



Freedom of Information Request FOI 24 79

Fires at Marinas, shipyards and on boats

Query and Response:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding fires at marinas, shipyards, and on board boats within your service area.

Please provide the following information for the period from 1 January 2014 to present:

1. The total number of fire incidents attended by your service at:
 - a. Marinas
 - b. Shipyards
 - c. On board boats (whether docked or at sea within your jurisdiction)
2. For each category above, please provide an annual breakdown of incidents.
3. For each incident, where possible, please provide:
 - a. Date and time of the incident
 - b. Location (marina name, shipyard name, or general location for boats)
 - c. Type of vessel involved (e.g., pleasure craft, commercial vessel)
 - d. Cause of fire, if determined
 - e. Extent of damage (e.g., total loss, partial damage)
 - f. Any injuries or fatalities

Please see the attached spreadsheet for the information requested.

Please note the following in relation to the spreadsheet:

1. We only hold the requested information from April 2014 so were unable to provide January 2014 – March 2014.
2. You requested incidents in Marinas and Shipyards but DWFRS incident recording system does not have a specific property type for these, so a search was carried out of the narrative log using the terms "Marina" and "Shipyard".
3. We have included any fire that occurred at marinas and shipyards and some of these are buildings fires rather than a vessel, these can be filtered in the property column of the spreadsheet.
4. Some of the locations and one cause of fire have been withheld 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. Some of the



locations of incidents are private dwellings and we are of the opinion that to share this (and in the one case the cause of the incident) 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.

Information on any specific challenges faced by your service when dealing with fires in marine environments or on vessels.

A fire in a marine environment or vessel presents many challenges and would most likely result in a multi-agency response with key stake holders such as the Ship's Crew, Police, Maritime Accident and investigation Branch, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Port Authorities, Environment Agency, Local authority and Emergency planning.

DWFRS has nominated officers who have received enhanced training in the Command and Control of Maritime Fire Emergencies by an accredited external training provider used by other FRS's to establish a coordinated, efficient and safe response if such an incident were to occur. Challenges faced include but are not limited to:

- Language barriers
- Hazardous Cargo
- Arduous working conditions
- Limited / confined spaces
- Maintaining stability
- A vessels condition (varying standards)

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 01, August 2024