



Freedom of Information Request FOI 18 46

Waking Watch

Query:

1. Could you please detail how many buildings in your area are subject to a watching wake or fire watch?
2. Please detail whether they are owned by private landlords or the local authority. What type of buildings are they, domestic, commercial etc?
3. Please disclose the same figure for this time last year?
4. Please disclose the exact duties that the fire watch covers and why the decision was made to make use of a waking watch.
5. What is the cost of this service?

Response:

1. Could you please detail how many buildings in your area are subject to a watching wake or fire watch?

One

2. Please detail whether they are owned by private landlords or the local authority. What type of buildings are they, domestic, commercial etc?

Private landlords, residential

3. Please disclose the same figure for this time last year?

Zero

4. Please disclose the exact duties that the fire watch covers and why the decision was made to make use of a waking watch.

The purpose of a waking watch follows guidance as detailed within the NFCC Interim Waking Watch/Common Fire Alarm Guidance, “*Guidance to support a temporary simultaneous evacuation strategy in a purpose-built block of flats*”.

The guidance outlines duties to include:

- **detecting a fire in the building**
 - **detecting external fire spread if combustible cladding/insulation materials have been identified as part of the external wall system**
 - **summoning the FRS**
 - **ensuring all residents are alerted to begin simultaneous evacuation**
 - **taking appropriate action as required by the management strategy, including meeting the FRS on arrival**
5. What is the cost of this service?

DWFRS do not hold this information as this is a direct agreement between the owner of the building and the company who provides the watch.