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FOI REFERENCE: FOI 23/24 - 96

DATE RECEIVED: 09/06/23

TITLE / CATEGORY: Other - COVID 19 Pandemic

REQUEST

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you provide me with information (emailed to me) with regard to how your organization addressed above, dealt with certain matters during the Covid 19-Pandemic.

- *Personnel refers to organizational employed personnel.
- **Non-operational vehicles refers to non-blue light response vehicles owned or leased by the organization.
- ***Level of PPE respiratory and/or eye protection and IMPORTANTLY the grade of PPE specified e.g. in the case of respiratory protection 'Workwear or FFP1 or FFP2 or FFP3 grade masks.
- **** Operational vehicles refers to blue-light response vehicles owned or leased by the organization

In relation to personnel*, traveling within NON-operation vehicles**:

- 1. Were personnel prohibited from traveling together in a vehicle at any period during the Covid pandemic?
- 2. If so, during what date period had this prohibition taken effect?
- 3. Were personnel permitted to travel together in a vehicle at any period during the Covid pandemic?
- 4. If so, were personnel required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) while traveling together in a vehicle?
- 5. If answer to Q4 is YES, during which date period had the PPE been required?
- 6. What level of PPE*** was specified for occupants traveling together in a vehicle?
- 7. Was the requirement to wear PPE, mandatory or advisory?

In relation to personnel*, traveling within OPERATIONAL vehicles****:

- 8. Were employees permitted to travel together in operational-vehicles****, (in particular Fire Engines) at any period during the Covid pandemic?
- 9. If so, were personnel required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while traveling together in a vehicle during any period within the Covid pandemic?

CONT....

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REQUEST CONT.

10. If answer to Q9 is YES - what level of PPE*** was specified for occupants within a vehicle?

11. Was the requirement to wear PPE mandatory or advisory?

12. In relation to Q9 above - during what date period had the PPE requirements been in place?

RESPONSE.

- 1. No, however journeys were kept to a minimum with only essential travel for critical activities being undertaken with risk assessments and additional measures (open windows, mask wearing) in place.
- 2. N/A
- 3. Yes
- 4. Yes
- 5. Throughout social distancing measures introduced by Government
- 6. National guidance was followed throughout and the grade of face covering varied in line with amendments to guidance (eg. Snoods, material, surgical IIR).
- 7. Mandatory
- 8. Yes
- 9. Yes
- 10. Surgical IIR mask
- 11. Mandatory
- 12. Throughout social distancing measures introduced by Government

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