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Marking



██████████  
By email to ██████████

Human Tissue Authority  
151 Buckingham Palace Road  
London SW1W 9SZ

Tel 020 7269 1900  
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk  
Web www.hta.gov.uk

Date 16 April 2019

Dear ██████████

### Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 19 March 2019. Your email outlined the following request:

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please send me:

1. All notes, minutes and correspondence relating to the discussion of the proposed development of a human taphonomy facility in the UK at a meeting between HTA and DHSC held on 8 January 2019.
2. All other notes, meeting minutes and correspondence kept by the HTA on the proposed development of a human taphonomy facility in the UK since 1 January 2019.

I would like the above information to be provided to me as electronic copies emailed to me at ██████████

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please direct me to it, with page numbers and URLs if necessary.

If the release of any of this information is prohibited on the grounds of breach of confidence, I ask that you supply me with copies of the confidentiality agreement and remind you that information should not be treated as confidential if such an agreement has not been signed.

I understand that you are required to respond to my request within 20 working days after you receive this email. Please confirm in writing you have received it.

## **Response**

### **Question 1**

The following paragraph is an extract from the Accountability Meeting minutes of the meeting on 8 January 2019 between DHSC and the HTA, referring to the development of a Human Taphonomy Facility (HTF):

#### *7.2 Taphonomy*

*The HTA had received two approaches regarding establishing taphonomy facilities. One approach, was from [redacted] wanting to utilise [redacted] site, the second from someone making a documentary which would involve setting taphonomy facilities up and filming the decomposition over a period of time. Both approaches were at an early stage.*

### **Question 2**

Correspondence in relation to a proposed HTF from 1 January 2019 to 19 March 2019 is included in the attachment to this letter. Please note that whilst this is shared as a single PDF document, it comprises several email chains with some repetition as email chains have branched out.

Redactions have been made to the information provided in order to remove all personal data, using the exemption at s40 FOIA.

Redactions have also been made under s31(1)(g) of FOIA Section 31(1)(g). This provides a qualified exemption for information, the disclosure of which would, or would be likely to, prejudice “the exercise by any public authority of its functions for any of certain specified purposes”. Those specified purposes include the purpose of “ascertaining whether circumstances which would justify regulatory action in pursuance of any enactment exist or may arise”. The HTA’s functions, which are set out in general terms at section 15 of the HT Act, include superintending compliance with requirements under Part 1 of the Act and with Codes of Practice made under the Act. As this is a qualified exemption, the public interest test must be applied to this exemption. This means that, even where the exemption applies, we can rely on it only if the public interest in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

In considering the public interest test, we acknowledge that there is a public interest in knowing whether human taphonomy facilities might be established in the UK and that there is a public interest in the HTA’s remit as a regulator. We also appreciate there is a public interest in the HTA maintaining openness and transparency generally.

On the other hand, there is a strong public interest in ensuring that the HTA is able to fulfil its regulatory functions without prejudice and is able to hold free and frank discussions and give and receive free and frank advice.

We have concluded that the public interest in not disclosing information that identifies the institutions wishing to hold preliminary discussions with us about a potential human taphonomy facility in the UK outweighs the public interest in releasing that information.

**Further information**

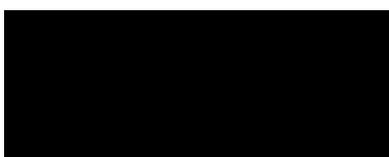
If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45  
Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely



**From:** [Dr Hazel Lofty](#)  
**To:** [Nicolette Harrison](#); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery Meeting  
**Date:** 19 March 2019 16:56:30

---

Hello

I can also do 25<sup>th</sup> April or 2<sup>nd</sup> May – shall we both keep it free and we can take a closer look at our approach once we've [REDACTED]

H



**Dr Hazel Lofty**  
Director of Regulatory Development  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 March 2019 16:48  
**To:** [REDACTED] Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery Meeting

Both,  
If required (ie if you think it would be useful for me to be at the meeting), I could do Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April and probably Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – but I doubt Hazel and I could do Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May as that is the Authority Meeting.

Thanks,

Nicky



**Nicolette Harrison**  
Director of Regulatory Delivery  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Mobile:** [REDACTED]  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 March 2019 13:37  
**To:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]; Nicolette Harrison  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery Meeting

Dear Both

Please see the dates suggested by [REDACTED] below. With bank holidays taken in to consideration, I can do Thursday 25 April, Thursday 2 May (afternoon) and Thursday 9 May.

Which dates would be best for you?

Thanks

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 March 2019 11:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery Meeting

Good morning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Following on from the delayed meeting we were hopeful to have this month, could I propose some additional dates to you so that myself, the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and potentially [REDACTED] could attend to discuss the proposal of the [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery. This will include the proposal for the site, work carried out so far, liaison with potential services required to operate the facility and will provide opportunity for a better understanding of what we hope to achieve for the benefit of the

[REDACTED]

The dates available to the [REDACTED] are as follows:

- 23 Apr 19
- 24 Apr 19
- 25 Apr 19
- 26 Apr 19
- 30 Apr 19
- 2 May 19
- 9 May 19

If there are other dates that you would like to propose that are not listed above, please let me know and I will liaise further to enable the meeting to be facilitated. Once a date is agreed, I will contact others that may be involved directly such as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] direct to invite them in an advisory capacity.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Forensic Cemetery Meeting  
**Date:** 19 March 2019 09:35:36

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Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for the list of dates. I will come back to you when I have everyone's availability here.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 March 2019 11:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] Forensic Cemetery Meeting

Good morning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Following on from the delayed meeting we were hopeful to have this month, could I propose some additional dates to you so that myself, the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and potentially [REDACTED] could attend to discuss the proposal of the [REDACTED]. This will include the proposal for the site, work carried out so far, liaison with potential services required to operate the facility and will provide opportunity for a better understanding of what we hope to achieve for the benefit of the [REDACTED].

