

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00923

Date of request: 4th August

Request:

This is a freedom of information request for the Fire and Rescue Service.

The information requested relates to three periods:

- * 1 April 2024-31 March 2025
- * 1 April 2025- 31 March 26, and
- * 1 April 2026 - 31 July 2026.

The information requested is the number of fires in your area at permitted and non-permitted waste management sites and waste carrying vehicles , including but not limited to:

Permitted sites:

- * Household waste recycling centres
- * Civic amenity sites
- * Landfill sites
- * Waste transfer stations
- * Materials recycling facilities
- * Waste storage sites
- * Energy from waste facilities
- * Composting sites
- * Anaerobic digestion sites
- * Automotive Dismantlers
- * Scrap Metal Dealers
- * Other waste sites not listed

Unpermitted Sites:

- * Unpermitted Household waste recycling centres
- * Unpermitted Civic amenity sites
- * Unpermitted Landfill sites
- * Unpermitted Waste transfer stations
- * Unpermitted Materials recycling facilities
- * Unpermitted Waste storage sites
- * Unpermitted Energy from waste facilities
- * Unpermitted Composting sites
- * Unpermitted Anaerobic digestion sites
- * Unpermitted Automotive Dismantlers
- * Unpermitted Scrap Metal Dealers
- * Fly tipped waste
- * Any other relevant waste site

Vehicles:

- * Refuse collection vehicles (either local authority or otherwise)
- * Bulk waste carrying vehicles

A spreadsheet is attached for your use if you think it is a convenient and efficient way of furnishing the data.

Many thanks in anticipation of your co-operation. Please note I am not a journalist - I am interested in this information on a purely professional basis.

Response:

The London Fire Brigade does not hold data categorised as "permitted" and "non-permitted". In addition, the site types referenced in your request do not directly correspond to the categories used within our incident recording systems.

However, we have grouped the sites based on our best assessment of the closest matching categories and have provided the corresponding incident data accordingly.

Please find the requested information attached. As noted above, the figures are based on the closest matching categories held by the London Fire Brigade.

The data covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 July 2026 and is broken down by financial year. Please note that 2026/27 is a partial financial year and includes data for the first four months only.

Table A: Fires at wastesites by financial year

Row Labels	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Grand Total
Landfill site	19	45	2	66
Large refuse/rubbish container (eg skip, paladin)	593	621	250	1464
Recycling plant	20	24	13	57
Refuse/rubbish tip	138	135	58	331
Wasteland	44	71	15	130
Grand Total	814	896	338	2048

Table B: Fires at waste carrying vehicles by financial year

Row Labels	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Grand Total
Lorry/HGV	65	63	31	159
Other road vehicle	9	7	4	20
Grand Total	74	70	35	179

Note: 2026/2027 figures cover the partial financial year 1 April 2026 to 31 July 2026 only (4 months) and are not directly comparable to the full-year figures shown for 2024/25 and 2025/26

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/>