the research stations expected to have.*

**specialist staff means either professional firefighters or clinicians (as appropriate).*

Our response

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) holds some information relevant to your request. Please see the information below and attached.

- 1. An inventory of firefighting equipment at each research station, including consumables.*

The attached spreadsheet 'FOI2024-00251 Inventory' lists all firefighting equipment on site at Rothera and King Edward Point, extracted from our maintenance management system. Note that assets such as fire extinguishers and fire and safety detectors are managed at a building, rather than item-level, and are therefore not individually listed.

- 2. An inventory of medical equipment and medicines at each research station, including consumables.*

British Antarctic Survey (BAS) does not hold information relating to medical equipment and medicines at our research stations. The BAS Medical Unit (BASMU) are responsible for the provision of healthcare on our stations, including the management of medical equipment and medicines. BASMU are based at University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust, who should be contacted for information relating to this aspect of your request. Contact details can be found at <https://www.plymouthhospitals.nhs.uk/foi/>

- 3. What firefighting and first aid training/qualifications are non-specialist staff* at the research stations expected to have.*

Firefighting training/qualifications

All staff receive training in the use of fire extinguishers before their deployment to our research stations. This is undertaken by our fire extinguisher supplier. We have breathing apparatus at Rothera, and training in its use for UK Research and Innovation, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1FL

search and rescue is also undertaken. This is carried out with our wintering teams and is repeated regularly. Training is also provided with regards to maintenance of the breathing apparatus by its manufacturer, Draeger.

First aid training / qualifications

The requirements for first aid training for personnel deploying to BAS Antarctic stations are available on the [BAS website](#)¹.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact within the next 40 working days:

Head of Information Governance

Email: foi@ukri.org

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: www.ico.org.uk.

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,

Information Governance

Information Rights Team

UK Research and Innovation

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¹ <https://www.bas.ac.uk/polar-operations/antarctic-pre-deployment-training/>