The dates available to the [REDACTED] are as follows:

23 Apr 19  
24 Apr 19  
25 Apr 19  
26 Apr 19  
30 Apr 19  
2 May 19  
9 May 19

If there are other dates that you would like to propose that are not listed above, please let me know and I will liaise further to enable the meeting to be facilitated. Once a date is agreed, I will contact others that may be involved directly such as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] direct to invite them in an advisory capacity.

Kind regards



Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 08 March 2019 17:04:11  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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You too



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 March 2019 17:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

[REDACTED]

Of course, take care and have a good weekend.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 March 2019 17:02  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

[REDACTED] I won't be here after the end of March so guess I

will miss this. I have other things I can be doing meanwhile and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. So yes just keep me posted.

BW  
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:**  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 March 2019 16:48  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Apologies! The meeting has been postponed until mid-end of April. I am waiting for [REDACTED] to get back to me regarding the possible dates that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] can do. This will give [REDACTED] more time to collate the information we need to assess what activities will be happening at the facility – I'll keep you posted!

Thanks  
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 March 2019 15:59  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]

What was the latest for a date for meeting with [REDACTED], I can't remember if you mentioned this yesterday? I assume that it is no longer the 12<sup>th</sup>.

BW

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:**  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 February 2019 21:16  
**To:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]  
Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear All

Please see the email from [REDACTED] below. I have not committed to the 12 March, a time or a location for the meeting. I'm inclined to think they should come to us, [REDACTED] did say [REDACTED] would be happy to bring pictures to show us the area, if required... [REDACTED] will contact all relevant interested parties to collate exactly what they wish to do at the site for us to review and any other information we require.

We can discuss further when Hazel is back [REDACTED]. If we agree to the 12 March, or another date, I can then see if [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] is available.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[Redacted]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [Redacted]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [Redacted]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** 15 February 2019 13:55

**To:** [Redacted]

**Cc:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [Redacted],

Following our conversation, I have confirmed that [Redacted] will be available for the 12 Mar 19. Once you have confirmed availability of the other interested parties, I would ask you to confirm if you would like to be hosted here at the [Redacted] or if it would be more appropriate in London.

If coming to you, I would keep the numbers down to no more than 4. I would ask that you provide me with the time slot you would collectively have available and a start time for the meeting.

If there is anything further you would like from me in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** 15 February 2019 10:07

**To:** [Redacted]

**Cc:** [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Dr Hazel Lofty [Redacted]; [Redacted]

[Redacted] Nicolette Harrison [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I have discussed the possibility of a meeting with Hazel Lofty, Director of Regulatory Development. We think it would be beneficial to discuss the exact nature of the activities proposed at the facility, which seem to have quite a scope. This will help us to understand what may be covered under the HT Act 2004, as it stands and for you to provide further information and assurances as stated in my last email.

Hazel and I are both [REDACTED] next week with busy diaries the following week. Can you provide dates that you are available from the week commencing 4 March 2019? It would also be beneficial to invite [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who has provided me with an update based on [REDACTED] visit to the facility last week.

Once I have dates of your availability (and any others that would like to attend), I will arrange the meeting accordingly.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good morning [REDACTED]

I have been researching the HTA guidance to enable me to start the compilation of policies for the site and have identified a number of questions for either discussion or guidance at this early stage.

The site (although early in it's conception) is being established and will be run by [REDACTED] with shared interest / guidance by other parties involved in [REDACTED]

Could I ask if there is scope to visit you or HTA representatives to discuss the subject where I could pose questions and also provide you with a brief on proposed activities within the site having had clarification by the current interested parties (The idea being a combination of research and physical body recovery training). This could bolster what was discussed with [REDACTED] on Thursday last week.

I have liaised with the [REDACTED] and hope to hold a meeting with them this week in order to discuss the feasibility of their services in the venture. I have also had further liaison with the [REDACTED] and have support in principle for a donor programme.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 07 February 2019 10:54

**To:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your emails.

Yes, you are correct [REDACTED]

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



Direct: [REDACTED]  
General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]  
I believe that when [REDACTED] has mentioned 'previous discussions', [REDACTED] is referring to meetings and phone calls that [REDACTED] and I have had with [REDACTED] and others at the HTA, including [REDACTED] and, before them, with [REDACTED]. I believe that [REDACTED] has also spoken briefly about this opportunity with [REDACTED].  
So, I believe that we're all already working together and singing from the same hymn sheet! [REDACTED], please let me know if this is not the case.  
I may be able to help [REDACTED] with answering some of [REDACTED] questions too.  
Thanks very much,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:24

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response. I will allow [REDACTED] to answer some of the specifics as we work this project through with you. You mention **below** "previous discussions" with stakeholders. It would greatly assist us, as fairly new to this project, if you were able to let us know who those previous discussions were with and we can hopefully resurrect them, get them altogether in one room and proceed with this at pace.

