



Freedom of Information Request FOI 26 126

Hoarding Information

Query:

I'm writing under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:

- 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:

Our incident recording system does not have a recording category for hoarding so to provide these figures we have searched the incident narrative from the mobilising system and manually selected any incidents where hoarding was mentioned and was related to the fire.

Year	Number of Hoarding Related Fires
2015	0
2016	0
2017	0
2018	0
2019	0
2020	1
2021	1
2022	1
2023	1
2024	0
2025	0

In relation to the second part of your request, we are unable to provide this information.

Our data is based on information collected from occupiers at the time of a Home Fire Safety Visit and reflects the circumstances present on the day of the visit. Many of the risk factors we record relate to an individual's lifestyle, behaviours, and personal circumstances, which can change over time. For example, an individual may be identified as a smoker and therefore assessed as being at a higher risk of fire; however, we would not necessarily be aware if they later stopped smoking and the associated risk reduced. The data is therefore only accurate and current at the point of collection. We do not actively monitor occupiers after a visit. It should not be assumed that a single flat in a high rise block social housing makes the wider postcode area higher risk.

During Home Fire Safety Visits, we may identify clutter or hoarding within a property. While clutter or hoarding may be assessed at Level 4 and above, a property will only be assigned a safety flag where the level is assessed as Level 6 or higher. As we do not have a routine revisit process, we cannot verify whether conditions within a property have subsequently changed, whether occupiers have moved, or whether support interventions have reduced the level of risk.

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 08th, July 2026