

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2025/00403

Date of request: 22nd April

Request:

I'm writing to request data under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the enforcement of emergency lighting regulations across UK organisations for the last 3 years between the period of April 2022 to March 2025?

Specifically, I would like to request the following information:

1. The number of public sector organisations and private businesses found to be in violation of emergency lighting requirements, under the Building Regulations and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Please provide details of the nature of the violations.
2. The number of statutory notices, fines, or prosecutions issued for non-compliance with emergency lighting regulations, with details of:
 - o Whether the entity was a public sector organisation or private business.
 - o The industry sector (e.g., healthcare, hospitality, education, retail) of the organisation.
3. The monetary value of fine issued for emergency lighting-related breaches for each organisation or business.

Please see the example table below which may assist you in providing the data I am looking for:

Name of Fire Authority	Year	Entity Type (Public/Private)	Organisation/Business location (no exact address required)	Industry Sector	Type of Violation	Statutory Notice Issued (Y/N)	Fine Issued (Y/N)	Prosecution (Y/N)	Fine Amount (£)	Notes
XX	2022-2023	Private	XX	Retail	Failed to install emergency lighting in escape route	Y				
	Y	N							£1,200	

Response:

In response to the above, our Fire Safety Regulatory team have confirmed this information is not recorded in a way that can be easily downloaded. If there are any violations such as the emergency lighting, these will be listed on the Fire Safety audit reports for that building.

To gather this data, we would need to manually check each audit report for any mention of emergency lighting.

The only way to identify any case where buildings were in violation of emergency lighting would exceed the relevant time limit set out under the FOIA. This 'fees limit' is calculated by taking the cost limit appropriate to the Brigade (i.e. £450) divided by the standard rate at which a local authority (including the Brigade) can charge for this work (£25 an hour). This equates to 18 hours.

Using an average of 5 minutes for each audit report for the years 2022-2025 (16202+ cases), it will take 1350 hours (5 minutes times 16202 audit reports, divided by 60 minutes equals 1350 hours) to review all of the relevant records. I therefore confirm that the cost of providing the information you have requested is in the cost range of £33,754 which is greater than the "appropriate limit" of £450 as defined the FOIA fee regulations. In setting this out in full this now serves as a formal 'refusal notice' under

[section 12 of the FOIA](#). If the cost exceeds the appropriate limit to comply with a request, a public authority is not obliged to comply with it.

The Home office provides data which covers a wide range of information from all FRS on audits and prosecutions which you can find here under table 1204 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables#workforce-and-workforce-diversity>

You will need to filter for the data you are looking for such as area. Emergency lighting falls under Article 14 but this also covers routes and exits so may not mean they have failed just on lighting. It could be household rubbish or chair blocking exit etc.

I am sorry we have not been able to provide you with the information you have requested. If you are able to further refine your request, please let us know.

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/aboutus/transparency/request-information-from-us/>