[REDACTED] will answer some of your queries and we'll get back to you.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2019 11:26

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. I have copied in [REDACTED], who also emailed on Monday.

I have sent the information you have provided on to the Directors for Regulatory Delivery and Development here at the HTA.

We are considering the information and our regulatory position on human taphonomy within the remit of the Human Tissue Act (HT Act). The HT Act has different provisions for tissue from the living and the deceased, therefore the more clarification you can provide about the activities and the tissue you propose to use and for what purpose, the more helpful it will be for us in considering our position. For example, you mention 'research fields', further information would be required about these activities; has/will any kind of ethical approval been sought? How would the training of human detection dogs work with the taphonomy facility?

From **previous discussions regarding human taphonomy**, a wide range of stakeholders,



supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED] alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED] which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED] supports [REDACTED] delivery; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a [REDACTED] of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED]. Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**This transmission is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you receive it in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and remove it from your system. If the content of this e-mail does not relate to the business of the [REDACTED], then we do not endorse it and will accept no liability.**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 04 March 2019 08:18:41  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Hi [REDACTED],  
Great, thank you for the update. I will also liaise with [REDACTED] to find dates in mid to late April, as I would like to attend as well.  
Thank you again,  
[REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 04/03/2019 07:57 (GMT+00:00)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] called me Thursday last week. Following discussions with Hazel Lofty, Director for Regulatory Development, we have postponed the meeting until mid/end of April to ensure that the relevant people at the HTA are available to attend, as we feel it is important that they are present. I'm sure you can appreciate co-ordinating calendars around existing commitments, workload etc. can be tricky!

The initial agreement was for [REDACTED] and a few of [REDACTED] colleagues to come to the HTA for a meeting, rather than us visit the facility, at this stage. I explained to [REDACTED] that the meeting would primarily be to discuss the proposed activities at the facility, therefore we would require as much detail as possible to assess which activities may be covered by the HT Act 2004, as it stands.

[REDACTED] is liaising with [REDACTED] for suggest dates in mid/late April so I can liaise at the HTA.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Dr Hazel Lofty](#); [Nicolette Harrison](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 01 March 2019 16:53:14  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Hi [REDACTED]

Just to confirm I could do 12<sup>th</sup> March if we meet on that day.

Thanks

[REDACTED]



**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:**  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 February 2019 21:16  
**To:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear All

Please see the email from [REDACTED] below. I have not committed to the 12 March, a time or a location for the meeting. I'm inclined to think they should come to us, [REDACTED] did say [REDACTED] would be happy to bring pictures to show us the area, if required... [REDACTED] will contact all relevant interested parties to collate exactly what they wish to do at the site for us to review and any other information we require.

We can discuss further when Hazel is back [REDACTED]. If we agree to the 12 March, or another date, I can then see if [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] is available.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 15 February 2019 13:55

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Following our conversation, I have confirmed that [REDACTED] will be available for the 12 Mar 19. Once you have confirmed availability of the other interested parties, I would ask you to confirm if you would like to be hosted here at the [REDACTED] or if it would be more appropriate in London.

If coming to you, I would keep the numbers down to no more than 4. I would ask that you provide me with the time slot you would collectively have available and a start time for the meeting.

If there is anything further you would like from me in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 15 February 2019 10:07

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I have discussed the possibility of a meeting with Hazel Lofty, Director of Regulatory Development. We think it would be beneficial to discuss the exact nature of the activities proposed at the facility, which seem to have quite a scope. This will help us to understand what may be covered under the HT Act 2004, as it stands and for you to provide further information and assurances as stated in my last email.

Hazel and I are both [REDACTED] next week with busy diaries the following week. Can you provide dates that you are available from the week commencing 4 March 2019? It would also be beneficial to invite [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who has provided me with an update based on [REDACTED] visit to the facility last week.

Once I have dates of your availability (and any others that would like to attend), I will arrange the meeting accordingly.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good morning [REDACTED]

I have been researching the HTA guidance to enable me to start the compilation of policies for the site and have identified a number of questions for either discussion or guidance at this early stage.

The site (although early in it's conception) is being established and will be run by [REDACTED] with shared interest / guidance by other parties involved in [REDACTED].

Could I ask if there is scope to visit you or HTA representatives to discuss the subject where I could pose questions and also provide you with a brief on proposed activities within the site having had clarification by the current interested parties (The idea being a combination of research and physical body recovery training). This could bolster what was discussed with [REDACTED] on Thursday last week.

I have liaised with the [REDACTED] and hope to hold a meeting with them this week in order to discuss the feasibility of their services in the venture. I have also had further liaison with the [REDACTED] and have support in principle for a donor programme.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 07 February 2019 10:54

**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your emails.

Yes, you are correct [REDACTED]

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



Direct: [REDACTED]  
General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED],  
I believe that when [REDACTED] has mentioned 'previous discussions', [REDACTED] is referring to meetings and phone calls that [REDACTED] and I have had with [REDACTED] and others at the HTA, including [REDACTED] and, before them, with [REDACTED]. I believe that [REDACTED] has also spoken briefly about this opportunity with [REDACTED].  
So, I believe that we're all already working together and singing from the same hymn sheet! [REDACTED], please let me know if this is not the case.  
I may be able to help [REDACTED] with answering some of [REDACTED] questions too.  
Thanks very much,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:24

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for your response. I will allow [REDACTED] to answer some of the specifics as we work this project through with you. You mention **below** "previous discussions" with stakeholders. It would greatly assist us, as fairly new to this project, if you were able to let us know who those previous discussions were with and we can hopefully resurrect them, get them altogether in one room and proceed with this at pace.

