

From:
Sent:
To:

[Redacted]
11 May 2018 15:22
[Redacted]

Cc:

Subject:

RE: BID - Baby box - Kaye Adams

[Redacted]

These lines are fine from policy perspective.
Please note I am out of office but you can call [Redacted] if required.
Thanks

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From [Redacted]
Date: Friday, 11 May 2018, 3:18 pm
To [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Subject: RE: BID - Baby box - Kaye Adams

Hi all,

CMO is not available. Call Kaye have asked for the latest lines on the safety of the baby box.

Grateful for views on issuing the latest lines below by 16:00.

Thanks

[Redacted] Newsdesk
Scottish Government

An SG spokesperson said:

"The Baby Box meets all relevant safety standards in place at the time of its introduction and now and we will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

"There is no evidence to suggest the baby box is unsafe and we are in on-going discussions with Peter Blair about his concerns. The Baby Box meets British safety

standards and was awarded British Standard accreditation (BSEN 1130) as a crib for domestic use – the first non-commercial box in the world to do so. We will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

“As the material issued with the Baby Box makes clear, the Baby Box – and its associated bedding – is intended to offer a safe sleeping place when used in accordance with other safe sleeping practices.”

Background

In the absence of an existing standard specifically for baby boxes, Scotland's Baby Box has been tested for compliance with the existing British and European Standard on cribs and cradles for domestic use – BSEN 1130, including passing of the stability, static load and strength safety tests. The accreditation agency used is SGS United Kingdom Limited and the formal accreditation document is available on the Parent Club website:

<https://www.parentclub.scot/sites/default/files/BS%20EN%201130%20Accreditation%20Document.pdf>

Safe sleeping information is provided in leaflet form within the box, and safety guidelines are also printed on the box lid in accordance with BS EN 1130.

The Baby Box does not have carrying handles and is approved for domestic crib use. The Box has also passed the accreditation having no small parts.

The mattress is fully compliant with BS1877 (flammability) and the construction complies with BS7177 (specification for mattresses for children's cots). All safety instructions and labelling are included and fully comply with the above standards.

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:

[Redacted]
02 May 2018 18:02
[Redacted]

Subject: RE: For info: Media query: baby boxes - The Guardian

[Redacted]

For Ms Todd and Mr Swinney's information, a number of journalists asked follow up questions regarding the safety testing of the Baby Box. We updated the lines and added a Q&A which was issued to journalists, see below.

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"The Baby Box meets all relevant safety standards in place at the time of its introduction and now and we will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

"There is no evidence to suggest the baby box is unsafe and we are in on-going discussions with Peter Blair about his concerns. The Baby Box meets British safety standards and was awarded British Standard accreditation (BSEN 1130) as a crib for domestic use – the first non-commercial box in the world to do so. We will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

"As the material issued with the Baby Box makes clear, the Baby Box – and its associated bedding – is intended to offer a safe sleeping place when used in accordance with other safe sleeping practices."

Background

In the absence of an existing standard specifically for baby boxes, Scotland's Baby Box has been tested for compliance with the existing British and European Standard on cribs and cradles for domestic use – BSEN 1130, including passing of the stability, static load and strength safety tests. The accreditation agency used is SGS United Kingdom Limited and the formal accreditation document is available on the Parent Club website:

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Safe sleeping information is provided in leaflet form within the box, and safety guidelines are also printed on the box lid in accordance with BS EN 1130.

The Baby Box does not have carrying handles and is approved for domestic crib use. The Box has also passed the accreditation having no small parts.

The mattress is fully compliant with BS1877 (flammability) and the construction complies with BS7177 (specification for mattresses for children's cots). All safety instructions and labelling are included and fully comply with the above standards.

Q&A

SGS used BS EN 1130 as the accreditation standard against which the baby box's safety was measured. The BSI said this is a "furniture standard" and there is no standard for baby boxes and they are in the process of drawing one up.

We have consistently said that the Baby Box was awarded BSEN 1130 accreditation as a crib for domestic use – the first non-commercial box in the world to do so.

The Baby Box meets all relevant safety standards in place at the time of its introduction and we will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard specifically for baby boxes once it is developed.

The safety certificate issued by SGS states that the material used in the box was not tested. Was this the case and why this was not done "at request of client"?

The cardboard and the ink used to make the box were tested separately and the accreditation certificates are on the ParentClub website. The manufacturer undertook the testing as it is their design and accreditation.

