[redacted]

no action needs to be taken (e.g. some outside walkways). There remain some greay areas where the degree of risk is currently impossible to determine. The options here either to incinerate, or to get further information which will allow confidence that some (probably most) of this will actually be minimal/zero risk and will not need to destroyed.

6. It was agreed that to clean all potentially contaminated areas through removal and incineration would be an extreme approach.
7. In the absence of time or capacity to assess whether a particular garment or belonging is potentially contaminated, complete incineration would be the safest option.
8. However as the agent is currently contained as far as we know, it is more logical to take time to gather information about possible areas of contamination which we are uncertain about, in order to make an informed decision on the most appropriate decontamination method. **Public health will always be protected and remain the overriding priority.**
9. SAGE reaffirmed that the reason SAGE gave the advice for individuals to bag their clothes and belongings that could not be washed was so that the risk of contamination remained low (zero if properly bagged), and that property was not unnecessarily destroyed.
10. It was noted that it is not realistically possible (or appropriate) to swab all clothes that individuals may have currently bagged, [redacted] It is unlikely we will have sufficient information to undertake a detailed risk assessment for individual items. Therefore delaying giving further advice will not lead to better decisions on clothes.
11. It was also noted that if individuals were to destroy their property as a precautionary method, this would need to be completed by incineration at adequate temperatures.
12. **SAGE agreed that:**
    a. **The risk of these items being contaminated remains low**
    b. **The risk of these items posing a risk to public health whilst contained within double bags remains very low, and in most cases is zero**
    c. **We do not think that we will receive any more scientific evidence that will improve our certainty of the situation**
13. **SAGE agreed that as a precautionary measure, the belongings should be decontaminated either via:**
    a. **Individuals giving the bags to Dstl or others for collection and incineration**
    b. **Individuals washing their belongings according to the current guidelines. This requires washing clothes in a washing machine within the usual way (including clothes that would usually be dry cleaned), and washing property that cannot go into a washing machine with a baby wipe and then disposing of this in household waste.**
    c. **It was noted that the bags in which belongings have been kept should be disposed of through usual household waste.**
14. It was noted that SAGE does not have the expertise to give behavioural advice, and therefore any communications messages should be coordinated with behavioural scientists [redacted] and [redacted]
15. In other areas of potential contamination we will get better data, so decisions on incineration should be delayed; we can then move them based on better data into either incinerate, or not.

Guidance on levels of decontamination

(Reference 20180309Op WEDANA/FAIRLANE - Options Paper for Hazard Managements of Assets and Scene, ver 5 rev(5)

16. The joint Dstl/HO paper was discussed, and it was noted that Defra need to understand the limits of detection in the recovery phase.

[redacted]