[REDACTED] will answer some of your queries and we'll get back to you.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2019 11:26

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. I have copied in [REDACTED], who also emailed on Monday.

I have sent the information you have provided on to the Directors for Regulatory Delivery and Development here at the HTA.

We are considering the information and our regulatory position on human taphonomy within the remit of the Human Tissue Act (HT Act). The HT Act has different provisions for tissue from the living and the deceased, therefore the more clarification you can provide about the activities and the tissue you propose to use and for what purpose, the more helpful it will be for us in considering our position. For example, you mention 'research fields', further information would be required about these activities; has/will any kind of ethical approval been sought? How would the training of human detection dogs work with the taphonomy facility?

From **previous discussions regarding human taphonomy**, a wide range of stakeholders,



supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED] alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED], which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED]; supports [REDACTED] delivery; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a [REDACTED] of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED]. Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 March 2019 11:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]  
I heard from [REDACTED] that you have asked to postpone the meeting down at [REDACTED] until late April? Is this correct? I wondered if it would be easier for us to visit you in London beforehand?  
Thanks very much,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 15/02/2019 10:06 (GMT+00:00)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Dr Hazel Lofty  
[REDACTED] Nicolette  
[REDACTED] Harrison  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I have discussed the possibility of a meeting with Hazel Lofty, Director of Regulatory Development. We think it would be beneficial to discuss the exact nature of the activities proposed at the facility, which seem to have quite a scope. This will help us to understand what may be covered under the HT Act 2004, as it stands and for you to provide further information and assurances as stated in my last email.

Hazel and I are both [REDACTED] next week with busy diaries the following week. Can you provide dates that you are available from the week commencing 4 March 2019? It would also be beneficial to invite [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who has provided me with an update based on [REDACTED] visit to the facility last week.

Once I have dates of your availability (and any others that would like to attend), I will arrange the meeting accordingly.

Best wishes



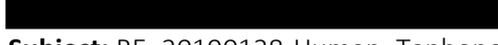
  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:**   
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**Email:**   
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:**   
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 10:54  
**To:**   
**Cc:**   
  
  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good morning ,

I have been researching the HTA guidance to enable me to start the compilation of policies for the site and have identified a number of questions for either discussion or guidance at this early stage.

The site (although early in it's conception) is being established and will be run by  with shared interest / guidance by other parties involved in policing and academia.

Could I ask if there is scope to visit you or HTA representatives to discuss the subject where I could pose questions and also provide you with a brief on proposed activities within the site having had clarification by the current interested parties (The idea being a combination of research and physical body recovery training). This could bolster what was discussed with   on Thursday last week.

I have liaised with the  and hope to hold a meeting with them this week in order to discuss the feasibility of their services in the venture. I have also had further liaison with the  and have support in principle for a donor programme.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 07 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for your emails.

Yes, you are correct [Redacted]

Best wishes

[Redacted]



[Redacted]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [Redacted]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [Redacted]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:32  
**To:** [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [Redacted]

I believe that when [REDACTED] has mentioned 'previous discussions', [REDACTED] is referring to meetings and phone calls that [REDACTED] and I have had with [REDACTED] and others at the HTA, including [REDACTED] and, before them, with [REDACTED]. I believe that [REDACTED] has also spoken briefly about this opportunity with [REDACTED].

So, I believe that we're all already working together and singing from the same hymn sheet! [REDACTED], please let me know if this is not the case.

I may be able to help [REDACTED] with answering some of [REDACTED] questions too.

Thanks very much,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:24

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Laphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for your response. I will allow [REDACTED] to answer some of the specifics as we work this project through with you. You mention **below** "previous discussions" with stakeholders. It would greatly assist us, as fairly new to this project, if you were able to let us know who those previous discussions were with and we can hopefully resurrect them, get them altogether in one room and proceed with this at pace.

[REDACTED] will answer some of your queries and we'll get back to you.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 11:26  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. I have copied in [REDACTED], who also emailed on Monday.

I have sent the information you have provided on to the Directors for Regulatory Delivery and Development here at the HTA.

We are considering the information and our regulatory position on human taphonomy within the remit of the Human Tissue Act (HT Act). The HT Act has different provisions for tissue from the living and the deceased, therefore the more clarification you can provide about the activities and the tissue you propose to use and for what purpose, the more helpful it will be for us in considering our position. For example, you mention 'research fields', further information would be required about these activities; has/will any kind of ethical approval been sought? How would the training of human detection dogs work with the taphonomy facility?

From **previous discussions regarding human taphonomy**, a wide range of stakeholders, [REDACTED] would need to be involved, for example, the [REDACTED]. You stated in your email that there is [REDACTED] support for the facility, it would be helpful if more specific information could be shared.