Securing accreditation is the responsibility of manufacturers and the Scottish Government has only included items in the box that have the relevant safety certificates. The cardboard and the ink used to make the box were tested separately and the accreditation certificates are on the ParentClub website. The Baby Box was awarded BSEN 1130 accreditation as a crib for domestic use.

The Baby Box and its contents meets all relevant safety standards in place at the time of its introduction and we will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

The certificate states the material used in the lid was not tested. Was this the case?

All cardboard and ink on any part of the box was tested as part of materials testing.

The lid is not to be used when the box is used for sleeping and this is made clear on the lid itself and in the safe sleeping advice included with the box and on the lid itself. As a result the lid is not tested as part of the BSEN1130 certificate for the box as a crib.

In response to Dr Peter Blair's view that there is no evidence that the boxes reduce cot death

The Scottish Baby Box was introduced to help tackle deprivation, improve health and support parents.

In response to Dr Peter Blair's view that the boxes represent a risk to a baby's health because they are so high-sided that a parent would have to hover overhead to ensure their safety.

The height of the sides of the box was set in order to meet the standards required for the baby box to achieve the BSEN1130 safety accreditation.

In response to Dr Peter Blair's view that parents should only use them for their children if "there isn't anything else available."

As the material issued with the Baby Box makes clear, the Baby Box – and its associated bedding – is intended to offer a safe sleeping place when used in accordance with other safe sleeping practices.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 02 May 2018 12:35
To: [Redacted]

Subject: For Info: Media query: baby boxes - The Guardian

For Ms Todd and Mr Swinney's information, the Guardian has published the baby box story online (<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/02/cot-death-expert-raises-concerns-over-scotlands-cardboard-baby-boxes>) and the Tories have issued the below comment in response. The Sun, Scotsman, Telegraph and Express have all asked for our response.

We have updated the background note, see below, and reissued the lines.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Newsdesk

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"There is no evidence to suggest the baby box is unsafe and we are in on-going discussions with Peter Blair about his concerns. The Baby Box meets British safety standards and was awarded British Safety Standard accreditation as a crib for domestic use – the first non-commercial box in the world to do so. We will ensure that Scotland's Baby Box complies with the new standard once it is developed.

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The Baby Box does not have carrying handles and is approved for domestic crib use. The Box has also passed the accreditation having no small parts.

The mattress is fully compliant with BS1877 (flammability) and the construction complies with BS7177 (specification for mattresses for children's cots). All safety instructions and labelling are included and fully comply with the above standards.

Miles Briggs, Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary said:

"There are some extremely serious questions for the SNP Government to answer here.

"Parents have been told time and again by Nicola Sturgeon and her ministers that baby boxes are safe.

"Now we learn that a senior expert has raised questions about the evidence base for that in private, and that there are doubts over whether the boxes have the full safety accreditation.

"Why has it been taken only now for these concerns to be raised in public? And why, initially at least, did the Scottish Government fail to take Mr Blair's concerns on board?

"If parents are to have faith in these boxes, then we need to see complete transparency from the SNP. This is not a public relations exercise – it is about child safety."

From [Redacted]
Sent: 01 May 2018 10:55
To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: For clearance: Media query: baby boxes - The Guardian

Ms Todd is content with the response as amended by

[Redacted] | Private Secretary | Minister for Childcare and Early Years
[Redacted] | Mobil [Redacted] | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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year of young people
bliadhna na h-òigridh
2018

From [Redacted]
Sent: 01 May 2018 16:13
To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: For clearance: Media query: baby boxes - The Guardian

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

[Redacted]
13 April 2018 11:59
[Redacted]
FW: Baby Box Standard

Just for info given [Redacted] has been copied in

Improving Health and Wellbeing – Baby Boxes, Parenting, Family Support and Play
Children and Families Directorate
Area 2-C North, Victoria Quay

0131 244 [Redacted]

Home working Monday/Friday (am only)

<http://yoyp2018.scot>

From: [Redacted] nallto
Sent: 13 April 2018 10:13
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Baby Box Standard

Dear [Redacted]

Many thanks

[Redacted] we are keen for Scottish Government to engage with the consultation if possible as I know you have tested the box you use very thoroughly. A [Redacted] will tell you, there is no specific standard for a cardboard box as a sleeping space. There is some confusion, deliberately perpetrated by some of the commercial companies that the baby boxes "meet BS and EU standards" They don't because there is no standard for a baby box. The only standard that is relatable is the EN 1130 – which was developed for cribs and bassinets which are solid pieces of furniture. The 1130 standard is a very old one and came out long before Baby Boxes emerged so not really much use in terms of testing the suitability of a cardboard box for sleeping an infant. I know that the Scottish scheme is not primarily about safer sleep or use of the box as a sleeping environment – however – it would be helpful for us given we are frequently attacked on social media in Scotland and unfairly accused of opposing the Scottish Baby Box scheme – if the Scottish Government could be public in their support of developing a standard and share your expertise with BSI in the construction of your own box.

