

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00427

Date of request: 13th April

Request:

We are doing some work to raise awareness of the growing dangers of fires caused by lithium ion batteries. We would be very grateful if you could provide the following information in an excel format, within the 20 working days deadline for FOI requests.

If your records don't categorise fires to this level of detail, we ask that you please use a search of relevant terms on the appropriate database.

We would like to know, for each full year from 2021 to 2025 inc and for 2026 so far, how many fires have you responded to which have involved the following?

- vapes / e-cigarettes*
- mobile phones, tablets or laptops*
- e-scooters or e-bikes*
- any other items including a lithium ion battery*

For each of these could you please also indicate whether the fires occurred:

- in residential premises*
- in commercial premises*
- in public buildings (eg school, hospital, council building)*
- outdoors*
- other*

Response:

For e-bike and e-scooter related incidents the information has provided by our Fire Investigation Team, who keep a statistical overview of the data.

Please see our response to a recent similar published response which covers the data we hold from 2020- March 2026. [FOI2026/00340](#)

For other lithium-ion battery powered items (including vapes, e-cigarettes, mobile phones, tablets, laptops and other devices), the Brigade does not consistently categorise incidents to this level of detail within structured datasets.

However, we publish a dataset covering lithium-ion battery related fires, which is created using a free text search of incident records. This may include some limitations in accuracy and completeness

This dataset includes information on:

- The type of item involved (where recorded)
- Location of fire (including residential, commercial and other premises)
- Year of incident

You can access this data here: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/lithium-and-electric-vehicle-fires>

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/>