

Freedom of Information request reference number: 6756.1

Date of response: 22/08/2022

Request:

Please supply me with data relating to fires on balconies on residential buildings in your area:

- 1. How many fires involving balconies occurred in total between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022?*
- 2. In the same period, how many fires occurred where balconies were found to have contributed to the spread of the fire across the external walls?*
- 3. Provide data on the causes of any fires that started on balconies during the period (i.e. barbecue, discarded cigarette, electrical appliance fault, etc) and include the number of occurrences for each cause.*

Response:

1. Between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022 there were 163 dwelling fires recorded that started on balconies.
2. During the same period, there were 2 fires recorded that referenced the words '*balcony*' or '*balconies*' as the item responsible for the spread of the fire.
3. The table below shows the causes of any fires that started on balconies on residential buildings during the same period (i.e. barbecue, discarded cigarette, electrical appliance fault, etc) and the number of occurrences for each cause:

Parent Ignition Source	Number of fires
Cooking appliance	6
Electric lighting	1
Electricity supply	1
Fuel/Chemical	1
Matches and candles	13
Naked flame	7
NULL	23
Other domestic style appliance	3
Smoking related	107
Vehicles only	1
Grand total	163

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: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>