

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2025/00007

Date of request: 5th January

Request:

I am writing to request information regarding fire incidents related to fly-tipping on Ray Lamb Way in Erith (DA8 2SP) over the past couple of decades. The persistent fly-tipping in this area has been an ongoing issue for many years and I am concerned about the increasing risks it poses to the environment, surrounding homes, and businesses I would appreciate it if you could provide the following information:

1. A record of all fire-related incidents connected to fly-tipping on Ray Lamb Way over the past two decades, if available
2. If possible, could I receive copies of these records or summaries of the incidents? Additionally, I would be grateful if you could share your views on the risks that the ongoing fly-tipping poses to both the environment and the local community. The fire in 2022, which involved a large number of fire engines and firefighters clearly highlighted the danger that this waste poses, particularly in terms of fire hazards. Any insights you could provide on this matter would be invaluable in addressing the concerns of the local residents and businesses.

Response:

Please see the below table with the number of fires that occurred at Ray Lamb Way in Erith (DA8 2SP) between 01/01/2009 – 31/12/2024.

Unfortunately, we are unable to identify if these fires were caused by a direct result of fly tipping, but I have included all fires that involved rubbish or waste.

Count of Incidents	Calendar Years											
Property Type	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2017	2018	2022	2024	Grand Total
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc			2		1		1					4
Heathland										1		1
Landfill site				1								1
Large refuse/rubbish container (eg skip, paladin)			1			2	1		1		1	6
Loose refuse	1	3		1								5
Recycling plant								1				1
Refuse/rubbish tip		1			1							2
River/canal						1						1
Tree scrub				1						1		2
Wasteland	1		1	1		1						4
Grand Total	2	4	4	4	2	4	2	1	1	2	1	27

Further to your request, please find the information requested at the London Datastore. The following link can provide mobilisation data for each station for the year requested: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-fire-brigade-mobilisation-records>. Along with the Incident report which provides data on each incident LFB have attended. <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-fire-brigade-incident-records>.

The local authority would be best to address the matter regarding question 2. However, on the LFB website we have provided our concerns regarding fly tipping and reducing arson risk. The Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs also have data on flying tipping which you can find here - <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/fly-tipping-incidents>

Flying Tipping - <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/2020-news/october/report-fly-tipping-to-prevent-a-rubbish-halloween-warns-brigade-as-arson-among-top-causes-of-halloween-fires/>

Reducing arson risk - <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/reducing-arson-risk/>