

Freedom of Information request reference number: 6938.1

Date of response: 21/10/2022

Request: Freedom of Information request - Did Just Stop Oil Protestors Block a Fire Engine in Knightsbridge on 11th October 2022.

The Daily Mail have recently made claims that Just Stop Oil protestors 'cause [fire engine responding to an emergency to be blocked', which you can see on the link below, also link to screen cap of the webpage included in the event that it is edited or removed. Would you be so kind as to confirm if there were any reports logged of disruption to the London London Fire Brigade in relation to the 'Demonstration at junction of Knightsbridge and Brompton Road began at 10am and involved 32 activists' on 11th October 2022. It might also be helpful to know if there was any reported disruption from Just Stop Oil activists in relation to any of their demonstrations in London so far this October, however if that would be costly or tedious to find out please disregard this part of the request.

Response:

We do not record if attending vehicles are held up by protestors so do not hold the specific information you have requested.

However, our Comms team were made aware of one roadblock on 11 October (it is not recorded if protests were the cause of the roadblock) and provided some information to the Press about this as follows: *"Crews were on their way to an automatic fire alarm sounding on Foley Street in Fitzrovia. Five fire engines were sent to the scene, with an appliance from Soho Fire Station the first to arrive. Firefighters investigated and found no fire. An appliance from Kensington Fire Station was temporarily stopped by a roadblock and arrived within 14 minutes of being called. We work closely with our local authority and emergency service partners whenever there are road closure proposals to minimise impact on our service. However, given the nature of the event crews had no prior warning of the roadblock."*

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/>