

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: 7115.1

Date of response: 05 January 2022

Request:

I wish to receive all fire investigation reports from the past 5 years on any accidental (non-deliberate), residential dwelling fires involving at least one fatality in your authority area. I would like this information in the form of fire investigation reports with any sensitive information (names/addresses) redacted.

I am reviewing national fire statistics to identify general trends that can be found in accidental fire fatalities.

Response:

Fire reports are not available under the freedom of information act (FOIA) as they are considered a chargeable service and, as such, will incur a fee. As a result they are exempt via Section 21 of the FOIA - Information accessible to applicant by other means. Regrettably this means we cannot provide you with a copy of any fatal fire reports (or the information held within them) without payment.

Individuals and organisations affected by an incident that was attended by London Fire Brigade since 2001 can request a 'fire report' which, for fires that involve buildings, vehicles, or those that cause injuries, provides more details about the incident and the cause of the fire where known.

If you do want to go ahead and request a copy of any fire reports, I must also advise that you may not be eligible to receive a copy. However, if any eligible party (such as the owner/a tenant/local borough council/insurance firm or loss adjustor) requests the primary fire report document, and is willing to share it with you, then we would be able to provide consent for them to do this.

Please also note that we would also require written permission from the relevant Coroner's office to release any information to eligible parties about fatal fires.

Further information about how to obtain a LFB incident report is published on our website and can be accessed through the following link: https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/services-and-facilities/services-we-offer/incident-reports/

The LFB publish a range of statistical data about fire deaths in London via the <u>London Datastore</u>. This published information includes a time series of data back to 1966, data for fire deaths by London borough, where people die, what causes the fires where people die, plus ethnicity and gender data about those who die in fires. The information can be accessed using the following link:

https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/fire-facts--fire-deaths-in-greater-london

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.