I'm sure you appreciate, this is a complex area and current human tissue law is not explicit. Are you able to provide any assurance that the activities you are proposing would not be prevented or limited by any other regulator or legislation?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED] has interest from [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a [REDACTED] of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED]. Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  


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please notify us immediately by e-mail and remove it from your system. If the content of this e-mail does not relate to the business of the [REDACTED], then we do not endorse it and will accept no liability.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED].

This transmission is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you receive it in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and remove it from your system. If the content of this e-mail does not relate to the business of the [REDACTED], then we do not endorse it and will accept no liability.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [Dr Hazel Lofty](#);  
[Nicolette Harrison](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 19 February 2019 06:50:54  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Dear [REDACTED],  
Thank you for this. I would very much like to attend this meeting if possible. I am free on Monday 4th March, or possibly Monday 11th March. I look forward to discussing the proposed activities at the site.  
Thank you very much,  
[REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 15/02/2019 10:06 (GMT+00:00)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [Dr Hazel Lofty](#)  
[REDACTED] Nicolette  
[REDACTED] Harrison  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I have discussed the possibility of a meeting with Hazel Lofty, Director of Regulatory Development. We think it would be beneficial to discuss the exact nature of the activities proposed at the facility, which seem to have quite a scope. This will help us to understand what may be covered under the HT Act 2004, as it stands and for you to provide further information and assurances as stated in my last email.

Hazel and I are both [REDACTED] next week with busy diaries the following week. Can you provide dates that you are available from the week commencing 4 March 2019? It would also be beneficial to invite [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who has provided me with an update based on [REDACTED] visit to the facility last week.

Once I have dates of your availability (and any others that would like to attend), I will arrange the meeting accordingly.

Best wishes

█



█  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** █  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** █  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** █  
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** █  
**Cc:** █  
█  
█  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good morning █,

I have been researching the HTA guidance to enable me to start the compilation of policies for the site and have identified a number of questions for either discussion or guidance at this early stage.

The site (although early in it's conception) is being established and will be run by █ with shared interest / guidance by other parties involved in policing and academia.

Could I ask if there is scope to visit you or HTA representatives to discuss the subject where I could pose questions and also provide you with a brief on proposed activities within the site having had clarification by the current interested parties (The idea being a combination of research and physical body recovery training). This could bolster what was discussed with █ on Thursday last week.

I have liaised with the █ and hope to hold a meeting with them this week in order to discuss the feasibility of their services in the venture. I have also had further liaison with the █ and have support in principle for a donor programme.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

█

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 07 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for your emails.

Yes, you are correct [Redacted]

Best wishes

[Redacted]



[Redacted]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [Redacted]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [Redacted]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:32  
**To:** [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [Redacted],  
I believe that when [Redacted] has mentioned 'previous discussions', [Redacted] is referring to meetings and phone calls that [Redacted] and I have had with [Redacted] and others at the HTA, including [Redacted] and, before them, with [Redacted]. I believe that [Redacted] has also spoken briefly about this opportunity with [Redacted].  
So, I believe that we're all already working together and singing from the same hymn sheet! [Redacted], please let me know if this is not the case.  
I may be able to help [Redacted] with answering some of [Redacted] questions too.







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General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2019 17:43  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

I have been asked to get in touch regarding a proposal currently being scoped to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy facility at the [REDACTED]. While I understand there may be some early information pertain to this already, this email formally seeks to establish contact with HTA in order to progress scoping work and determine next steps.

**Executive Summary.** A joint venture is being explored to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy Facility at the [REDACTED]. Primary stakeholders consist of [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED].

**Background.** The practical application of forensic science in supporting [REDACTED] is a significant international growth area, contributing widely to [REDACTED], as well as directly benefiting [REDACTED] by supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED], alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED], which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED]; supports [REDACTED]; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a primary [REDACTED] user of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED].

Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 11 February 2019 11:53:08  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

---

That's good for me.

Thanks

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:**

**General:** 020 7269 1900

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 11:42  
**To:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

FYI

Can I suggest we have a catch-up about this on Thursday afternoon? I will also have an update from [REDACTED] too by then, hopefully.

It might be that a meeting to discuss the activities they wish to propose would be helpful for us to assess what we may be able to licence, or not, but make it clear that would be the purpose of the meeting.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Human Tissue Authority



Direct: [redacted]  
General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [redacted]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 11 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good morning [redacted],

I have been researching the HTA guidance to enable me to start the compilation of policies for the site and have identified a number of questions for either discussion or guidance at this early stage.

The site (although early in it's conception) is being established and will be run by [redacted] with shared interest / guidance by other parties involved in policing and academia.

Could I ask if there is scope to visit you or HTA representatives to discuss the subject where I could pose questions and also provide you with a brief on proposed activities within the site having had clarification by the current interested parties (The idea being a combination of research and physical body recovery training). This could bolster what was discussed with [redacted] on Thursday last week.

I have liaised with the [redacted] and hope to hold a meeting with them this week in order to discuss the feasibility of their services in the venture. I have also had further liaison with the [redacted] and have support in principle for a donor programme.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]  
[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 February 2019 10:54  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your emails.

