



Freedom of Information Request FOI 20 28

Arson incidents between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2019

Query:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service at an incident level between 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2019 to help me research into arson rates:

1. Date of incident – between 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2019
2. Location of Fire – Gridded References preferred
3. Unitary Authority
4. Fire Type – Accidental/Deliberate
5. Property Category – Residential (Dwelling)/Non-Residential/Other Residential/Outdoor/Outdoor Structure/Vehicle and all other categories etc.
6. Property Type – Flat/House/Cinema/Health Center/Barn and all other property types etc.
7. Primary/Secondary
8. Incident Category – Special Service/Fire etc.
9. Main Cause of Fire
10. Alarm system: Whether a smoke alarm was present and if it operated
11. Ignition power: What powered the ignition of the fire
12. Source of ignition: The source of ignition for the fire
13. The type of room/compartment the fire started in
14. Item Ignited: The item/material that was ignited first
15. Item causing spread: The item/material that was mainly responsible for the spread of the fire
16. Fatality/casualty: Whether the incident involved a fatality or casualty
17. Rescues: Whether the incident involved a rescue
18. Evacuations: The number of people evacuated from the dwelling
19. Evacuations code: A code to help users analyse data
20. The total horizontal area damaged by the flame and heat (sq. m) at the stop of the fire.
21. Fire damage extent code: A code to help users analyse data
22. The total horizontal area damaged by the flame, heat, smoke and water (sq. m)
23. Total damage extent code: A code to help users analyse data
24. The extent of fire when the incident was closed
25. Whether an adjacent property was affected by the fire by the close of the incident

Clarification received:

Please can you provide the exact grid references for location of fire if possible (or exact postcode or grid references missing the last two digits)?

Response:

Please find attached a spreadsheet called “FOI 20 28 Arson incidents between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2019”, which provides the information that you have requested where it is available.

Grid references have been provided with the last three digits removed. We are applying the exemption afforded by section 40(2) Personal information 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(3)(a)(i), 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 are of the opinion that to provide any further detail in relation to the grid reference numbers could allow households or individuals to be identified, which would be unfair and contrary to the first data protection principle.

Date provided information/detail: 08, April 2020