

Freedom of Information request: Reference number FOI2026/00665

Date of request: 9th June

Request:

- The number of hoarding-related fires attended by the service each year from 2015-2025.
- How many social housing blocks or high-rises are currently flagged by the service as a high-risk hoarding zone? (i.e. a Level 4+ on the Clutter Image Rating scale). If available, please provide this number for every year from 2015-2025, as well as the current number.

Response:

The London Fire Brigade Data Team has provided the information requested. Please note the following regarding data availability:

Q1. Number of hoarding-related fires attended by the London Fire Brigade each year (2015–2025)

Please be advised that records relating to hoarding-related fires are only available from 2018 onwards. We do not hold information for the years 2015–2017. The figures for available years are provided in the table below:

Count of Incident Number	
Calendar Year	Total
2018	1
2019	1
2020	72
2021	385
2022	394
2023	307
2024	357
2025	383
2026*	186
Grand Total	2,086

Q2. Number of social housing blocks or high-rise buildings flagged as high-risk hoarding locations (Level 4 or above on the Clutter Image Rating Scale)

Please note that records relating to premises assessed as high-risk hoarding locations are only available from 2020 onwards. We do not hold information for the period 2015–2019.

The tables below provide the figures for all available years, including the current number of properties assessed as Level 4 or above on the Clutter Image Rating Scale (CIRS).

- Table 1 covers all residential dwellings identified as having a hoarding level of 4 or above.

Year/hoarding level	4	5	6	7	8	9	Grand Total
2020	32	11	5	11	7	4	70
2021	467	191	177	206	144	90	1275
2022	679	251	236	256	174	121	1717
2023	718	269	250	278	192	127	1834
2024	719	267	271	309	157	102	1825
2025	851	307	270	321	168	112	2029
2026	375	131	144	132	70	48	900
Grand Total	3841	1427	1353	1513	912	604	9650

- Table 2 covers flats only that have been identified as having a hoarding level of 4 or above.

Row Labels	4	5	6	7	8	9	Grand Total
2020	20	8		5	6	1	40
2021	302	121	129	122	94	50	818
2022	430	166	168	155	113	62	1094
2023	452	174	167	158	112	69	1132
2024	432	168	178	189	77	63	1107
2025	517	190	162	180	98	67	1214
2026	232	82	91	79	39	23	546
Grand Total	2385	909	895	888	539	335	5951

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/>