



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

London Fire Brigade Headquarters  
169 Union Street London SE1 0LL  
T 020 8555 1200 F 020 7960 3602  
Textphone 020 7960 3629  
london-fire.gov.uk

**Freedom of Information request reference number:** 6655.1

**Date of response:** 22/07/2022

**Request:**

Since October, City Hall has [released figures each month](#) saying how many buildings in Southwark need waking watches or other interim fire safety measures. The stats are as follows:

Month	Over 18m	Under 18m	Total
October 21	60	22	82
November 21	57	22	79
December 21	55	22	77
January 22	55	22	77
February 22	78	24	102
March 22	78	24	102
April 22	73	24	97
May 22	72	22	94
June 22	76	22	98

*If possible, I would like to get some more in-depth information on this.*

FOI:

*Please could tell me:*

- *The names of every building that was included in the figure for every month from October 2021 to June 2022?*
- *The names of every building that feature in both the October 2021 list and the June 2022 list?*

**Response:**

In response, our Fire Safety Regulatory team have confirmed they hold the information you have requested however, this information is exempt from disclosure under [section 38\(1\)\(b\) of the FOIA](#) – Health and Safety.

We believe the release of the names of these buildings would endanger the safety of people resident in the buildings concerned; there are concerns that the names of buildings needing waking watches or other interim fire safety measures in residential use could be used by those with malicious intent (such as terrorists or arsonists) to attack or otherwise compromise the safety of these buildings and their residents.

Section 38 is a qualified exemption, and I must consider the public interests for and against disclosure. We clearly understand that there is public interest and concern about knowing about the fire safety of the buildings in which people live, work or visit. Releasing a full list of properties identified by name and location, that are known to be vulnerable to the effects of a fire or would be useful intelligence and assistance to a terrorist group (or similar, should they be contemplating an attack on a residential building) could compromise the safety of these buildings and their residents. I am therefore of the view that it is in the public interest not to disclose the information you have requested.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request [on our website](#).