Yes, you are correct [REDACTED]

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED],  
I believe that when [REDACTED] has mentioned 'previous discussions', [REDACTED] is referring to meetings and phone calls that [REDACTED] and I have had with [REDACTED] and others at the HTA, including [REDACTED] and, before them, with [REDACTED]. I believe that [REDACTED] has also spoken briefly about this opportunity with [REDACTED].  
So, I believe that we're all already working together and singing from the same hymn sheet! [REDACTED], please let me know if this is not the case.  
I may be able to help [REDACTED] with answering some of [REDACTED] questions too.  
Thanks very much,  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 16:24  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for your response. I will allow [REDACTED] to answer some of the specifics as we work this project through with you. You mention **below** "previous discussions" with stakeholders. It would greatly assist us, as fairly new to this project, if you were able to let us know who those previous discussions were with and we can hopefully resurrect them, get them altogether in one room and proceed with this at pace.

[REDACTED] will answer some of your queries and we'll get back to you.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 11:26  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. I have copied in [REDACTED], who also emailed on Monday.

I have sent the information you have provided on to the Directors for Regulatory Delivery and Development here at the HTA.

We are considering the information and our regulatory position on human taphonomy within the remit of the Human Tissue Act (HT Act). The HT Act has different provisions for tissue from the living and the deceased, therefore the more clarification you can provide about the activities and the tissue you propose to use and for what purpose, the more helpful it will be for us in considering our position. For example, you mention 'research fields', further information would be required about these activities; has/will any kind of ethical approval been sought? How would the training of human detection dogs work with the taphonomy facility?

From **previous discussions regarding human taphonomy**, a wide range of stakeholders, [REDACTED] would need to be involved, for example, the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] You stated in your email that there is [REDACTED] support for the facility, it would be helpful if more specific information could be shared.

I'm sure you appreciate, this is a complex area and current human tissue law is not explicit. Are you able to provide any assurance that the activities you are proposing would not be prevented or limited by any other regulator or legislation?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**

[REDACTED]

**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 28 January 2019 17:43

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

I have been asked to get in touch regarding a proposal currently being scoped to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy facility at the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] While I understand there may be some early information pertain to this already, this email formally seeks to establish contact with HTA in order to progress scoping work and determine next steps.

**Executive Summary.** A joint venture is being explored to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy Facility at the [REDACTED]. Primary stakeholders consist of [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED]

**Background.** The practical application of forensic science in supporting [REDACTED] is a significant international growth area, contributing widely to [REDACTED], as well as directly benefiting [REDACTED] by supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED], alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED], which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED]; supports [REDACTED]; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a primary [REDACTED] user of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED]. Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the

initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

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This email and any file transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual to whom they are addressed. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your computer.

[REDACTED]

This transmission is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you receive it in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and remove it from your system. If the content of this e-mail does not relate to the business of the [REDACTED], then we do not endorse it and will accept no liability.

**From:** [Dr Hazel Lofty](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 05 February 2019 19:56:42

---

Hi [REDACTED]

I think this is on the right lines – we may want to add that the HT Act has different provisions for living and deceased, so the more clarity they can provide on exactly what they want to do the better. We are looking into it, but it's a complex area and the human tissue law is not explicit.

I think other points to consider:

- [REDACTED] mentions associated research fields – is there any further detail on this research and whether it would involve human tissue at this site?
- Would training the police dogs be at the same site, and how do they see this working with the taphonomy facility?
- What support from [REDACTED] do they have?
- Does this site already hold any HTA licences?
- Have they sought any kind of ethical approval?

We know from previous discussions that a wide range of stakeholders and regulatory bodies would need to be involved – do we know if [REDACTED] has contacted them about the [REDACTED] position on exhumation for instance? Given that the position on this under the Act is not clear cut, we would appreciate knowing whether there were any 'showstoppers' from other agencies (there is a better way of phrasing that I'm sure!).

[REDACTED]

Give me a call tomorrow if you want to discuss,

H



**Dr Hazel Lofty**  
Director of Regulatory Development  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 February 2019 12:05  
**To:** Dr Hazel Lofty [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] response

Hi Hazel

Please see my drafted response below. It's a bit brief! I'll catch-up with you next week [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I have sent the information you have provided on to the Directors for Regulatory Delivery and Development here at the HTA.

We are considering the information and our regulatory position on human taphonomy within the remit of the Human Tissue Act. There is other legislation which may also need to be considered, which we would not be able to advise on but you may wish to explore further.

We understand that you continue to engage with interested parties and we would be interested if there any further developments

Kind regards

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans  
**Date:** 04 February 2019 14:57:28

---

Dear [REDACTED],

I understand that you have received information from [REDACTED] about the Forensic Cemetery plans at [REDACTED], and as there is a small meeting happening there on Thursday, I was hoping that we might have something to report back from you at that meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2019 09:04  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Thanks [REDACTED]

I will liaise with the Directors once the information is received and feed back to you and [REDACTED].

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



Direct: [REDACTED]  
General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2019 08:40  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Good morning [REDACTED],

I will be having a meeting with the [REDACTED] today and will request what may be disclosed in order to progress discussion with yourselves and as soon as guidance is provided I will email you.

The offer to visit the facility remains and we will be happy to host.

I hope to be able to update you by the end of the week.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2019 08:38  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your offer to visit the facility.

I would still like to request that the details of the proposed plan is submitted in the first instance, to aid our discussions here at the HTA. Are you able to send the minutes of the meeting in December, as you suggested?

