



Freedom of Information Request:

Date Responded: 16th February 2026

Request:

I am requesting information about fire training sites where AFFF (aqueous film-forming foam) has been used.

What I need:

1. Fire training facility locations:
 - Address and postcode (or grid reference)
 - Years operational
2. AFFF foam usage:
 - AFFF products used (2015-2026)
 - Date transitioned to fluorine-free foam (if applicable)
 - Whether PFOS/PFOA-containing foam was used
3. Environmental monitoring (if conducted):
 - Any soil or groundwater PFAS testing results
 - Sample dates and locations

Format: Excel or CSV

Time period: 2015 to February 2026

Purpose: Academic research into PFAS contamination from firefighting activities

Response:

1. Fire training facility locations:
 - Address and postcode (or grid reference)
 - Years operational

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Nissan Way
Sunderland
Tyne and Wear
SR5 3QY

Operational from 1996 – (30 years)

2. AFFF foam usage:
 - AFFF products used (2015-2026)
 - Date transitioned to fluorine-free foam (if applicable)

- Whether PFOS/PFOA-containing foam was used

TWFRS have previously held a stock of AFFF foam but this was disposed of by a licensed company in 2022-23. We cannot give a date when AFFF was first introduced into the service but it was in use from 2000 onwards.

Niagara Film Form Foam medium expansion foam was utilised by TWFRS until 2022-23

Following notification that all AFFF products could no longer be used, TWFRS replaced with a AFFF free product in 2022.

3. Environmental monitoring (if conducted):

- Any soil or groundwater PFAS testing results
- Sample dates and locations

The service training centre has an interceptor system that collects water run off and this is then collected by an approved contractor for disposal. We have not completed soil or ground water testing as no contamination should have left the site.

Exemptions applied: None