LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

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Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/01288

Date of request: 9th October

Request:

I know that London Fire Brigade publishes the Incident Records dataset and the Fires in Greater London data on the London Datastore but 1). the data on sources of ignition runs only seems to run to December 2022, and 2). the Incident Records do not include cause or ignition source.
This request covers the period from 1 January 2023 to the most recent complete month available.
1. Codes
For each calendar year (or part year) from 1 January 2023 to date, please provide the number of primary fires in residential properties where either:
(a) the recorded source of ignition was 'Electricity supply – Wiring, cabling, plugs' (or the nearest equivalent category on your Incident Management System), or

(b) the recorded cause of fire was 'Faulty leads to equipment or appliance' or 'Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity' (or the nearest equivalent categories).

Please break these figures down by:

- London borough

- Property type- (i.e. 'House – single occupancy', and licensed and unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation categories)

Please also provide the London-wide total number of fatalities and injuries at these fires for each year.

2. Free-text search

For the same period, please search the free-text fields for the following terms:

- 'extension lead', 'extension cable', 'extension reel', 'adaptor', 'adapter', 'multi-plug', 'multiplug', 'gang socket', 'four-way', '4-way', 'daisy chain', 'daisy-chain' and 'overloaded socket'.

For each matching incident, please provide the same information asked for above: source of ignition, cause of fire, borough, and property type

Response:

Thank you for your request for information received by the London Fire Brigade (LFB).

You requested information relating to residential primary fires involving electrical wiring, cabling and plugs, specified electrical fault causes, and incidents identified through a free-text search of incident records.

The information is provided in the attached spreadsheet.

For the period 1 January 2023 to the most recent complete month available, the spreadsheet contains:

- The number of residential primary fires where the recorded source of ignition was "Electricity supply – Wiring, cabling, plugs" (or the nearest equivalent category), broken down by year, London borough and property type.

- The number of residential primary fires where the recorded cause was "Faulty leads to equipment or appliance" or "Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity" (or the nearest equivalent categories), broken down by year, London borough and property type.

- The London-wide totals for fatalities and injuries associated with these incidents.

- The results of a free-text search using the terms specified in your request, including the source of ignition, cause of fire, London borough and property type for each matching incident.

Please note that the free-text search results include all incidents matching the specified search terms. Consequently, some incidents may not have an ignition source of "Electricity supply – Wiring, cabling, plugs" or a cause recorded as "Faulty leads to equipment or appliance" or "Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity".

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

Dwelling Fires with the Ignition Source - Wiring, cabling, plugs

Property Type	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Bungalow - single occupancy	1	1	2	3	7
Caravan/Mobile home (permanent dwelling)	1			1	2
Converted Flat/Maisonette - Up to 2 storeys	19	19	17	12	67
Converted Flat/Maisonettes - 3 or more storeys	23	25	17	23	88
House - single occupancy	116	105	124	73	418
House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys (not known if lice		1	3		4
House in Multiple Occupation - Up to 2 storeys (not known if licens		3		2	5
Houseboat (permanent dwelling)		1			1
Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or mor	2		3	1	6
Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - Up to 2 s	5		2	3	10
Other Dwelling		3			3
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 10 or more store	19	8	16	5	48
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 4 to 9 storeys	47	40	55	40	182
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - Up to 3 storeys	43	53	41	30	167
Self contained Sheltered Housing	7	1	4	3	15
Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys			1	1	2
Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - Up to	2			1	3
Grand Total	**285**	**260**	**285**	**198**	**1,028**

Borough	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
BARKING AND DAGENHAM	4	1	4	2	11
BARNET	16	10	9	11	46
BEXLEY	5	9	15	4	33
BRENT	12	7	11	7	37
BROMLEY	4	5	5	5	19
CAMDEN	10	9	6	9	34
CITY OF LONDON		1			1
CROYDON	15	13	16	14	58
EALING	11	11	17	7	46
ENFIELD	11	8	7	2	28
GREENWICH	4	9	7	7	27
HACKNEY	8	6	9	4	27
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM	9	10	9	4	32
HARINGEY	12	8	7	13	40
HARROW	6	4	7	5	22
HAVERING	8	9	6	2	25
HILLINGDON	10	9	11	7	37
HOUNSLOW	10	6	6	7	29
ISLINGTON	6	8	5	3	22
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA	4	7	8	2	21
KINGSTON UPON THAMES	4	4	5	3	16
LAMBETH	9	11	11	11	42
LEWISHAM	8	9	11	13	41
MERTON	7	4	5	3	19
NEWHAM	12	11	20	9	52
REDBRIDGE	10	5	10	3	28
RICHMOND UPON THAMES	8	8	3	3	22

SOUTHWARK	14	11	11	4	40
SUTTON	5	5	7	10	27
TOWER HAMLETS	9	11	15	5	40
WALTHAM FOREST	8	7	3	7	25
WANDSWORTH	16	9	6	5	36
WESTMINSTER	10	15	13	7	45
Grand Total	**285**	**260**	**285**	**198**	**1,028**
Values	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**	**Grand Total**
Count of IncidentNumber	285	260	285	198	1,028
Sum of NumInjuries	15	13	23	6	57
Sum of NumFatalities	2	1	-	-	3

Dwelling Fires with Main Cause Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity or Faulty leads to equipment or appliance