Best wishes



Dear [REDACTED]

Happy New Year too, although a little late now!

Thank you for your emails. Apologies for not being able to respond to you sooner. I was [REDACTED] over Christmas and New Year.

On return [REDACTED], I discussed the information you provided in your email and your request for a meeting, with the Director of Regulatory Delivery, Nicolette Harrison and the Director of Regulatory Development, Dr Hazel Lofty. They have requested further information/detail, including how likely it would be that the facility would become operational and what are the timescales, before a meeting would be considered.

[REDACTED] called me this morning and was able to give a lot of detail in relation to the plans, support and funding for the proposed facility. I have asked [REDACTED] to send this information on to me in writing for review with Nicolette and Hazel. I understand there is a minuted meeting from December 2018, that outlines the information requested; [REDACTED] is hoping the minutes can be shared with us.

Once we have received and reviewed the information, I will be in touch.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**

[REDACTED]

**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 January 2019 10:44  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED],

Happy New Year! I hope you had a nice break.

I just wanted to chase up on this email I send just before Christmas. Would [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and I (and possibly someone from

[REDACTED] ) be able to come and visit you in late January or February to discuss our plans for a Forensic Cemetery?

Thank you very much. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 19 December 2018 13:34

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you very much for your email.

As mentioned to [REDACTED] on the phone [REDACTED] we have now found a [REDACTED] site on which to house the facility and a [REDACTED] keen to support it, and there are definite plans to proceed with setting up a facility. With this in mind, I was hoping that [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and I could come and visit you in the new year to discuss aspects of setting it up such as security requirements, donor consent and potential for HTA regulation. The sooner the better, ideally - would you have any time free in January or early February?

Thank you very much, and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 18 December 2018 16:01  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your phone call and speaking with [Redacted] on the telephone last week and informing us about the development of plans for a UK taphonomy facility.

I understand from [Redacted] that [Redacted] has explained some of the role and structural changes here at the HTA since your last contact with us. My name is [Redacted], I am currently the [Redacted] [Redacted] sectors. I am aware of the contact you have had with the HTA previously regarding human taphonomy as I was a [Redacted] within the [Redacted] [Redacted] when [Redacted] was [Redacted]. Unfortunately, when you called last week, I was out of the office on inspection.

It would be helpful if you could provide me with further information/details about the plans for the facility and any timescales you have on this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
**Human Tissue Authority**

[Redacted]

**Direct:** [Redacted]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** [Redacted]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

[Redacted]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Richard Sydee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 01 February 2019 09:16:13  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

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Hi Richard

As discussed yesterday.

I have found out this morning that [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED], will be visiting the site next week, who will update me following the visit.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2019 17:43  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

I have been asked to get in touch regarding a proposal currently being scoped to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy facility at [REDACTED]. While I understand there may be some early information pertain to this already, this email formally seeks to establish contact with HTA in order to progress scoping work and determine next steps.

**Executive Summary.** A joint venture is being explored to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy Facility at the [REDACTED]. Primary stakeholders consist of [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED].

**Background.** The practical application of forensic science in supporting [REDACTED] is a significant international growth area, contributing widely to [REDACTED] as well as directly benefiting [REDACTED] by supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has

interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED] alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED], which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED]; supports [REDACTED] delivery; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a primary [REDACTED] user of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED]. Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [Nicolette Harrison](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED] [Dr Hazel Lofty](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS  
**Date:** 29 January 2019 09:27:24  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

Interesting.

Thanks,

Nicky



**Nicolette Harrison**  
Director of Regulatory Delivery  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Mobile:** [REDACTED]  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2019 09:22  
**To:** Nicolette Harrison [REDACTED] Dr Hazel Lofty  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Hi Both

Please see the email below regarding the [REDACTED] taphonomy facility.

Hazel – we can discuss this afternoon in our catch-up.

Interestingly, [REDACTED] states they have support of the [REDACTED] .... Something to pick up with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] tomorrow afternoon!

Thanks

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



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General: 020 7269 1900  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Web: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2019 17:43  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 20190128-Human\_Taphonomy\_Facility\_Scoping\_Proposal-OS

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

I have been asked to get in touch regarding a proposal currently being scoped to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy facility at the [REDACTED]. While I understand there may be some early information pertain to this already, this email formally seeks to establish contact with HTA in order to progress scoping work and determine next steps.

**Executive Summary.** A joint venture is being explored to establish the UK's first Human Taphonomy Facility at the [REDACTED]. Primary stakeholders consist of [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED].

**Background.** The practical application of forensic science in supporting [REDACTED] is a significant international growth area, contributing widely to [REDACTED], as well as directly benefiting [REDACTED] by supporting and combatting the conduct of [REDACTED]. Such a facility would not only allow the UK to become an international leader in CSI techniques, it has enormous potential for associated research fields, including: medicine (the study of human conditions such as cancer, diabetes, effect of smoking, diet, drugs, etc.), pathology, entomology, ecology, chemistry, geology, archaeology. It would also allow training of Human Detection Dogs. It will facilitate national and international joint training of police, military and forensic students and lead academic research, potentially generating financial and intellectual reward for the UK. This project will place [REDACTED] at the forefront of this innovative field, which has interest and support from [REDACTED]. Benefits to [REDACTED] and wider [REDACTED] partners are numerous. This proposal sees the creation of the facility on the [REDACTED], alongside and extending, the current [REDACTED], which will then be supported by other partners. This proposal has garnered [REDACTED] support from [REDACTED] supports [REDACTED] delivery; has interest from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as potential future partners and has already been confirmed as the most suitable location for the establishment of this facility. [REDACTED] will be a primary [REDACTED] user of the facility, with significant scope for scientific research and testing to be conducted. Discussions with academic partners is ongoing but [REDACTED] have submitted a business case and expression of interest to [REDACTED].

