

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/01142

Date of request: 14th September

Request:

I am writing to request information held by the London Fire Brigade in relation to the following premises:

Marble Arch Apartments, 1, 3 and 11 Harrowby Street, London W1H 5PR (also recorded as W1H 5PQ)

The building operated as a hotel until approximately 1999 and was then converted into self-contained residential flats in or around 1999–2002. It now comprises four linked blocks (Ash Court, Beech Court, Cedar Court and Elm Court). I am the freeholder's representative, and the information is required in connection with Tribunal proceedings.

Please treat this as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the following:

1. Any Fire Certificate issued for the premises under the Fire Precautions Act 1971 while the building was in hotel use, together with any plans, schedules or conditions attached to it;
2. Any record of consultation with the Brigade under section 15 of the Building Act 1984 in connection with the Full Plans application for the hotel-to-residential conversion, c.1999–2002, including the Brigade's response and any plans reviewed;
3. Any inspection, audit or enforcement records for the premises between 1990 and 2005;
4. Any other fire safety records held for the premises for that period.

If any part of this request is unclear or you need further detail to locate the records, please contact me and I will assist. If the records are held by another body, I would be grateful if you could let me know.

For completeness, the Brigade has more recently been consulted on the current building control application for the premises (your ref 01/021379/SL, Westminster ref 23/00032/OTHFP), but this request concerns the historic records described above rather than that consultation.

Thank you for your help.

Response:

I refer to your request for information, received on 14 September 2026, which has been processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request concerns historic fire safety records held by the London Fire Brigade (LFB) in relation to Marble Arch Apartments, 1, 3 and 11 Harrowby Street, London W1H 5PR (also recorded as W1H 5PQ), covering the period during which the building operated as a hotel and its subsequent conversion to residential use.

The LFB holds no records of any Fire Certificate issued under the Fire Precautions Act 1971 for the premises, nor any plans, schedules or conditions attached to such a certificate.

The LFB also holds no records of any consultation under section 15 of the Building Act 1984 in connection with the hotel-to-residential conversion of the premises (circa 1999 to 2002), including any Brigade response or plans reviewed as part of that process. It should be noted that, while documentation may be reviewed by inspecting officers during a consultation or audit, there is no requirement for the LFB to retain copies of those documents.

We hold no records of any fire safety inspections, audits or enforcement action carried out at the premises between 1990 and 2005. Consequently, we also hold no records of any enforcement notices, prohibition notices or alterations notices relating to the premises during that period.

In addition, the LFB holds no other fire safety records relating to the premises for the period covered by your request.

For context, the London Fire Brigade is the enforcing authority in London for the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. However, it is not the Brigade's role to undertake or provide fire risk assessments. Responsibility for assessing and managing fire safety risks rests with the responsible person for the premises. Further information on the fire safety duties of those who own, manage or are responsible for premises can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fire-safety-legislation-guidance-for-those-with-legal-duties>

Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Further information about making requests for information is available on our website: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>