

Freedom of Information request reference number: 8079.1

Date of response: 18 November 2023

Request:

The number of fires between October 2022 and October 2023 reported and/or extinguished within the Tower Hamlets local authority that were related to overcrowding in residential properties. I define these cases as:

- fires in overcrowded flats or homes
- fires related to high density neighbourhoods with intergenerational families residing in the same home
- fires in properties where landlords have illegally housed more tenants than is legally permissible
- (please advise what the permissible number actually is, and how it is calculated)
- fires in overcrowded council blocks

I define fires to include calls made to the fire department and fires that were easily extinguished. It is not necessary for there to have been a loss of property or life.

Response:

We do not record the following property types on our incident management system (IMS):

"overcrowded flats or homes", "high density neighbourhoods with intergenerational families residing in the same home", "properties where landlords have illegally housed more tenants than is legally permissible" or "overcrowded council blocks"

As such, we do not hold the information you have requested.

We do record property types of 'Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - Up to 2 storeys' and 'Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys'

Between October 2022 and October 2023, we have a record of attending one fire in an 'Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys' in Tower Hamlets (LFB incident number 084942-12062023).

Further details recorded for the full list of incidents attended by the LFB is published via the London DataStore and can be accessed via this link: <u>https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-fire-brigade-incident-records</u>. If you download the '*LFB Incident data - last three years*' spreadsheet you look up the number of incidents fire incidents attended in Tower Hamlets by filtering the following columns:

Column reference	IMS Category	Description
С	CalYear	Year of 999 call
F	IncidentGroup	High level incident category
G	StopCodeDescription	Detailed incident category
I	PropertyCategory	High level property descriptor
J	PropertyType	Detailed property descriptor
Q	IncGeo_BoroughName	Borough Name

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 <u>on our website</u>.