

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00837

Date of request: 17 July 2026

Request:

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information: For each of the past five financial years (2021/22 to 2025/26, or the nearest equivalent reporting period), please provide:

- 1) *The number of fire incidents attended involving buildings recorded as:*
 - *derelict;*
 - *disused;*
 - *long-term vacant;*
 - *abandoned; or*
 - *any equivalent category used by your service.*
- 2) *Of those incidents, please provide (where recorded):*
 - a) *The number that resulted in fatalities.*
 - b) *The number that resulted in non-fatal casualties.*
 - c) *The number that were recorded as deliberate fires (arson).*
- 3) *If your service records the primary property type for these incidents, please provide a breakdown between:*
 - *Residential buildings*
 - *Commercial/industrial buildings*
 - *Other buildings*
- 4) *If your service does not use the terminology above, please provide the closest equivalent classification and explain how those incidents are recorded.*

Response:

Our Data team have provided me with the following information:

The number of fire incidents attended involving buildings recorded as:

- *derelict;*
- *disused;*
- *long-term vacant;*
- *abandoned; or*
- *any equivalent category used by your service.*

There were 373 fires attended, from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2026, that had at least one of the following terms somewhere in the free text fields of the incident: "abandoned", "derelict", "disused", "long-term vacant", "squat" or "unoccupied":

Year	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
Number of fire incidents attended	64	62	80	95	72	373

Of those incidents, please provide (where recorded):

- a) The number that resulted in fatalities.*
- b) The number that resulted in non-fatal casualties.*
- c) The number that were recorded as deliberate fires (arson).*

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
Number of Fire Injuries	3	5	10	20	6	44
Number of Fire Deaths	0	0	3	0	2	5
Deliberate Fires	19	25	26	36	30	13

If your service records the primary property type for these incidents, please provide a breakdown between:

- Residential buildings*
- Commercial/industrial buildings*
- Other buildings*

Property Category	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
Non-Residential	33	23	42	41	31	170
Dwelling	24	31	31	38	29	153
Outdoor Structure	3	3	2	2	4	14
Outdoor	1	3	2	3	4	13
Road Vehicle	2	1	2	5	1	11
Other Residential	1	1	1	5	1	9
Boat	0	0	0	1	2	3
Total	64	62	80	95	72	373

If your service does not use the terminology above, please provide the closest equivalent classification and explain how those incidents are recorded.

To locate the information you have requested, our Data team let me know that they searched the free text fields recorded on LFB's Incident Management System (IMS) for at least one of the following terms are recorded: "abandoned", "derelict", "disused", "long-term vacant", "squat" or "unoccupied". It is my understanding that this is because there is no specific field on IMS that can be used to record if a property is derelict/abandoned etc.