Property Type	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Bungalow - single occupancy	6	3	4	5	18
Caravan/Mobile home (permanent dwelling)	2			1	3
Converted Flat/Maisonette - Up to 2 storeys	47	50	45	35	177
Converted Flat/Maisonettes - 3 or more storeys	64	52	54	48	218
House - single occupancy	213	249	274	175	911
House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys	1	4	5	2	12
House in Multiple Occupation - Up to 2 storeys (r	2	8	4	5	19
Houseboat (permanent dwelling)		1			1
Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or mo	5	3	6	6	20
Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - Up to 2	11	9	9	8	37
Other Dwelling	2	2	1	1	6
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 10 or more stor	36	24	39	12	111
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 4 to 9 storeys	116	95	117	102	430
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - Up to 3 storeys	99	110	117	97	423
Self contained Sheltered Housing	11	10	7	3	31
Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or r	3	6	2	2	13
Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - Up to	8	3	2	6	19
Grand Total	626	629	686	508	2,449
Borough	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
BARKING AND DAGENHAM	8	14	15	9	46
BARNET	27	29	32	24	112
BEXLEY	17	20	22	9	68
BRENT	33	29	26	19	107
BROMLEY	13	18	18	10	59
CAMDEN	23	19	20	20	82
CITY OF LONDON	1	2		1	4
CROYDON	37	24	34	26	121
EALING	22	40	40	21	123
ENFIELD	23	12	24	9	68
GREENWICH	14	23	18	16	71
HACKNEY	22	22	23	23	90
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM	17	15	23	15	70
HARINGEY	25	18	20	26	89
HARROW	15	16	23	14	68
HAVERING	11	16	16	8	51
HILLINGDON	17	21	18	14	70
HOUNSLOW	13	19	20	21	73
ISLINGTON	26	15	19	15	75
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA	17	19	18	9	63
KINGSTON UPON THAMES	7	12	12	6	37
LAMBETH	23	24	23	18	88
LEWISHAM	22	21	23	22	88
MERTON	17	8	17	11	53
NEWHAM	30	24	29	24	107

REDBRIDGE	16	15	24	9	64
RICHMOND UPON THAMES	10	10	11	7	38
SOUTHWARK	28	17	20	21	86
SUTTON	6	14	10	12	42
TOWER HAMLETS	21	20	26	12	79
WALTHAM FOREST	14	18	14	17	63
WANDSWORTH	23	22	14	20	79
WESTMINSTER	28	33	34	20	115
Grand Total	626	629	686	508	2,449
Values	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Count of IncidentNumber	626	629	686	508	2,449
Sum of NumInjuries	58	49	64	36	207
Sum of NumFatalities	1	1	-	-	2

All primary fires that didn't have the ignition source 'wiring, cables, plugs', and didn't have the main cause 'Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity' or 'Faulty leads to equipment or appliance'

Ignition Source	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
Batteries	2		1		3
Cigarette		1			1
Cooker incl. oven			1		1
E-Bike			2		2
Electric blanket				1	1
Extension lead	5	5	5	3	18
Fan heater		1	2		3
Fridge - Freestanding	1				1
Fridge/Freezer - Freestanding	1				1
Fuse board/Consumer unit	1				1
Grill/Toaster	1	1			2
Heating/Fire		1			1
Iron		1			1
Lighted paper or card			1		1
Not known	9	4	6	3	22
Other	1		1		2
Other computer equipment			1		1
Other cooking appliance		1			1
Other domestic style appliance			2		2
Panel heater (electric)			1		1
Tumble dryer - Condensing		1			1
Grand Total	**21**	**16**	**23**	**7**	**67**

Main Cause	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
generators	2		1		3
or other naked flame			1		1
Cause not determined (FI use only)	7	2	5	2	16
Combustible articles too close to heat source (or fire)		1	3		4
Fault in equipment or appliance	8	6	7		21
Heat source and combustibles brought toget	2	1	1		4
Overheating	1	1	3		5
Pending FIT findings	1	1	1	1	4
Unsafe use of equipment or appliance (heat source)		3	1	4	8
Unsafe use of heat source - due to unsafe disposal		1			1
Grand Total	**21**	**16**	**23**	**7**	**67**

Borough	2023	2024	2025	2026	Grand Total
BARKING AND DAGENHAM	1	1		1	3
BARNET	1				1
BEXLEY	1				1
BRENT		1	2		3
BROMLEY	2	1			3
CAMDEN		1	2		3

CROYDON	2	3		1	6
EALING		1			1
ENFIELD	2				2
GREENWICH			2		2
HACKNEY	1		1		2
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM	1		1		2
HARINGEY			2		2
HARROW		1			1
HILLINGDON	1			2	3
HOUNSLOW		2			2
ISLINGTON	1	1		1	3
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA			1		1
LAMBETH		1			1
LEWISHAM	1	1	3		5
MERTON	1				1
NEWHAM	1		2		3
REDBRIDGE	2		1		3
RICHMOND UPON THAMES	1		2	1	4
SOUTHWARK			2		2
TOWER HAMLETS	1	1	1		3
WALTHAM FOREST	1	1	1		3
WANDSWORTH				1	1
Grand Total	**21**	**16**	**23**	**7**	**67**
Property Type	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**	**Grand Total**
Bicycle			1		1
Bus/coach station/garage			1		1
Community centre/Hall				1	1
Converted Flat/Maisonette - Up to 2 storeys		1		1	2
Converted Flat/Maisonettes - 3 or more store	1	3	1		5
House - single occupancy	10	6	6	1	23
Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more store		1			1
Other outdoor structures	1				1
Other vessel				1	1
Pre School/nursery	1				1
Private garage	1		1		2
Private Garden Shed			1		1
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 10 or more	3	1			4
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 4 to 9 store	1	1	7		9
Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - Up to 3 sto	1	1	3	3	8
Self contained Sheltered Housing		1			1
Single shop	1	1			2
Unlicensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3	1		1		2
Van			1		1
Grand Total	**21**	**16**	**23**	**7**	**67**