

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00889

Date of request: 29th July 2026

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information relating to fires in flats attended by the London Fire Brigade for the period 1 January 2023 to the date this request is processed.

Please provide:

1. The total number of fires in flats, broken down by calendar year.
2. A breakdown of these incidents by London borough.
3. The total number of injuries and fatalities resulting from these fires, broken down by calendar year.
4. Where recorded, the most common cause of these fires.

I would prefer to receive the information in spreadsheet format where possible.

Response:

Further to your request, please see below for data on fires in flats attended by LFB between 1st January 2023 to 10th August 2026.

***Table A:** Number of fires in flats broken down by borough & calendar year*

Row Labels	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Barking And Dagenham	34	44	64	29	171
Barnet	113	89	83	73	358
Bexley	39	41	43	31	154
Brent	106	120	119	71	416
Bromley	62	55	57	37	211
Camden	126	110	128	107	471
City Of London	3	5	6	4	18
Croydon	112	120	106	82	420
Ealing	80	95	95	54	324
Enfield	80	62	64	36	242
Greenwich	92	92	100	66	350
Hackney	150	136	156	108	550
Hammersmith And Fulham	82	84	98	59	323
Haringey	115	96	121	80	412
Harrow	36	36	52	23	147

Havering	33	47	47	21	148
Hillingdon	45	51	43	20	159
Hounslow	67	63	75	49	254
Islington	127	127	120	85	459
Kensington And Chelsea	76	60	84	47	267
Kingston Upon Thames	29	34	26	16	105
Lambeth	143	152	150	72	517
Lewisham	115	138	127	82	462
Merton	42	28	34	18	122
Newham	118	101	110	64	393
Redbridge	42	52	58	33	185
Richmond Upon Thames	31	38	32	17	118
Southwark	192	213	173	107	685
Sutton	52	54	57	23	186
Tower Hamlets	187	174	154	90	605
Waltham Forest	67	75	76	41	259
Wandsworth	133	117	120	66	436
Westminster	152	147	184	87	570
Grand Total	2881	2856	2962	1798	10497

Table B: Number of injuries and fatalities resulting from these fires, broken down by calendar year.

Row Labels	Incidents	Injuries	Fatalities
2023	2881	424	18
2024	2856	458	13
2025	2962	422	12
2026	1798	252	5
Grand Total	10497	1556	48

Table C: Main causes of fires in flats broken down by calendar year

Main Cause	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Accumulation of flammable material	45	42	55	29	171
Bomb/incendiary device	2	0	3	2	7
Bonfire going out of control	6	9	14	8	37
Chimney fire	2	3	3	0	8
Combustible articles too close to heat source (or fire)	283	322	357	183	1145
Cooking – chip pan/deep fat fryer	143	177	137	107	564
Cooking – other cooking	722	728	714	426	2590
Fault in equipment or appliance	319	278	253	173	1023
Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity	315	293	323	210	1141

Faulty fuel supplies – Gas	12	13	13	10	48
Faulty fuel supplies – Petrol product	0	3	2	0	5
Faulty leads to equipment or appliance	46	37	50	31	164
Heat source and combustibles brought together deliberately	221	211	185	94	711
Homicide/attempted: setting fire to other person/s	1	5	5	1	12
Natural occurrence	18	22	22	23	85
Other intentional burning, going out of control	37	26	31	24	118
Overheating, unknown cause	94	99	132	73	398
Pending Fire Investigation Team findings	9	18	13	15	55
Person too close to heat source (or fire)	3	2	2	0	7
Playing with fire (or heat source)	32	36	23	13	104
Suicide/attempted: setting fire to self	3	1	6	3	13
Unable to determine	50	47	63	33	193
Unsafe use of equipment or appliance (heat source)	127	120	122	86	455
Unsafe use of heat source - due to knocking over	47	40	52	22	161
Unsafe use of heat source - due to sleep or unconsciousness	38	30	35	16	119
Unsafe use of heat source - due to unsafe disposal	298	290	340	213	1141
Vehicle crash or collision	4	1	1	0	6
(blank)	4	3	6	3	16
	288	285	296	179	
Grand Total	1	6	2	8	10497

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/>