



## Freedom of Information Request FOI 24 99

### Office to Residential Conversions

#### Query and Response:

DWFRS data retention policy means that we do not hold detailed information beyond 7 years for most premises. For the purposes of this request we have based our response on formal action under Article 30 and Article 31 of the Fire Safety Order.

- How many blocks of flats have you noted safety concerns with over the last ten years, in a year by year breakdown please?

Terms such as “Safety concerns” are difficult to respond to as we have a tiered approach to both informal and formal enforcement options available to us. For the purposes of this request we have based our response on formal action under Article 30 and Article 31 of the Fire Safety Order.

Dates relate to the financial year 1st April to 31 March in each year

Purpose built flats which have received formal action under Article 30 ( Enforcement Notice)

2019	2
2020	1
2021	3
2022	3
2023	3
2024	2

- How many of these, year by year, have been converted into residential properties after having been office blocks? (Please may we have a year on year breakdown?)

Of those numbers quoted above only one was a confirmed conversion from offices in 2019.

- How many blocks of flats have you had to evacuate due to safety concerns over the last ten years? (Please may we have a year on year breakdown?)

Terms such as “Safety concerns” are difficult to respond to as we have a tiered approach to both informal and formal enforcement options available to us. For the purposes of this request we have based our response on formal action under Article 30 and Article 31 of the Fire Safety Order. “Evacuation” is a term used during an operational incident as opposed to “decant” which would be more appropriate as a response to identified safety concerns. As the Fire Safety Order requires the Responsible Person to identify fire safety risks



and take appropriate action, it is likely that some buildings may have been “decanted” without a requirement for formal action by DWFRS and as such, this response relates only to buildings which DWFRS have taken formal action to restrict use of a building.

**Those Purpose built flats which have been subject to Article 31 Prohibition or restriction**

2019	1
2020	0
2021	0
2022	1
2023	2
2024	1

- How many of those evacuated over the last ten years were converted from office blocks? (In a year on year breakdown please?)

**As the Fire Safety Order relates to the current occupancy of a building, we do not hold full details of those buildings which have been converted from offices into residential accommodation without cross referencing each building against any building regulations consultation which we may have undertaken. As such we will only hold data against those buildings converted within the last 7 years.**

**Of those numbers quoted above, none were converted from Offices.**

**Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 09, October 2024**