LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

London Fire Brigade Headquarters
169 Union Street London SE1 0LL
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london-fire.gov.uk

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00919

Date of request: 4th August 2026

Request:

On 29 April 2025 the London Fire Brigade attended a serious fire at an electrical substation situated at Aberdeen Place/Victoria Passage owned and operated by UK Power Networks plc.

The seat of the fire appearing to be an oil-filled transformer adjacent to the Regent's Canal.

I would be grateful to know the following:

1. How long did it take LFB to extinguish the conflagration at the UKPN site and/or adjacent premises and by what means i.e., were specialised equipment or tactics required.

2. If adjacent premises were affected, please identify these and the nature of any damage.

3. Were any preventative measures put in place to prevent or limit polluting the nearby Regent's Canal. If so, by what means, when and by whom were the measures implemented.

4. Was an independent forensic investigation conducted to ascertain the cause of the fire. If so, please advise when and by whom it was carried out and the conclusion arrived at.

5. Did LFB share the conclusion with the Metropolitan Police.

6. Please supply all relevant documentation in support of your answers to the questions above.

Response:

Please see a response below to your request:

1. How long did it take LFB to extinguish the conflagration at the UKPN site and/or adjacent premises and by what means i.e., were specialised equipment or tactics required.

Further to your request, please see below for a link to the London Datastore, which holds data on LFB Mobilisation. As the information required is currently available online, the data is exempt under section 21 of the FOIA – Information reasonably accessible by other means. The information is available under the

LFB Mobilisation records for 2025, which can be accessed here. The data can be found in row ‘64661’.

2. If adjacent premises were affected please identify these and the nature of any damage.

There is no record of any adjacent buildings being affected by the fire.

3. Were any preventative measures put in place to prevent or limit polluting the nearby Regent's Canal. If so, by what means, when and by whom were the measures implemented.

There are no records of preventative measures following the fire incident.

4. Was an independent forensic investigation conducted to ascertain the cause of the fire. If so, please advise when and by whom it was carried out and the conclusion arrived at.

LFB IMS records other known investigations from Hawkins, a forensic investigation firm who completed a separate investigation at the time of the fire.

5. Did LFB share the conclusion with the Metropolitan Police.

According to our records on LFB IMS, the investigation was shared with the Met Police.

6. Please supply all relevant documentation in support of your answers to the questions above.

Please see below for a copy of the Confirmation of Attendance (COA).

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/

LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Confirmation of attendance of London Fire Brigade to a fire incident

Date of report: 25 September 2026 Reference: *072870-29042025/48772*

The data presented below have been derived from a computer database. The principal purpose of the database is statistical analysis and to facilitate this analysis, information has been classified into broad categories.

Incident number:	072870-29042025
Fire station ground where fire occurred:	Paddington
Time and date of call to the Brigade:	05:29 hrs 29 April 2025
Origin of call:	Person (mobile)
Recorded time and date of arrival of Brigade:	05:32 hrs 29 April 2025
Recorded time and date incident under control:	14:30 hrs 29 April 2025
Time and date incident closed:	18:48 hrs 30 April 2025
(The address below may not be shown in full as it could result in the disclosure of personal data under the Data Protection Act)	
Address qualifier:	Correct incident location
Building name/Number:	ELECTRICITY SUB STATION 30M FR
Flat/Unit name/Number:	
Street:	VICTORIA PASSAGE
Locality:	
Town:	LONDON
County:	
Post Code:	NW8 8NS
Further description of location (where required):	
Type of property where fire started:	Electricty sub station
Supposed motive for the fire:	Deliberate - others property

(Note that the motive for a fire can rarely be determined with certainty and is not the subject of extensive enquiry by the Brigade at fires of this type. The most likely cause that can be ascertained while at the scene of the fire is recorded for Brigade and government statistical purposes only)

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