



Freedom of Information Request FOI 22 73

Statistics relating to incidents caused by smoking, hoarding and electrical factors

Query:

The number of fires in the Dorset & Wiltshire service area, over the last five years, that were caused by (or where they were a contributing factor):

- Smoking
- Hoarding
- Electrical faults

Broken down by year, service ground and property type. Shown as a count and as a percentage of total domestic fires.

If more than one of these contributing factors were present at the same incident then please detail this.

Response:

Please see below a table that shows the total number of domestic fires that we have recorded within our service area within calendar years 2017 to 2021.

The number (and percentage) of those fires that were smoking related, contributed to by excessive storage or caused by electrical faults is also shown.

Year	Total number of domestic fires	Smoking related	Excessive storage	Electrical faults
2017	817	62 (7.59%)	10 (1.22%)	50 (6.12%)
2018	764	46 (6.02%)	7 (0.92%)	38 (4.97%)
2019	744	49 (6.59%)	6 (0.81%)	48 (6.45%)
2020	701	52 (7.42%)	4 (0.57%)	54 (7.70%)
2021	746	49 (6.57%)	10 (1.34%)	54 (7.24%)

Please also find enclosed this information broken down by station ground and by property type.

There were four incidents where more than one of the causes or risk factors in question were identified:

Year	Station ground	Type of property	Smoking related	Excessive storage	Electrical faults
2020	Redhill fire station	Bungalow - single occupancy	Yes	Yes	
2021	Westlea	Purpose Built Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	Yes	Yes	
2021	Westbourne fire station	Purpose Built Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	Yes	Yes	
2018	Christchurch fire station	House - single occupancy		Yes	Yes

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 08, September 2022