



Freedom of Information Request FOI 25 35

BBQ-Related Fire Service Callouts

Query and Response:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding fire brigade callouts related to BBQ use in your service area:

1. The total number of fire service callouts related specifically to BBQs for each of the calendar years:

2022

2023

2024

Please see the excel spreadsheet attached.

For this freedom of information request, a search was carried out of the free text box within the incident narrative from our mobilising system for "BBQ" and "barbecue. This picks up anything with those words in the text including disposable BBQ's.

Some information such as locations, gender and medical information has been withheld, this can be found on the spreadsheet as redacted. This is because we are of the opinion that the following exemption applies: Section 40 We are applying the exemption afforded by section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which provides that a request for information is exempt from disclosure if the information requested constitutes personal data about a third party. In particular we choose to rely upon section 40(3A), which provides an absolute exemption if disclosure of the personal data would contravene any of the data protection principles as defined in the Data Protection Act 2018. We feel that to release further details, such as location, gender, or any medical related information would not be in the reasonable expectations of the data subjects and therefore it would be unfair and contrary to the first data protection principle.

2. For each year, please categorise the BBQ-related incidents where possible into the following types:

Smoke only (no fire present)

Minor outdoor fire caused by BBQ use

Fire resulting in structural or property damage linked to BBQ use

False alarm triggered by BBQ smoke

Incidents involving injuries or where medical attention was required due to BBQ use

Our incident recording system does not use these categories for recording incidents; therefore all information we have, has been included in column C (details) of the attached spreadsheet.

3. How many of these incidents were linked to the use of disposable BBQs? Please see the excel spreadsheet attached. **Please note that it is not a mandatory field and is a free text box. Where the term BBQ has**



been documented, this could refer to any type of BBQ including disposable BBQs even if not stipulated as such.

4. How many incidents were recorded where BBQs were used in inappropriate or unsafe locations (e.g. balconies, woodland, near flammable materials)? **Please see the excel spreadsheet attached.**
5. How many repeat callouts (i.e. two or more incidents at the same location) for BBQ-related issues were recorded during this period? **There were no repeat callouts during this period**

Please include any information captured in the free text sections of incident reports where relevant search terms such as "BBQ", "barbecue", "disposable BBQ", or "disposable barbecue" have been identified. **Please see spreadsheet attached.**

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 16, April 2025