Best wishes

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Direct line [Redacted]
Telephone: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot [mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot]
Sent: 13 April 2018 09:11
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Baby Box Standard

Thanks [Redacted] I've forwarded this onto APS for info.

Both - Just so you are aware, I am moving posts today, and a new Team Leader starts on Monday.

[Redacted] copied above, will be leading on this work going forward.

All the best,

[Redacted]

Improving Health and Wellbeing – Baby Boxes, Parenting, Family Support and Play
Children and Families Directorate
Area 2-C North, Victoria Quay

0131 244 [Redacted]

Home working Monday/Friday (am only)

<http://yoyp2018.scot>

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 April 2018 17:08
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Baby Box Standard

Dear [Redacted]

I said I would let you have details of the BSI consultation on Baby Boxes. It went live yesterday.

The proposal from BSI's CW/1 Safety of child use and child care products for a baby boxes standard is now online for public consultation, please see the link:

<https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/9018-01406>

People wishing to comment will need to set up an online account and use the commenting template provided - but that only takes a couple of minutes.

The deadline for comments is Monday 30 April.

What BSI is asking people to comment on is fairly basic - the proposed scope and the purpose of the standard.

I do hope you will comment.
Best wishes

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Direct line: [Redacted]
Telephone: [Redacted]

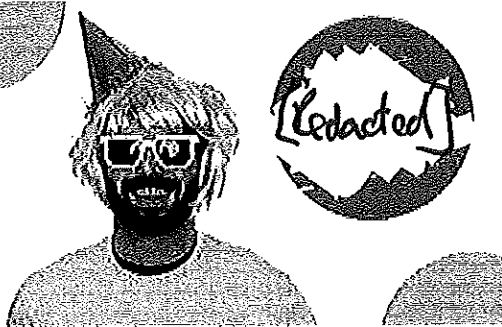
Reg charity no:



[Redacted],

**#YELLOW
YOURSELF**

Wear yellow to save babies' lives
Friday 18 May



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From: [Redacted] [mailto:[Redacted]]
Sent: 04 January 2018 00:59
To: Todd M (Maree), MSP <Maree.Todd.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: Baby box safety

Dear Minister,

I saw your tweet to 'Pablo Escobar' (@bigaljr) on Twitter on 3 January, in which you invited him to contact you about the baby box's safety certification (BS EN 1130-1:1997) if the information you gave him did not answer his question. Forgive me for writing to you on the back of your exchange with him. But his interest seems to have arisen from a blog post I wrote on the subject that you have probably seen and it seems appropriate to do so. If you haven't seen the post, here is a [link](#).

I am taking the liberty of asking the same question that he did, that is, are you able to make publicly available a copy of the BS EN certificate for the box (not the contents) together with the associated test results? You will see that my attempts to obtain a copy ended in an FOI response from your civil servants that it was not possible to make a copy of this documentation available. Most of the period covered by my FOI requests and the responses relate to a time before you were in office. On the basis of your tweets yesterday that I refer to above, I am very much hoping that you will see the merits of making a copy public. Unless this is done, it just is not possible to prove the various assertions that have been made about the safety of the box.

Thank you for your help. I'm sure you will understand that I would like to make any response public on my blog, although if you can provide the documentation my comment is not likely to be much more than a further 'Thank you, and well done for ensuring transparency on an important subject'.