Several [REDACTED] have already been exposed to the outline plan and are extremely keen to make use of the facility.

**Outline Plan.** It is expected that the facility will begin initial operations in late 2019, once initial infrastructure work is complete, with the aspiration to be fully operational by Apr 2020. Initial operational capability (IOC) is considered to be the initial controlled burial of small human tissue samples extending to cadavers once Full Operational Capability (FOC) is reached. The scope of initial infrastructure works includes re-constitution of the [REDACTED] external perimeter fence and installation of fence monitoring systems, the construction of technical accommodation (laboratory, tissue holding and refrigeration facility and office space), and preparation of the ground and burial areas. The site would include areas of different soil types, water features and 'biosphere' domes in which microcosm climates could be maintained.

May I now seek for this to be initially considered by HTA and information provided on the way ahead regarding licencing, regulation and governance requirements.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans  
**Date:** 16 January 2019 09:04:07

---

Thanks [REDACTED]

I will liaise with the Directors once the information is received and feed back to you and [REDACTED]

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2019 08:40  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Good morning [REDACTED],

I will be having a meeting with the [REDACTED] today and will request what may be disclosed in order to progress discussion with yourselves and as soon as guidance is provided I will email you.

The offer to visit the facility remains and we will be happy to host.

I hope to be able to update you by the end of the week.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2019 08:38  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your offer to visit the facility.

I would still like to request that the details of the proposed plan is submitted in the first instance, to aid our discussions here at the HTA. Are you able to send the minutes of the meeting in December, as you suggested?

Best wishes

█



█  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** █  
**General:** 020 7269 1900  
**Email:** █  
**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** █

**Sent:** 15 January 2019 14:58

**To:** █

**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Good afternoon █,

I have spoken to my █ since our call and █ has suggested you and your colleagues from HTA be invited to the site for a tour of the facility and to be briefed on the proposed plan. This is in anticipation of further meetings that will be held in the interim within the █ arena.

If this is something that is agreeable to you, then I would ask you to liaise with your colleagues for suitable dates so that we can find a mutually agreeable time.

█, you are of course invited to the meeting during which we could discuss further requirements and guidance.

Kind regards

█

█  
█ █ █  
█

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 January 2019 13:11  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED]

Happy New Year too, although a little late now!

Thank you for your emails. Apologies for not being able to respond to you sooner. I was [REDACTED] over Christmas and New Year.

On return [REDACTED] I discussed the information you provided in your email and your request for a meeting, with the Director of Regulatory Delivery, Nicolette Harrison and the Director of Regulatory Development, Dr Hazel Lofty. They have requested further information/detail, including how likely it would be that the facility would become operational and what are the timescales, before a meeting would be considered.

[REDACTED] called me this morning and was able to give a lot of detail in relation to the plans, support and funding for the proposed facility. I have asked [REDACTED] to send this information on to me in writing for review with Nicolette and Hazel. I understand there is a minuted meeting from December 2018, that outlines the information requested; [REDACTED] is hoping the minutes can be shared with us.

Once we have received and reviewed the information, I will be in touch.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



**Direct:** [REDACTED]  
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**Web:** [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SZ

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 January 2019 10:44  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED],

Happy New Year! I hope you had a nice break.

I just wanted to chase up on this email I send just before Christmas. Would [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and I (and possibly someone from [REDACTED]) be able to come and visit you in late January or February to discuss our plans for a Forensic Cemetery?

Thank you very much. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 19 December 2018 13:34

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you very much for your email.

As mentioned to [REDACTED] on the phone [REDACTED] we have now found a [REDACTED] site on which to house the facility and a [REDACTED] keen to support it, and there are definite plans to proceed with setting up a facility. With this in mind, I was hoping that [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] and I could come and visit you in the new year to discuss aspects of setting it up such as security requirements, donor consent and potential for HTA regulation. The sooner the better, ideally - would you have any time free in January or early February?

Thank you very much, and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 18 December 2018 16:01  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Human taphonomy facility plans

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your phone call and speaking with [Redacted] on the telephone last week and informing us about the development of plans for a UK taphonomy facility.

I understand from [Redacted] that [Redacted] has explained some of the role and structural changes here at the HTA since your last contact with us. My name is [Redacted], I am currently the [Redacted] [Redacted] sectors. I am aware of the contact you have had with the HTA previously regarding human taphonomy as I was a [Redacted] within the [Redacted] [Redacted] when [Redacted] was [Redacted]. Unfortunately, when you called last week, I was out of the office on inspection.

It would be helpful if you could provide me with further information/details about the plans for the facility and any timescales you have on this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

[Redacted]



[Redacted]  
**Human Tissue Authority**



Direct: [REDACTED]  
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