

Response to FOI request from [REDACTED], dated 31 December 2024

Request for information:

Sent: 31 December 2024 13:34

To: Gemma Hughes <deputyclerk@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk>; towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk;

Subject: Re: Allotment Tap

Dear Ms Hughes,

Apologies for taking so long to reply to your note concerning the allotment tap at Severalls. Frankly, it has taken me this long to get up from the floor after laughing.

It comes so close on the heels of ridding us of all our tap links for hoses, leading to six months without taps and a ridiculous expenditure on troughs, piping, etc with no consideration of a cheaper non-return valve on the tap systems. It also totally relied on the goodwill of several allotment holders to carry out the self-indulgent council policy starting with digging several hundred meters of trench to the thieving Water Companies specifications.

I would appreciate seeing a complete copy of the Health and Safety report that alleges the tap in the shed is a legionella risk. I would also like to know the name and qualifications of the individual who authored the report as it is now time for officials to take responsibility for their work. It is yet again another example of arse-protecting by a public servant rather than a genuine pragmatic examination of fact. It is easier for the taxpayer or ratepayer to shell out more money for something that is highly unlikely to happen but is a possibility - how about the asteroid impact risk or badger attack for allotment holders?

Prevcisely how could the tap produce a legionella risk? Presumably by the logic of the report, any internal tap, for example, in my bathroom or kitchen, could also be a legionella risk - should I rip them out?

The council seems to be conflating protecting public health with wasting time and money and inconveniencing people in the belief that all risk can be eliminated. The likelihood of the tap producing and infecting people with the legionella bacterium is far lower than the risk of infection from the water butts that the council are so keen on. That's a fact. you are also more likely to contract legionnaires disease through contact with soil and potting material.

As far as I can find in government documents there have been no confirmed cases attributed to allotment contamination.

Furthermore, we need a tap inside for all sorts of convenience reasons.

So, no don't take the tap away and please do send those details of report author and report.

yours sincerely

Response:

Thank you for your email and comments. I have attached the Legionella Risk Assessment as requested. If I could draw your attention to page 25 4.1 where the tap is listed.

Kind regards,

Gemma

Gemma Hughes

Deputy Town Clerk