Aberdeen, Scotland

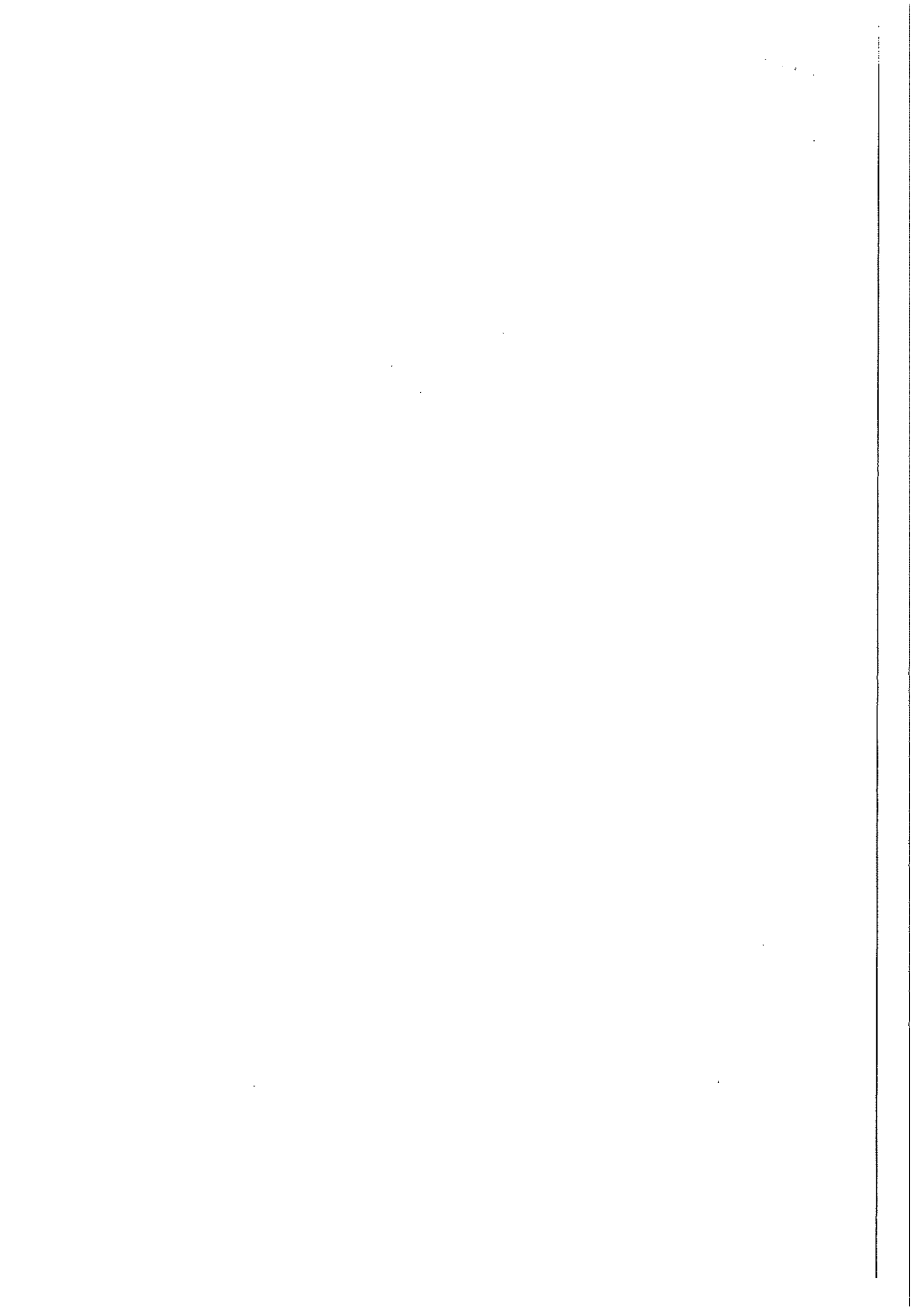
E-mail

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [Redacted]

To: "michael.chalmer."

Sent: Sunday, 20 August 2017, 13:44

Subject: Fw: FOI Response - request for review

Dear Mr Chalmers

I received the attached response to an FOI request. The response came quickly, for which I am grateful, and the words of my request are correctly stated in the preamble to the response. However, two aspects of my request are not dealt with in the response:

1. '... which published British safety standard(s) *(stating whether in their entirety or partly)* the box itself conforms to ...' I have highlighted in italics the part of my request not met. It may be a small point, but I would be grateful if you or your colleagues could confirm for each of the three BSI standards cited whether the item meets the standard in its entirety or partly

2. I also asked for 'a copy of any certificate(s) confirming it does so [conform].' This aspect of my request is not dealt with. For the avoidance of doubt I had intended 'certificate' to cover the form in which written confirmation was received, whether in paper or electronic format.

I would be grateful if this information could be provided as previously requested. If the information does not exist, I assume you will let me know.

I include my phone number below should you need to contact me for clarification.

Thank you for your help.

[Redacted]

Telephone

