



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

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**Freedom of Information request reference number:** 8249.1

**Date of response:** 26 January 2024

**Request:**

*I am writing to request some information under the Freedom of Information Act in relation to the rescue of a "bariatric person". I understand that in April 2012 a new category relating to obese people was created for your incident reporting systems.*

- Could you please tell me how many call outs you received to move Bariatric or obese people from their homes or to rescue them during the following calendar years: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019?*
- Would it be possible to reveal whether you were called to assist the ambulance service or the police, or whether you received a call directly from the person's home?*
- Would you be able to list the gender of the people you moved?*
- Where possible – could you please reveal the age of the youngest and oldest person that you would called to assist?*

**Response:**

Please see my response to your queries below:

- Could you please tell me how many call outs you received to move Bariatric or obese people from their homes or to rescue them during the following calendar years: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019?*
- Would it be possible to reveal whether you were called to assist the ambulance service or the police, or whether you received a call directly from the person's home?*

For you first two questions, this information is published online in the 'Bariatric incidents attended by LFB' dataset that we publish via the [London Datastore](https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/bariatric-incidents-attended-by-lfb). The information can be accessed via the following link:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/bariatric-incidents-attended-by-lfb>

If you download the 'Bariatric incidents attended by LFB from Jan 2009' file, you can filter by specific years using column A, 'CalYear' and we record if we were called out to assist other agencies in column K, 'SpecialServiceTypeCategory' and column L, 'SpecialServiceType'.

- Would you be able to list the gender of the people you moved?*
- Where possible – could you please reveal the age of the youngest and oldest person that you would called to assist?*

We do not hold this information for all of the incidents attended as we do not have to record any information about the individuals assisted in these special service incidents.

Very occasionally, the Officer in Charge (OIC) may reference further information about an individual involved in the stop message the OIC transmits to LFB Control at the end of the incident. This is a free text box and might occasionally include brief details on gender and/or age, such as:

"LAS ON SCENE 74 YEAR OLD" or "ASSIST LAS WITH DIFFICULT EXTRICATION 48 YEAR OLD FEMALE"

However, typically, the message may not reference an individual at all and could just reference equipment used or a very brief summary of the incident such as:

*"JOINT RESCUE - USM X 5 PA X 2 FRU X 2 \*\*LINE OPS LEVEL 2\*\*" or "ASSIST LAS WITH BARIATRIC PATIENT"*

To search this free text field for any mention of gender or age would be difficult, for example extracting any reference to numbers that specifically relate to age rather than types of equipment from the free text would not be possible. Similarly, if references to gender were written as "M" or "F" then a search would likely also pick up any words that include the letter 'M' or 'F' so would likely not provide any useful results.

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](#).